

For Immediate Release:
January 19, 2015
Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition
Contact: Kelsey Karper
publications@ovac-ok.org, 405-879-2400

Regional Contemporary Arts Program Brings Experts to Oklahoma City

OKLAHOMA – Twelve Fellows have been selected from Oklahoma and the region to participate in an Oklahoma-based contemporary art program for writers and curators. Structured unlike any program in the nation, the *Oklahoma Art Writing & Curatorial Fellowship* encourages writing that is informed, articulate, and inspired and engages audiences in contemporary art.

Through this yearlong program, each of the twelve Fellows will produce art writing and exhibition projects in mentorship with art world luminaries. The Fellows were chosen through a competitive application process and represent independent artists, writers and professionals in museums and educational institutions, living within 350 miles of Oklahoma City or in regional partner communities (*see below lists for biographies*). The Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition (OVAC) presents the program in partnership with the University of Oklahoma School of Art & Art History and the Oklahoma City Museum of Art, with additional support from the Norman Arts Council.

This is the third iteration of the program, which began in 2010 to help Oklahoma's diverse artists, writers, curators and visual arts professionals gain access and new perspective about the national art scene.

The public is also invited to learn from visiting experts through a series of public panel presentations given by the mentors. The first of these will focus on community-based practices in the arts and will take place on March 21, 1-3 pm, at the Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art on the campus of the University of Oklahoma in Norman. Three other public panels will be held throughout the year (*see schedule below*).

Mentors for the 2015 Fellowship include esteemed professionals in the arts such as Chad Alligood, curator of the Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art in Bentonville, AR; Chloë Bass, an independent conceptual artist and cultural critic living in Brooklyn, NY; James McNally, director of the Luminary and editor of *Temporary Art Review* in St. Louis, MO; and Karen vanMeenen, editor of *Afterimage*, *The Journal for Media Arts and Cultural Criticism* and a lecturer at Rochester Institute of Technology, among others. Local mentor Robert Bailey is an art historian and Assistant Professor at the University of Oklahoma in Norman.

The Oklahoma Art Writing and Curatorial Fellowship is sponsored in part by the Oklahoma Arts Council, the Kirkpatrick Family Fund, and Allied Arts. The Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition is a 26-year old organization that helps artists realize their potential through education, exposure, and funding. For more information about the program and public panels, please visit www.write-curate-art.org or call 405-879-2400.

Oklahoma Art Writing and Curatorial Fellowship 2015

Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition in Partnership with The School of Art & Art History at the University of Oklahoma and the Oklahoma City Museum of Art

A program to encourage writing that is informed, articulate, inspired and engages audiences in contemporary art.

FELLOWS

Lindsey Allgood is a performance artist from Norman, OK. She received her MFA in fine art and a BA in Professional Writing from the University of Oklahoma. She performs and has curated events nationally and internationally. www.lindseyallgood.com

Alyson Atchison is the Curator of Education and Capitol Galleries at the Oklahoma Arts Council. She holds a M.Ed. in Art Education from the University of Central Oklahoma, is a printmaker, and co-editor of the blog (art+write+now). www.alysonart.com

Jessica Borusky is a creative upstart currently residing in Kansas City, MO. Ms. Borusky is interested in the intersections between performance, queer feminism, and conversation. www.jessicaborusky.com

Krystle Brewer is the Associate Director of 108 Contemporary in Tulsa's Brady Arts District. In addition to her art administrative role, she is an active artist, writer, and curator. www.krystlebrewer.com

Allison Campbell is from Tulsa, Oklahoma. She is a graduate student at the University of Oklahoma in the library and information studies program.

