

Statements from Recipients of Grants

Jonathan Andrews

Xavier Gonzalez and Ethel Edwards Travel Grant

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Thanks for the grant. I was able to travel to Spain for one month and see all the marvelous paintings of Madrid, Toledo and Barcelona. I will go back when the epidemic subsides.

Rami Baglio

Nessa Cohen Grant

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Thanks to the Nessa Cohen Grant, I've been able to continue to study life drawing from the figure as well as to put time into painting from life and expanding a body of work, while transitioning from studying to teaching drawing and painting at a university level. I am honored and grateful to have been the recipient of this generous grant. It's helped to allow me the time and resources to continue to progress my career as a professional artist.

Oksana Berzinsh

Lloyd Sherwood Grant

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For the past few years I have been working on a series of abstract paintings titled "Reflections of the Light" exploring mesmerizing interactions of light and color, their reflections, shadows and harmony. I have always had an interest in early Impressionism and the role it played in transitioning from pictorial realism to a free-flowing interpretation of the visual inspiration where color is both a main conductor and a performer. Receiving Lloyd Sherwood Grant has provided me with an opportunity to dedicate an uninterrupted work cycle to my passion. I was fortunate to be able to study with an iconic American abstract painter Ronnie Landfield and to get a deeper understanding of the different styles and movements in American mid-century modernist art. This acquired knowledge has influenced the way I had approached the new large-scale paintings in the series.

Tomas Daskam

Gregory Lysun Grant

This grant enabled me to paint using higher quality materials (linens and paint) and more importantly I was able to more comfortably dedicate my time to painting. Thank you!



Magdalena Dukiewicz

Nessa Cohen Grant

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Thanks to the generous Nessa Cohen grant, I was able to rent studio space to work in large scale and further experiment with organic materials.

Susan Woldman Elfer

Kuniyoshi Award for Painting

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Receiving the Kuniyoshi Painting Grant has not only been a great honor for me. Thanks to this generous grant I have been able to purchase very large canvases to paint on, which has opened for me tremendous creative inspiration.

Sam Handler

Xavier Gonzalez and Ethel Edwards Travel Grant

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Thanks to the Gonzalez Edwards Travel Grant, I was able to see and study many of the world's greatest works of art in Spain and Italy. Spending so much time with these great works invigorated my imagination. It allowed me to reflect on where I was after several years of studying and to move toward developing with greater clarity my own ideas about painting, drawing, form and content. It acted as the first step in the new stage I now find myself in, transitioning out of a study mode and moving toward attempting to make art.

Pamela Jennings

Doretta Kesson Masterton Grant

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The Doretta Kesson Masterton Grant was an entree to new realism ventures for me. For example, I added printmaking with Michael Pellettieri to my artistic repertoire and worked for the first time with a woman painter, the wonderful Robin Smith. I wanted to push my painting to the next level and was frustrated when the Covid-19 crisis interrupted my course work. Finally, I stopped saying "no" to myself about a few much needed art purchases such as a new Julian plein air easel for landscape painting.

Neil Kaplan

Edward G. McDowell Travel Grant

www.neilkaplanart.com

Winning the McDowell Travel Grant has been a very validating thing for me. I'm very proud to be included in the list of previous winners. Travel to Paris has not yet been possible, but I'm hoping that by next summer the COVID travel restrictions will be lifted and I'll be able to visit. I'm hoping possibly to also visit Amsterdam to see some of the great Dutch masterworks of the 16th and 17th centuries and if time (and money) allow, perhaps travel to Madrid to spend time in the Prado. Of course I'm hoping to do a lot of sketching along the way. If travel to Paris does not open up, perhaps I will be permitted to

use the grant to see collections in this country and do a number of focused workshops at the League and in other states. And I do intend to buy new brushes and paints along the way!

MJ King

Ann and Bruno Lucchesi Grant

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Receiving the grant is meaningful financially as it allowed me to attend the League full time for the year without any financial concerns. It also provided me with the means to explore new materials for presentation and materials to further a narrative for the portraits. This award is also meaningful emotionally as it strengthens my confidence to continue participating in opportunities where my sculptures can be recognized and exhibited in the public realm.

Zhi Li

Phyllis H. Mason Grant

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Thanks to the generous Phyllis H. Mason grant, I have been able to experiment in large format works with high quality materials. I have been able to have more class which has been important in increasing my possibilities in the art world. I have been able to expand my artistic vision by traveling to England and explore many museums, Royal Academy art school and galleries.



Caroline Ongpin

Kuniyoshi Award for Printmaking

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The Kuniyoshi Award was a tremendous help to me both professionally and personally. Because of the class scholarship I was able to continue printmaking in the League's studios and, at the same time, take a metal fabrication class where I worked on three dimensional projects that grew out of my printmaking

practice. At the beginning of 2020, I was chosen for a residency for printmaking at Guttenberg Arts in New Jersey, based on the prints that I had been working on at the League. The cash award allowed me to participate in a printmaking workshop where I learned techniques that have made a lasting impact on my work. It also provided much needed support for art materials and daily needs, even more so when the pandemic hit. I am extremely grateful to have been awarded the grant for it gave me the boost I needed to keep doing what I truly love to do.