



Office for the Arts at Harvard

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release March 30, 2015

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Office for the Arts and Office of the Dean for the Arts and Humanities Announce 2015 Recipients of Artist Development Fellowships

THIRTEEN UNDERGRADUATE ARTISTS AWARDED FELLOWSHIPS TO FURTHER ARTISTIC DEVELOPMENT

The Office for the Arts at Harvard (OFA) and the Office of the Dean for the Arts and Humanities are pleased to announce the 2015 recipients of the Artist Development Fellowship. This program supports the artistic development of students demonstrating unusual accomplishment and/or evidence of significant artistic promise. The program is administered by the OFA and the Office of Undergraduate Research and Fellowships, and made possible with the support of the Office of the President at Harvard University and Irene and Lynn Weigel '70.

Council on the Arts members at the time of selection were: **Diana Sorensen** (Chair), James F. Rothenberg Professor of Romance Languages and of Comparative Literature and Dean of Arts and Humanities; **Jack Megan**, Director, Office for the Arts; **Diane Borger**, Executive Producer of the American Repertory Theater Company; **Federico Cortese**, Senior Lecturer on Music, Conductor of the Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra; **S. Allen Counter**, Director, Harvard Foundation; **Deborah Foster**, Senior Lecturer in Folklore and Mythology; **Jorie Graham**, Boylston Professor of Rhetoric and Oratory; **Christopher Hasty**, Walter W. Naumburg Professor of Music; **Jill Johnson**, Dance Director, OFA Dance Program, Senior Lecturer on Music; **Ruth Stella Lingford**, Professor of the Practice of Animation, Film Study Center Fellow; **Cathleen McCormick**, Director of Programs, Office for the Arts; **Diane Paulus**, Artistic Director/CEO, American Repertory Theater; **Elaine Scarry**, Walter M. Cabot Professor of Aesthetics and the General Theory of Value and Senior Fellow of the Society of Fellows; **Matt Saunders**, Associate Professor of Visual and Environmental Studies; and **Marcus Stern**, Associate Director, American Repertory Theater/MXAT Institute for Advanced Theater Training.

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The program is open to all undergraduates currently enrolled in Harvard College. For further application information visit the OFA or Office of Undergraduate Research and Fellowships websites; <http://undergrad-research.harvard.edu>.

2015 Artist Development Fellowship Recipients

Alice Abracen '15, a resident of Adams House concentrating in English and Religion, is awarded a Fellowship to attend the Women Playwrights International Conference in Cape Town, South Africa, where her play *Players* will be performed. Abracen has written three full-length plays at Harvard, and her junior paper was nominated for the Robert Kiely Prize for Outstanding Junior Essay. She plans to pursue a career in playwriting to spark dialogue and community through the practice of theater.

Aislinn Brophy '17, a resident of Adams House concentrating in English, is awarded a Fellowship to attend the One-Year Lease Theater Apprenticeship Program in Papingo, Greece. Brophy, currently serving as Campus Liaison on the Executive Board of the Harvard-Radcliffe Dramatic Club (HRDC), has participated in over eleven theatrical productions on Harvard's campus as an actress and designer. She intends to pursue a career in acting after graduation.

Reina Gattuso '15, a resident of Adams House concentrating in Literature and Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality, is awarded a Fellowship to write a series of nonfiction pieces on the infrastructure of pilgrimage in three North Indian temple towns: Rishikesh, Varanasi, and Vrindaban. Gattuso is the founding Co-Editor-in-Chief of *Manifesta Magazine*, serves as a member of the Poetry Board of *The Harvard Advocate*, and as an Editor of *The Harvard Crimson*. Gattuso writes a biweekly column, *Material Girl*, and a weekly column *Four Dollar Wine Critic*, in which she tackles issues of sexual, gender, and cultural politics on Harvard's campus. She plans to pursue a career in journalism.

Devon Guinn '17, a resident of Quincy House concentrating in Visual and Environmental Studies, is awarded a Fellowship to create a short animated documentary exploring the rebirth of American Beatbox culture. Guinn is the Executive Producer of *On Harvard Time*, Harvard's student-run web comedy show, and has also served as a *Harvard Crimson* Arts Columnist. Guinn plans to pursue a career in film and animation.

Angie Jo '16, a resident of Adams House concentrating in Architecture Studies with a secondary in Mind/Brain/Behavior, is awarded a Fellowship to design and construct an outdoor public art piece at the 2015 Burning Man Festival. Jo, who participated in the build and strike crew for Paradigm Camp at Burning Man 2014, currently works as a student researcher and tour guide at the Harvard Art Museums. Jo studies the phenomenon of informal urbanization and shelter/housing issues, and plans to pursue a career in urban research and city planning.