Kyle Cohlmi is an educator, writer, art lover, and cat owner with a BA in art history from KU and an MA in education from CU Boulder. www.dustysoulblog.wordpress.com

Melaney Ann Mitchell is a curator, visual artist, and writer based in Kansas City, MO. She is the Director of Subterranean Gallery and the Founder + Editor in Chief of Informality, an art and culture blog. www.melaneyann.com

Laura Reese is the Event Coordinator for the Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition and an artist in Norman, Oklahoma. She is a curator, writer and co-editor of (art+write+now). www.laurareese.net

Liz Roth has shown her art in over 140 exhibitions. She has received numerous awards, grants, and residencies throughout the United States and Japan. www.lizroth.com

Lauren Scarpello is the Arts Industry Manager at the Nebraska Arts Council. She lived in New Orleans, LA for over a decade and cultivated a critical interest in identity and social justice.

Tiffany Sides earned a Bachelor's in Art History from the University of Tulsa and is currently working towards a Master's in Art History from OSU.

Sean M. Starowitz's work is executed in a variety of social, political, and community engaged contexts. Notable projects include Fresh Bread, BREAD! KC and Byproduct: The Laundromat. He is a 2014 Charlotte St. Foundation Visual Art Award Fellow. www.seanstarowitz.com

MENTORS

Chad Alligood, Curator, [Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art](http://CrystalBridgesMuseum.org), Bentonville, AR.

Robert Bailey, Art Historian, Assistant Professor, [University of Oklahoma](http://UniversityofOklahoma.edu), Norman, OK.

Chloë Bass, [Independent Conceptual Artist and Cultural Critic](http://IndependentConceptualArtist.com), Brooklyn, NY.

Julia Cole, [Interdisciplinary artist](http://InterdisciplinaryArtist.com), educator and community strategist; [Rocket Grants](http://RocketGrants.org) Coordinator, Charlotte Street Foundation, Kansas City, MO.

James McAnally, Artist, Critic, Curator; Director of [The Luminary](http://TheLuminary.com) and Executive Editor of [Temporary Art Review](http://TemporaryArtReview.com), St. Louis, MO.

Amanda McDonald Crowley, [Curator and cultural worker](#); Curator in Residence, Alt-w Design Informatics, [New Media Scotland](#).

Kirsten Fleur Olds, PhD (Program Facilitator and Panel Moderator), Writer and Curator, Assistant Professor of Art History, University of Tulsa, Tulsa, OK.

Barbara Pollack, Contributing Editor, [Artnews](#); Professor, [School of Visual Arts](#), New York, NY.

Buzz Spector, [Installation and Book Artist, Writer, Curator](#), and Professor of Art, [Washington University in St. Louis](#), MO.

Lorelei Stewart, Director and Curator, [Gallery 400, University of Illinois at Chicago](#) (UIC); faculty, [Museum and Exhibition Studies](#) graduate program, UIC, Chicago, IL.

Shannon Stratton, Founder and Executive Director [Threewalls](#); Adjunct Assistant Professor, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, IL.

Daniel Tucker, [Artist/Writer/Curator](#), Assistant Professor and Graduate Program Manager in Social and Studio Practices at [Moore College of Art and Design](#) in Philadelphia, PA.

Karen vanMeenen, Editor of [Afterimage, The Journal of Media Arts and Cultural Criticism](#); Lecturer, [Rochester Institute of Technology Department of English](#), Rochester, NY.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

March 21, 1-3 pm

Community-Based Practice in the Arts
Chloë Bass, Julia Cole, and Daniel Tucker
Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art
University of Oklahoma
555 Elm Avenue, Norman, OK 73019

May 9, 1-3 pm

Curatorial Practice & Models
Chad Alligood, Amanda McDonald Crowley, and Shannon Stratton
Oklahoma City Museum of Art
415 Couch Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73102

September 26, 1-3 pm

Criticism, Critique, and Publishing
James McAnally, Barbara Pollack, and Buzz Spector
Oklahoma City Museum of Art
415 Couch Drive, Oklahoma City, OK 73102

November 7, 1-3 pm

Writing About Art in Academia
Robert Bailey, Lorelei Stewart, and Karen vanMeenen
MAINSITE Contemporary Art Gallery
122 East Main Street, Norman, OK 73069

For additional information about the Oklahoma Art Writing and Curatorial Fellowship, please contact Kelsey Karper, Associate Director, Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition.
405-879-2400 · publications@ovac-ok.org