

BOPA ANNOUNCES 26 SONDHEIM ART PRIZE SEMIFINALISTS

THE 20TH EDITION OF THE PRIZE WILL AWARD \$30,000 TO A REGIONAL ARTIST

Baltimore, MD, December 19, 2024 — The Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts (BOPA) proudly announces the semifinalists for the 2025 Janet & Walter Sondheim Art Prize. This prestigious visual arts honor is presented by BOPA in partnership with the Walters Art Museum and supported by the Maryland State Arts Council (MSAC). The 20th edition of the Sondheim Art Prize will award \$30,000 to a visual artist or visual artist collaborators living and working in the Baltimore region. Five finalists will be selected, and their work will be exhibited in the Walters Art Museum April to July 2025.

This year's panel of accomplished jurors — Jaqueline Cedar, Mike Cloud, and Jennie Goldstein — have selected 26 visual artists and visual artist collaborators for the semifinal round. These artists are asked to share an expanded submission — including up to 30 images or time-based works — and a description of how they will use the fellowship if selected. Semifinalists not selected for final consideration will receive an exhibition at Artscape, May 24–45, 2025.

The 2025 Janet & Walter Sondheim Art Prize semifinalists are:

- Aliana Grace Bailey
- Amanda Leigh Burnham
- Anna Divinagracia
- Emily Francisco
- Jerrell Gibbs
- Najee H.F.
- Marnie Ellen Hertzler
- Lillian Jacobson
- Heejo Kim
- LUSMERLIN
- Xyl Lasersohn
- Katherine Tzu-Lan Mann
- Jacob Mayberry
- Claudia McDonough
- Osvaldo Mesa
- Lindsay Mueller
- Danielle Mysliwicz
- Marguerite de Messières & Tsvetomir Naydenov
- Terence Nicholson
- David Page
- Charlotte Richardson-Deppe
- Anne Clare Rogers
- Wonchul Ryu
- Hedy Ward
- Andersen Woof
- Kelli Williams

2025 SONDHEIM JURORS

Jaqueline Cedar was born in Los Angeles and currently lives and works in Brooklyn. Recent exhibitions include *Serious Topics*, Los Angeles (2024), *Shelter Gallery*, New York (2023), *TV Projects*, Brooklyn (2023), *Long Story Short*, New York (2023), *Shin Haus*, New York (2022), and *Smoke the Moon*, Santa Fe (2022). Press includes *Artnet*, *Hyperallergic*, *Huffington Post*, *Two Coats of Paint*, *New American Paintings*, *Gorky's Granddaughter*, *Painters' Table*, and *The Boston Globe*.

Mike Cloud is a Chicago-based artist who earned his MFA from Yale in 2003. He has been awarded the inaugural Chiaro Award from the Headlands Center for the Arts in California; a New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship, and residencies at the Meulensteen Art Centre in the Netherlands as well as the Sharpe-Walentas Studio Program in New York. Cloud is currently an Assistant Professor at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

Jennie Goldstein has worked in various positions at the Whitney Museum of Art, beginning as a Curatorial Assistant before pursuing a graduate degree. Goldstein has curated several prominent exhibitions, including

the currently on-view *In the Balance: Between Painting and Sculpture, 1965–1985*. She also curated or co-curated *Making Knowing: Craft in Art, 1950–2019*; *Christine Sun Kim: Too Much Future*; and *An Incomplete History of Protest: Selections from the Whitney’s Collection, 1940–2019*. Goldstein recently served as a member of the Museum’s Equity and Inclusion Steering Group, which centered staff voices in the institution’s Equity and Inclusion Plan.

JANET & WALTER SONDHEIM ART PRIZE

The inaugural Prize was awarded at Artscape in 2005 and was known as the Janet & Walter Artscape Prize until 2020, when Artscape was cancelled but the competition continued. The Prize is named in honor of Janet & Walter Sondheim, both of whom were instrumental in furthering arts and culture in Baltimore City.

Janet Sondheim danced with the pioneering Denishawn Dancers, a legendary dance troupe founded by Ruth St. Denis and Ted Shawn. Walter Sondheim, Jr. was an important civic leader for over 50 years. He was deeply involved in the development of Charles Center and the Inner Harbor and continued to be civically active until his death in 2007, serving as the senior advisor to the Greater Baltimore Committee.

Learn more about the Sondheim Art Prize and the 2025 semifinalists by visiting promotionandarts.org/janet-walter-sondheim-art-prize/ and following BOPA on social media ([@promoandarts](https://twitter.com/promoandarts)).

MEDIA CONTACTS

For media inquiries, contact Communications Manager Barbara Hauck at (bhauck@promotionandarts.org).

Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts (BOPA) is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization which serves as Baltimore City’s arts council, events center, and film office. By providing funding and support to artists and arts organizations, as well as producing cultural events across the city, BOPA’s goal is to make Baltimore a more vibrant and creative place to live and work.