



Office for the Arts at Harvard

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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release April 3, 2019

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Meet the 2019 Artist Development Fellowship Recipients

FOURTEEN 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 2019 recipients of the annual Artist Development Fellowships. The program supports the artistic development of students demonstrating unusual accomplishment and/or evidence of significant artistic promise. The program is administered by the OFA, the Office of Undergraduate Research and Fellowships, and the Office of Career Services, and is made possible with the support of the Office of the President at Harvard University.

Council on the Arts members at the time of selection were: **Robin Kelsey** (Chair), Shirley Carter Burden Professor of Photography, History of Photography and American Art, and Dean of Arts and Humanities; **Diane Borger**, Producer of the American Repertory Theater; **Federico Cortese**, Senior Lecturer on Music, Conductor of the Harvard-Radcliffe Orchestra; **Jorie Graham**, Boylston Professor of Rhetoric and Oratory; **Jill Johnson**, Dance Director, OFA Dance Program, Senior Lecturer, Theatre, Dance & Media; **Sarah Lewis**, Assistant Professor of History of Arts and Architecture and of African American Studies; **Ruth Stella Lingford**, Professor of the Practice of Animation, Film Study Center Fellow; **Cathleen McCormick**, Director of Programs, Office for the Arts; **Jack Megan**, Director, Office for the Arts; **Diane Paulus '88**, Artistic Director, American Repertory Theater; **Matt Saunders '97**, Assistant Professor of Visual and Environmental Studies; **Elaine Scarry**, Walter M. Cabot Professor of Aesthetics and the General Theory of Value and Senior Fellow of the Society of Fellows; **Marcus Stern**, Associate Director, American Repertory Theater/MXAT Institute for Advanced Theater Training; **Yosvany Terry**, Senior Lecturer on Music, Director of Jazz Bands.

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The program is open to all undergraduates currently enrolled in Harvard College. For further application information, visit the OFA at ofa.fas.harvard.edu or the Office of Undergraduate Research and Fellowships at uraf.harvard.edu

2019 Artist Development Fellowship Recipients

Carlos Agredano '20, a resident of Cabot House concentrating in History and Literature with a focus on Chicanx visual culture, is awarded a Fellowship to create *Los Paletterxs*, a mobile sculpture rooted in Rasquachismo, urban Chicanx culture, and mobility in Los Angeles. Agredano is a Vision and Justice ambassador, staff designer on *The Harvard Advocate*, a DJ on Harvard Radio Broadcasting (WHRB). He currently assists Radcliffe Fellow EJ Hill on his project *University of St. Tamir* which will open at Art Basel in Switzerland. He plans to continue making sculptures and hopes to pursue a career in museum curation.

Ian Askew '19, a Quincy House affiliate concentrating in Theater, Dance, and Media (TDM) as well as History and Literature's Ethnic Studies field, is awarded a Fellowship to develop and tour a solo performance piece on Afropunk and to attend the American Modern Opera Company (AMOC) annual summer retreat. Askew has worked in collaborative performance, theater, and music with BlackCAST, TDM and the American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.). Askew is currently working on projects for the A.R.T. and AMOC and will be premiering new work in April 2019.

Connor Doyle '19, a resident of Adams House concentrating in English Literature, is awarded a Fellowship to develop stories as told through Augmented Reality. Doyle's experience in immersive technology began on his arrival at Harvard and since then he has been directing experiences in VR and AR around the world. An advocate for technological development on campus, he is Head of the AR/VR Studio at Harvard Business School and believes in the immersive capacity of this technology to redefine our sense of self and our relation to others. Doyle's future plan is to work at the intersection of immersive technology and storytelling.

Gabriel Fox-Peck '20, an affiliate of Mather House concentrating in the Comparative Study of Religion and Music, is awarded a Fellowship to apprentice with legendary hip-hop producer Patrick Douthit (also known as "9th Wonder") at Jamla Records. He has performed at numerous venues both on- and off-campus including Sanders Theatre, Holden Chapel, and major music venues along the East Coast. With his hip-hop group Young Bull, Fox-Peck has branched into record production—writing and releasing records that have accrued millions of plays on Spotify and other online platforms. He plans to pursue a career in music after graduation.

Anna Lee '20, a resident of Lowell House concentrating in Comparative Literature, is awarded a Fellowship to attend the Ravinia Festival's Steans Music Institute Program for Piano and Strings. Lee has performed as soloist with the New York Philharmonic, Frankfurt Radio Orchestra, and Singapore Symphony Orchestra, among others. She has also performed with world-renowned musicians such as Christoph Eschenbach, Mitsuko Uchida, and Steven Isserlis. Her senior thesis focuses on the role of music in society by using poetry to look at rhythm, rhyme, and the musical play of words. After graduation, she plans to pursue a career in music performance and pedagogy.

Max Lesser '19, an affiliate of Winthrop House concentrating in English, is awarded a Fellowship to write a book of poems about Californians whose lives have been touched by fire. A recipient of Harvard English Department's creative writing award the Charles Edmund Horman Prize, Lesser has served as an editorial assistant intern for the *Los Angeles Review of Books* (LARB) as well as the *Boston Review*. His essay on 20th century poetics *All Architectures I Am* was published on the main page of the LARB. Before attending Harvard, Lesser was a member of the Los Angeles Philharmonic Composer Fellowship class of 2013-15.

