

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 Charlton	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

Antoinette Suiter
Stephen Towns
Stephanie Williams

Baltimore, MD
Baltimore, MD
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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