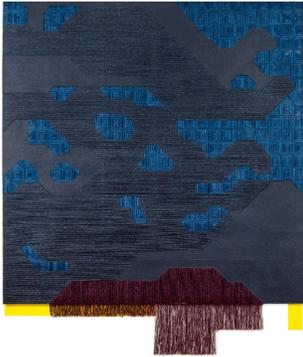


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ARTADIA ANNOUNCES AWARD INCREASE

*In response to artists' needs during this critical time,
Artadia announces the increase of its annual Artadia Awards to \$15,000 each*



Left to right: Azadeh Gholizadeh (2022 Chicago) *By the campfire*, 2022; Alex Strada and Tali Keren (2022 New York City), *Save the Presidents*, 2018; Shantel Miller (2022 Boston) *In Hidden Places*, 2019.

(New York, NY | December 13, 2022)

Artadia, a nonprofit grantmaker and nationwide community of visual artists, curators, and patrons, is thrilled to announce that in 2023 it will increase each Artadia Award to \$15,000.

The decision is rooted in Artadia's ongoing commitment to realizing a more just arts economy, and received resounding support by its Board of Directors. Where previously Awards of \$10,000 were given to three individual artists in each Award city, Artadia will increase each Award by \$5,000.

With few opportunities for direct grants available to individual artists, the continued investment in providing unrestricted funds is significant. Through its annual Awards program, Artadia addresses the needs of visual artists by providing funds at pivotal moments in their careers. Over its twenty-four year history, Artadia has learned from artists that a balanced approach to success often entails equitable access to funding at critical junctures as well as local and national forms of recognition, advocacy, and opportunities to engage one's community outside institutional walls.

Artadia's Executive Director **Carolyn Ramo** commented: "It's so important to support artists who are a vital part of our communities. The pandemic has shown us that artists are a resilient, life-giving force in the face of the uncertainty we've all been experiencing. As an organization that

has demonstrated a responsive commitment to artists, we are proud to recognize artists' invaluable contributions in this challenging moment and once again respond to their needs for greater financial support.”

Over the years, Artadia has carefully considered the addition of new Award cities, taking into account the overall need and the existence of creative workers in a variety of geographic locales. In 2022, Artadia was thrilled to once again offer support in Boston, making it a permanent addition to its six program cities that already includes Atlanta, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, New York City, and the San Francisco Bay Area. Collectively, the 2022 Awardees represent an immense range in aesthetic and thematic framework, pushing the boundaries of their form and proving themselves as key contributors to the vibrancy of the cities they live and work in.

Additionally, Artadia's Board of Directors will adopt a shared leadership model and has newly elected co-chairs to lead the organization's Board. Artadia's newly elected co-chair **Laura Roberson Fisch** shared, “Through the Awards program, Artadia has identified some of the most groundbreaking talents and often supported them at a critical, early stage. This is evident from our long list of Awardees, whose visionary voices echo throughout the arts today – Nick Cave, Theaster Gates, Trenton Doyle Hancock, EJ Hill, Caroline Kent, Autumn Knight, Daniel Lind-Ramos, Cauleen Smith, Hank Willis Thomas, to name a few. We have elevated the careers of hundreds of artists and increased the acclaim of their work by a more diverse public. The increased Award only serves to boost this necessary cause at this important moment.”

“We feel more than ever to heed the needs of artists during this volatile time. Artadia has always believed in the significance of unrestricted funds and we are proud to achieve momentum in our efforts to increase our funding rather than scale back.” **Aurele Danoff Pelaia**, Co-Chair of the Board of Directors commented.

“Artadia’s unique combination of deep local support and its national scope makes it a much-needed asset to the larger funding ecosystem.” **Naima J. Keith**, Vice President of Education and Public Programs at LACMA and a member of the Artadia Board of Directors observes. “This is often made possible by recruiting values-aligned curators, patrons, and institutional partners who we rely on to help us identify future Awardees. Our curator-jurors have devoted their lives to creating opportunities for artists, and we want to acknowledge their time and expertise appropriately - which is why we will also be increasing their honoraria as part of this larger initiative.”

Artadia frequently collaborates with curators embedded in the local arts communities of the seven program cities and are asked to prioritize artists whose work is timely and reflective of their city’s cultural ecosystem. In 2022, a total of 30 curator-jurors representing 28 different institutions served on the Awards selection panels. Artadia will likewise increase the honoraria that curator-jurors are paid in order to recognize their invaluable contribution to the overall process.

The budgetary increase to the Artadia Award program can be seen as a necessary response to the ongoing uncertainties around inflation and the economy. Regardless of the volatility of the

market, debt relief, project-based funding, and material expenses continue to be cited as the three most pressing expenses to address, which underscore the need for direct support.

Astria Suparak, 2022 San Francisco Bay Area Awardee, expressed the relief the Award provided her “Receiving the Award gives me the time to focus on experimenting, learning, and making - I am able to decline unproductive opportunities knowing I have the funding from this Award.”

“The Artadia Award coincided with a moment of institutional recognition, which we had not experienced before. As artists working across social practice, video, and performance, we mostly operate outside the commercial art world,” shared **Tali Keren**, 2022 New York City Awardee. Keren shared similar sentiments to Suparak, “The funding from Artadia also enabled me to take one day off from being a teaching artist to focus fully on my projects, which has made a tremendous impact financially and artistically.”

José Ibarra Rizo, 2022 Atlanta Awardee, expressed his gratitude for receiving the Award “The Award means that I have the financial backing to take risks and explore my work in new and interesting ways. I immediately thought about the possibilities for projects that up until this point were not possible because of financial limitations.” On the prospect of the Awards increase, he stated “[The increase] will make it possible for artists to take work even further.”

About Artadia

Since its founding in 1999, Artadia has awarded over \$6 million in unrestricted funds to over 370 artists nationally. Celebrating visual artists and their foundational role in shaping society, the Artadia Award benefits three artists annually in seven major US cities with high concentrations of creative workers—Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, New York City, and the San Francisco Bay Area.

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Press approved images can be found [HERE](#). Additional images available upon request.