

Pratt / Seattle Print Arts Partners Grant

Name: Maria Zamora (she/her)
Website: www.zamuramaria.com
Instagram: @zamuramaria

Artist Bio:

Maria Zamora is an Interdisciplinary Visual Artist born in Mérida, Venezuela and based in Seattle where she received her BA with Honors from University of Washington in 2020. With a range of bright and contrasting colors Maria creates energetic, technicolor, collage-like compositions to celebrate her cultural background and the natural world, while attempting to raise awareness about the ongoing crisis in her home country.

While expanding her practice in arts, Maria explored the world of textile design as a screen printing apprentice at the Fabric Workshop and Museum in Philadelphia in 2022.

Maria believes that art needs to be easily accessible to the members of our community. Her appreciation for the power that the arts have to tell stories, educate, and call for reflection led her to connect with Seattle nonprofits Northwest Film Forum where she has led screen printing workshops during film festivals, and Coyote Central teaching youth.

Lillian Yeh Scholarship for Lifelong Artists

Name: Archer Gallegos (she/her)

Artist Bio:

Archer is an artist from Seattle, Washington. Her interest in art started at seven years old when she was taught wire wrapping by a sailor she met on the dock in Guatemala. She spent her childhood sailing in Alaska and Central America and continues traveling across the US with her family every chance she gets. Outside of art, she enjoys mountain biking and browsing old bookstores. She attends Highline College, majoring in Integrated Design with an emphasis on Leadership, and plans to pursue a career in art management. Her work includes themes of organic shapes with a focus on floral motifs, fungi, and the occasional octopus. She dabbles in several different mediums and art forms, including ceramics, felting, costume making, and metalworking, with a particular focus on jewelry. She is currently trying to tie the various mediums into one cohesive project.

Mary and Gary Molyneaux Scholarship for Women

Name: Melissa Misoda (she/her)

Website: www.melissamisoda.com

Instagram: @misodaglass

Artist Bio:

Melissa received her BFA from Tyler School of Art in Philadelphia and her MFA from Alfred University in New York. In 1999 she started the hot glass program at Sammamish High School in Bellevue, Wa and has been teaching there ever since. She owns and runs Misoda Glassblowing Studio with her husband, Andy, in West Seattle, Wa.

Melissa's work has been included in museums and galleries across the nation, including the Imagine Museum in St. Pete, Fl, the Bellevue Art Museum in Bellevue, Wa and the Albuquerque Museum in New Mexico.

Her work has been published in both the New Glass Review and Lark publishing's book 1000 glass objects.

Edwin T. Pratt Scholarship (TWO AWARDEES)

Name: Antonio Gonzalez (he/him)
Website: <https://taller2manos.wixsite.com/taller2manos>
Instagram: @tallerdosmanos

Artist Bio:

Antonio Gonzalez is a person of Native Texan and Mexican ancestry and an Indigenous Chicano politic from Yanaguana (SanAntonio,Tx). Born into a colonial experience, he has spent the majority of his life learning to utilize the arts as constructive alternatives to current socio-political paradigms. An early self-trained artist, he received his Bachelor of Arts in Ceramics from Sul Ross State University in Alpine, Tx in 2011. After several years as a teaching artist in public schools and non profit organizations, he has spent the past few years as a stay at home parent for two young children. A relatively recent transplant to Coast Salish Territory, the past 4 years have been spent re-establishing a studio that integrates intergenerational modes of existence and explores creative methods with minimal negative environmental impact.

Name: Roldy Aguero Ablao (he/they)
Instagram: @hafaroldy

Artist Bio:

Roldy Aguero Ablao is a queer child of Guahan (Guam), with ancestors from the Mariana Islands, Philippines and Korea. They are an interdisciplinary artist and storyteller, using photography, sculpture, fashion and performance as ways of understanding and creating culture, place and belonging. They love cats, thrift shopping and social justice.

Bernie Funk Artist Explorations Scholarship

Name: Jo Cosme (she/her)
Website: www.jocosme.com
Instagram: @jo.cosme

Artist Bio:

Jo Cosme is an award-winning Native Boricua multidisciplinary artist who uses photography and installations to address issues surrounding the ongoing colonization of her Homeland, Puerto Rico. A year after Hurricane María, she was displaced to Seattle, WA, and was shocked by how little North Americans know about the exploitative relationship their Country has with hers. This inspired her to create works that would provoke reflections on the effects of disaster capitalism and colonialism in what textbooks call the World's oldest Colony.

Cosme completed her BFA at Puerto Rico's School of Fine Arts majoring in photography in 2014. Her work's been exhibited in places such as Museo las Américas (PR), Photographic Center Northwest (WA), and Galerie Rivoli 59 (Paris). She's won multiple awards in select galleries across the continental US and has also been invited to give art talks at Shunpike's ACES program, Allied Media Conference (Detroit), and MIT Game Lab, to name a few. By 2022, she was awarded the new project grant from Northwest Film Forum's Collective Power Fund + Andy Warhol Foundation (Seattle) and the GAP award from Artist Trust (Seattle). She was also granted the Puerto Rican Artist fellowship program at MASS MoCA's A4A Residency, where she started working on her first solo show titled, Welcome to Paradise opening on March 7th of 2024 in Gallery 4Culture.

Society of Inclusive Blacksmiths Scholarship

Name: Ericka Olachea (she/her)

Instagram: @e.olachea

Artist Bio:

Ericka Olachea is a sculptural artist from Fontana California. She is attending the University of Washington in pursuit of a BA of Arts with a concentration in 3D4M. Her work uses a range of mediums including ceramics, metalwork, glass, and paper to create pieces that reflect personal experiences with disability, mental health, identity, and sexual assault. She often uses a humorous approach to sensitive topics, as seen in pieces like "You Married a Lemon", exhibited at the Jacob Lawrence Gallery in 2023. She currently works and studies in Seattle WA.

Jon & Mary Shirley Scholarship in Glass (TWO AWARDEES)

Name: Matt (he/him)
Website: www.matthewsterncraft.com
Instagram: @Stern_Craft

Artist Bio:

Matthew Stern was born in Virginia and spent three years of his childhood in Vienna, Austria. When he returned to Virginia, he found interest in working with ceramics. His affinity for ceramics encouraged him to apply to Virginia Commonwealth University and attend their Craft and Material Studies program. There his passion for ceramics evolved into a love for hot glass. After receiving his BFA, Matthew attended classes at the world renown Penland School of Craft and Pilchuck Glass School. He moved to Seattle in 2019 to continue working with glass full-time. Since moving to Seattle he has returned to Penland and Pilchuck as a teaching assistant. He now works for Fremont Antique Glass making sheet glass while also creating his own works.

Name: Karlie Uphoff (she/her)
Instagram: @glass_royale

Artist Bio:

Karlie Uphoff is an aspiring glass artist from central Illinois. She is a graduate from Illinois State University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) degree. After finishing her degree in 2022, she moved to Seattle to expand her skills and knowledge of glass art. Since then, she has spent her time at Pilchuck Glass school, interning at the Museum of Glass, and developing her own artwork.

Professional Artist-in-Residence Program (Flameworking)

Name: Inna A Peck (she/her)
Website: <https://www.innapatina.com>
Instagram: @InnaPatina

Artist Bio:

With the help of a supportive glass art community in Seattle Inna Peck was able to explore and develop her unique approach to working with glass. With a focus on kinetic elements in flameworked glass, Inna has evolved to use many kinds of glass that are not traditionally used together because of its incompatibility. With her current body of work, Inna is interested in developing a visual landscape that references and incorporates her Ukrainian heritage.