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ART WRITING  
AND CURATORIAL  
FELLOWSHIP

Oklahoma Art Writing & Curatorial Fellowship  
Call for Applicants – 2018 Fellowship Year  
**Deadline: May 15, 2018**

The Oklahoma Art Writing & Curatorial Fellowship aims to train promising writers and curators by expanding their professional education and experience. This distinctive, yearlong program awards 12 fellows the opportunity to participate in a structured and innovative curriculum designed to encourage new writing and curatorial projects. The Fellowship offers each participant the opportunity to cultivate skills and knowledge by offering access to leading regional and national curators, critics, organizers, and academics through public lectures and intimate, hands-on workshops.

The Oklahoma Art Writing & Curatorial Fellowship identifies talented Fellows who possess a passion for art, a drive to excel in writing about art, and the desire to become active and engaged participants in the current contemporary art dialogue. The program provides education, mentorship, and support to writers and curators to help them realize greater potential. This is the fourth installment of the program. The Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition (OVAC) presents this program in partnership with Philbrook Museum of Art, The University of Tulsa, and Hardesty Arts Center.

#### PROGRAM DETAILS

##### **2018 Confirmed Mentors:**

heather ahtone, Ph.D. James T. Bialac Associate Curator of Native American and Non-Western Art,  
Fred Jones, Jr. Museum of Art, Norman, OK

Rachel Cook, Artistic Director, On the Boards, Seattle, WA

Orit Gat, Editor for art-agenda, London and NYC, NY

Lauren Haynes, Curator of Contemporary Art, Crystal Bridges, Bentonville, AR

Zoe Larkins, Assistant Curator, Museum of Contemporary Art, Denver, CO

Michael W. Maizels, Assistant Professor of Art History University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR

Kirsten Olds, Ph.D. Associate Professor for the Henry Kendall College of Arts & Sciences, The  
University of Tulsa, Tulsa, OK

Cameron Shaw, Executive Director and Founding Editor, Pelican Bomb, New Orleans, LA

Buzz Spector, Professor of Art at the Washington University in St. Louis, MO

Catherine Whitney, Chief Curator, Curator of American Art, Philbrook Museum of Art, Tulsa, OK

Lindsay Preston Zappas, Founder and Editor-in-Chief, Contemporary Art Review, Los Angeles, CA

##### **Requirements for Fellows:**

- Attend 6 Fellowship panel discussions & workshops
- Read assigned texts monthly
- Prepare assigned written texts (200 – 1500 words) throughout participation
- Publish articles on the OVAC blog
- Visit art exhibitions at museums & galleries
- Participate in small-group workshop sessions outside of the in-person meetings

- Participate in regional study trip, held in June/July
- Prepare and submit one prepared text (750 - 1500 words) and supporting images to Lead Mentor by assigned deadline for final project to be published in *Art Focus Oklahoma*
- Remain open to new ideas and criticism and respectful to both Mentors and fellow participants

**Program Schedule:**

The program includes 6 face-to-face convenings and consists of the following:

- Orientation and Introduction
- Four meetings to include public panel discussions and workshops with Mentors
- Ongoing assigned and independent reading and writing assignments
- Participation in Fellow small group conference calls
- Submission of original written work to Mentors
- Review of Mentors' feedback
- Regional study trip
- Independent or collaborative curatorial lab projects
- Conclusion meeting
- Program evaluation

**Program Dates** (please note this schedule subject to change):

August 18, 2018	11:00 am– 6:00 pm	Orientation
October 20, 2018	11:00 am– 6:00 pm	Curatorial Theory and Practice I
December 15, 2018	11:00 am– 6:00 pm	Curatorial Theory and Practice II
February 23, 2019	11:00 am– 6:00 pm	Art Writing & Criticism I
April 20, 2019	11:00 am– 6:00 pm	Art Writing & Criticism II
July 6, 2019	11:00 am– 6:00 pm	Conclusion

**Locations:**

The program will take place at various cultural sites in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Fellows cover costs of travel to program sites. OVAC will seek host homes for interested participants.

**Cost of the Program:**

Oklahoma Art Writing & Curatorial Fellowship is underwritten by Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition (OVAC) in partnership with the Philbrook Museum of Art and The University of Tulsa. Fellows are responsible for costs associated with travel, purchasing reading material as assigned, and other incidental costs. The organizers absorb all other program costs.

**Selection:**

Applications and support materials will be reviewed by a committee comprised of local expertise in the fields of curating, writing, and academia.

## HOW TO APPLY

### **DEADLINE: May 15, 2018, 11:59 pm**

Submit online at [www.write-curate-art.org](http://www.write-curate-art.org). All information is strictly confidential. Late applications will not be considered. The announcement of the Fellows will take place by June 1, 2018. Applicants will be notified by email.

### **Eligibility:**

Applicants should be actively engaged in the visual arts and seriously interested in writing about or creating exhibitions of living artists from the region. They also should have a demonstrated passion about contemporary art and the potential to produce exceptional writing. Applicants should be able to commit to the program, attend scheduled events, and meet assignments for successful completion. Graduate students are eligible to apply. Undergraduate students are not eligible. Past Fellows are not eligible.

### **Geographic Eligibility:**

Applicants must

- be an Oklahoma resident, or
- live within a 350-mile radius of Tulsa or
- be a resident of Kansas City, New Orleans, or St. Louis areas.

### **SUBMITTED ONLINE AT [www.write-curate-art.org](http://www.write-curate-art.org) BY CANDIDATE:**

- Completed application form
  - Responses to essay questions (no more than 250 words each)
    1. Why do you want to participate in this program? What do you hope to achieve?
    2. In what ways are you engaged in the visual arts?
    3. What interests you most about contemporary art?
- Resume in PDF or Word format (no more than 3 pages).
- Support materials in PDF or Word format. Include writing sample, essay, review, article, catalog, or exhibition materials (no more than 3 items) that demonstrate your engagement with contemporary art as well as your writing ability.

### **SUBMITTED VIA EMAIL BY RECOMMENDER** (share info on next page):

- Confidential Recommendation Letter. This letter of recommendation should be from a professional colleague or someone who has served in supervisory role in your career.

Application Questions: 405-879-2400 or [director@ovac-ok.org](mailto:director@ovac-ok.org)



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## CONFIDENTIAL LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

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### Purpose:

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### INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE AUTHOR OF RECOMMENDATION:

Please submit a Letter of Recommendation in PDF or Word format to [director@ovac-ok.org](mailto:director@ovac-ok.org) by May 15, 2018 11:59pm. As you write this letter of support, please consider the mission of Oklahoma Art Writing & Curatorial Fellowship and the following issues:

1. The professional or academic relationship you have with the applicant.
2. Applicants critical thinking and writing abilities.
3. The applicant's potential for contributing to curatorial work and writing about contemporary art in the region and beyond.

A confirmation of receipt email will be sent. Fellows will be announced by June 1, 2018.

Questions: 405-879-2400 or [director@ovac-ok.org](mailto:director@ovac-ok.org)