FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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BALTIMORE OFFICE OF PROMOTION & THE ARTS ANNOUNCES SEMIFINALISTS FOR JANET & WALTER SONDHEIM ARTSCAPE PRIZE

The Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts (BOPA) announces the semifinalists for the 14th annual Janet & Walter Sondheim Artscape Prize. Twenty-four artists have been selected for the semifinal round by 2019 jurors Laylah Ali, Regine Basha and William Powhida. The competition awards a $25,000 fellowship to assist in furthering the career of a visual artist or visual artist collaborators living and working in the Greater Baltimore region. Each finalist not selected for the fellowship is presented with an M&T Bank Finalist Award of $2,500. A semifinalists’ exhibition kicks off Artscape weekend, July 19–21, 2019. Finalists for the competition are announced mid-April 2019.

Janet & Walter Sondheim Artscape Prize Semifinalists
Negar Ahkami Arlington, VA
Stephanie Barber Baltimore, MD
Akea Brionne Brown Baltimore, MD
Amanda Burnham Baltimore, MD
Call Your Mom Baltimore, MD
Cheeny Celebrado-Royer Havre de Grace, MD
Zoë Carlton Baltimore, MD
Mina Cheon Baltimore, MD
Schroeder Cherry Baltimore, MD
Bobby Coleman Baltimore, MD
Nicole Dyer Baltimore, MD
Christine Ferrera Baltimore, MD
Phylicia Ghee Randallstown, MD
Gun Show Project (Richard Chisolm & David Hess) Baltimore, MD
Taha Heydari Baltimore, MD
Kei Ito and Andrew Paul Keiper Baltimore, MD
Sara Kaltwasser Baltimore, MD
Khanh Le Washington, DC
Tsedaye Makonnen Washington, DC
Jackie Milad Baltimore, MD
Nara Park Washington, DC

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Antoinette Suiter              Baltimore, MD
Stephen Towns                 Baltimore, MD
Stephanie Williams            Washington, DC

The finalists’ exhibition is on view Saturday, June 15–Sunday, August 11, 2019 at the
Walters Art Museum, located at 600 N. Charles St. An award announcement and reception takes
place Saturday, July 13, 2019 at 7pm at the Walters. Galleries open at 10am. Admission to the
exhibition and opening reception are free.

Janet & Walter Sondheim Artscape Prize Timeline
Announcement of Finalists: Mid-April 2019
Finalist Exhibition: Saturday, June 15–Sunday, Aug. 11, 2019
Award Announcement: Saturday, July 13, 2019 at 7pm; Galleries open at 10am
Semifinalist Exhibition and Opening Reception: Late July 2019
Artscape: Friday, July 19–Saturday, July 21, 2019

Janet & Walter Sondheim Artscape Prize
The Artscape prize is named in honor of Janet and Walter Sondheim who have been
instrumental in creating the Baltimore City that exists today. Walter Sondheim, Jr. had been one
of Baltimore’s most important civic leaders for over 50 years. His accomplishments included
oversight of the desegregation of the Baltimore City Public Schools in 1954 when he was
president of the Board of School Commissioners of Baltimore City. Later, he was deeply involved
in the development of Charles Center and the Inner Harbor. He continued to be active in civic
and educational activities in the city and state and served as the senior advisor to the Greater
Baltimore Committee until his death in February 2007.

Janet Sondheim danced with the pioneering Denishawn Dancers, a legendary dance
troupe founded by Ruth St. Denis and Ted Shawn. Later, she turned to teaching where she
spent 15 years at the Children’s Guild working with severely emotionally disturbed children.
After retirement, she was a volunteer tutor at Highlandtown Elementary School. She married
Walter in 1934, and they were together until her death in 1992.

Artscape
Artscape attracts more than 350,000 attendees, offers concerts on multiple outdoor
stages, art exhibitions, an artists’ market, a full schedule of dance, theater and opera, jazz,
classical, folk and experimental music, children’s activities, exhibitors, and an extensive variety
of local food and beverage vendors on Mount Royal Avenue and North Charles Street.
The 14th annual Janet & Walter Sondheim Artscape Prize is held in conjunction with the 38th annual Artscape and produced by the Baltimore Office of Promotion & The Arts in partnership with the Walters Art Museum. The 2019 competition is made possible through the generous annual support of presenting sponsor M&T Bank. Additional funds come from an endowment established with the support of the Abell Foundation, Baltimore Community Foundation, Amy and Chuck Newhall, Brown Advisory, Caplan Family Foundation, Charlesmead Foundation, Ellen Sondheim Dankert, France-Merrick Foundation, Greater Baltimore Committee, Hecht-Levi Foundation, Legg Mason, Rollins-Luetkemeyer Foundation, Henry & Ruth Blaustein Rosenberg Foundation, Rosemore, Inc., Rouse Company Foundation, Sigmund & Barbara Shapiro Philanthropic Fund, John Sondheim, William G. Baker, Jr. Memorial Fund, and Whiting-Turner Contracting Company. BOPA would additionally like to thank the more than 40 individuals who contributed to the Sondheim Prize Endowment Fund in 2017 in honor of former BOPA CEO Bill Gilmore.

For more information on the Janet & Walter Sondheim Artscape Prize, visit www.artscape.org or call 410-752-8632.

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