George Liu '20, a resident of Adams House concentrating in Visual and Environmental Studies (VES), is awarded a Fellowship to attend the Yale Norfolk School of Art, an intensive six-week artist residency for rising undergraduate seniors. Liu has used the methods and rhythms of crochet in his approach to painting and is particularly interested in the concept of sentimentality in art. Upon graduation, he plans to pursue a career in art.

Gabrielle Preston '20, an affiliate of Dudley House, is awarded a Fellowship to develop an installation experience of black radical world-building through collaborative design. Preston has served as a scenic designer, technical director, technical producer, facilitator, director, and creator of many productions and projects, in a variety of theater and gallery spaces. Preston works primarily with Harvard's BlackCAST, the Kuumba Singers of Harvard College, the Harvard-Radcliffe Dramatic Club, Harvard's Theater Dance & Media Department, and with Renegade, and will be seen this spring with Saskia's: *Utopia* at the A.R.T. Oberon. Preston is pursuing black studies through the Anthropology department, and has not yet declared a secondary.

Liat Rubin '19, a resident of Leverett House concentrating in History and Literature, is awarded a Fellowship to create an experimental storytelling project exploring the nuanced identity of the Ethiopian Jewish community in Israel. As a multimedia artist, Rubin has performed in numerous on-campus theater productions, sung with the a cappella group the Harvard Callbacks, and co-directed the 2018 documentary *Zina's*. In 2018, her photography series *You Are Mine* was featured at Junior High Art Space in Los Angeles. Rubin serves as a research assistant and ambassador to The Vision and Justice Project and plans to pursue a career in visual art and advocacy.

Matthew Shaw '20, a jazz pianist and resident of Cabot House concentrating in History and Science with a secondary in Human Evolutionary Biology, is awarded a Fellowship to attend the Stanford Jazz Institute and the NYU Summer Jazz Improvisation Workshop. Shaw has been a member of the Harvard Jazz Band, under the direction of Yosvany Terry, since 2017. Through the Harvard Jazz Combo Initiative, he has additionally studied with Gregory Ryan and Nick Grondin. He is a frequent performer on campus, playing many gigs as a soloist and as a member of various jazz combos.

Caroline Tsai '20, a resident of Winthrop House concentrating in English, is awarded a Fellowship to write a novel about teenage celebrity and social media in the #MeToo era. At Harvard, Tsai is the co-chair of the Arts Board of *the Harvard Crimson* and a tutor at the Writing Center. In the past, she has edited *the Adroit Journal*, read for *the Women's Issue*, and written for Let's Go Student Travel Guides. Her writing has appeared in *The Best Teen Writing Anthology*, *The Adroit Journal*, and *Tuesday*. Upon graduation, she plans to pursue a career in writing.

Sabrina Wu '20, a resident of Dunster House concentrating in Psychology, is awarded a fellowship to perform stand-up comedy in Brooklyn, NY. Under the mentorship of established comic Harrison Greenbaum, she will perform in New York's stand-up comedy scene, produce and host a bi-weekly indie comedy show, and develop material for her one-woman show. At Harvard, Wu was co-president of the Harvard College Stand-Up Comics Society and a member of On Thin Ice improv troupe. She has opened for comedian Cameron Esposito and was a finalist in the Boston College Comedy Festival. Wu intends to pursue a career in stand-up comedy and TV/Film writing.

Alexander "Sasha" Yakub '20, a resident of Currier House concentrating in Music, is awarded a Fellowship to attend the Vienna Summer Music Festival's Instrumental Composition program and work with British violinist, Irvine Arditti. Yakub has composed on commission for the Southeastern Piano Festival, the Brattle Street Chamber Players, and the A.R.T. He also serves as composer-in-residence for The Goat Exchange, an experimental theater company at Harvard. Recently, Yakub served as a Violin Fellow at the Tanglewood Music Center and appeared as soloist with New Music New Haven premiering a new concerto. Yakub is also a part of Duo 404, a music duo with whom he will travel to England to study with Thomas Adès at the international Musicians Seminar – Prussia Cove.

Eli Zuzovsky '21, an affiliate of Dudley Co-op and joint concentrator in English and VES, is awarded a Fellowship to attend the fiction workshop New York State Summer Writers Institute. His first short film, *Tonight You Belong to Me*, was part of the Short Film Corner at the 2017 Cannes Film Festival. During his mandatory military service in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), Zuzovsky worked as the editor of *Bamahane*, Israel's oldest weekly magazine, and covered the 2014 Gaza War from the field. At Harvard, Zuzovsky directed his play *Minotaur* (which won Best Play at the 2017 Jaffa Spring Festival) and an original adaptation of Allen Ginsberg's poem *Kaddish*. He is working on a production of Chekhov's *The Seagull* to be performed in Harvard Yard during the ARTS FIRST Festival and hopes to pursue a career as a director and writer.

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, mentors, and 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 ofa.fas.harvard.edu.

The Office of Undergraduate Research and Fellowships serves Harvard College undergraduates 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, call 617.495.5095 or visit uraf.harvard.edu.

The Office of Career Services (OCS) is dedicated to educating, advising, and connecting students to opportunities for summer and post-graduation in order to foster their intellectual, social, and personal transformations. OCS serves students of Harvard College, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, and Harvard Extension School degree programs. For more information on research and fellowships at Harvard, call 617.495.2595 or visit ocs.fas.harvard.edu.

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