Madeline Lear '17, a resident of Quincy House concentrating in History, is awarded a Fellowship to work as a visual journalist for *The Sacramento Bee* to produce a mini-documentary on the humanitarian effects of California's worst drought in 1,200 years. Lear has worked as a video intern at *The Patriot Ledger*, where she produced a mini-documentary about heroin addiction south of Boston. At Harvard she served as co-Photo Editor of *The Harvard Crimson's* weekly magazine and currently works as Co-Chair of the *Crimson's* Multimedia Board. Lear plans to pursue a career as a visual journalist, producing photos and videos for news outlets.

George Meyer '15, a resident of Quincy House concentrating in English, is awarded a Fellowship to study with several renowned violinists. Meyer, a member of the Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra, is co-president of the Brattle Street Chamber players, and former President of the Harvard Composers' Association. A 2014 and 2012 Protégé Project Artist at Chamber Music Northwest in Portland, Oregon, Meyer has performed original compositions at the Telluride Bluegrass Festival and on campus with the Brattle Street Chamber Players. He plans to pursue a career in classical and bluegrass music as a player and composer.

Rebecca Panovka '16, a resident of Quincy House concentrating in English, is awarded a Fellowship to travel to South Africa and Botswana to intern for Emmy Award winning documentarian Mandy Jacobson, and create a short documentary exploring safari tourism. Panovka has created two short documentaries, and has interned with several multimedia organizations including *Radio Open Source*, Firelight Films on the film *Freedom Summer*, and *The New York Observer*. She currently serves as an editor-in-chief of *The Harvard Book Review* and a Fiction Board member of *The Harvard Advocate*, where she is editing an anthology that will be published in 2016 to celebrate the organization's 150th anniversary. After graduation, she plans to continue learning about and making films.

David Sheynberg '16, a resident of Leverett House concentrating in Human Evolutionary Biology, is awarded a Fellowship to attend the Atlantic School of Acting's Summer Intensive in New York City. Sheynberg has performed in over nine major theatrical productions on Harvard's campus including the Fall 2014 Visiting Director's project *Little Murders* on the Loeb Mainstage, and Hasty Pudding Theatricals' current production of *Oops..Madrid It Again* (HPT 167). Sheynberg hopes to pursue an MFA and a career in acting.

Sarah Yeoh-Wang '17, a resident of Adams House enrolled in the Harvard/New England Conservatory (NEC) joint five-year AB/MM program and concentrating in English and Music, is awarded a Fellowship to attend the Bowdoin International Music Festival to study with world-renowned harpist June Han. Yeoh-Wang is a Merit Award recipient from the New England Conservatory and has been a prizewinner at national competitions including the American Harp Society Competition, the Young Artist's Harp Competition, and YoungArts. She is currently a harpist with the Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra, and has performed in Lowell House and Harvard College Opera productions as well as in a Harvard-Radcliffe Dramatic Club musical, and was a guest harpist for the River Charles Ensemble. She plans to pursue a career as an English and Music teacher for middle and high school students.

Yan (Faye) Zhang '17, an affiliate of Dudley Co-op concentrating in English with a secondary in Visual and Environmental Studies, is awarded a Fellowship to enroll in Emerson College's Graphic Novel Writing and Illustration Program. Zhang plans to complete a graphic novel based on the evolution of Chairman Mao's portraits throughout history. Zhang is the Co-President of *The Crunch Magazine* (Harvard's sequential arts publication), a cartoonist for *the Harvard Crimson*, a staff artist for *The Harvard Lampoon*, and a features writer for *The Harvard Advocate*.

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The Office for the Arts at Harvard (OFA) supports student engagement in the arts and integrates the arts into University life. Through its programs and services, the OFA teaches and mentors, fosters student art making, connects students to accomplished artists, commissions new work, and partners with local, national, and international constituencies. By supporting the development of students as artists and cultural stewards, the OFA works to enrich society and shape communities in which the arts are a vital part of life. For more information about the OFA, call 617.495.8676, or visit www.ofa.fas.harvard.edu.

The Office of Undergraduate Research and Fellowships serves the undergraduates of Harvard College who are seeking to supplement their formal education with research and fellowship opportunities during term time, over the summer, or after graduation. For more information on research and fellowships at Harvard, visit <http://uraf.harvard.edu>

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