



ARTADIA
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ANNOUNCING THE FIFTH ANNUAL 21c MUSEUM HOTEL ARTADIA AWARD: THIS YEAR IN ST. LOUIS, MO

*Application opens June 15;
Partnership Will Support Visual Artists in Nine Rotating Cities Nationwide*



Brian Paumier, "Act Of Faith," 2014, pigmented paper prints on painted wood with glitter and adhesives. Courtesy of 21c Museum Hotel Lexington. Included in "Pop Stars! Popular Culture and Contemporary Art" on view at 21c St. Louis through June 2025.

Embargoed through May 13, 2025, 12pm CT/1pm ET

(ST. LOUIS, MO | May 13) – **21c Museum Hotels**, a multi-venue contemporary art museum and award-winning hospitality company, and **Artadia**, a non-profit grantmaker and nationwide community of visual artists, curators, and patrons, are thrilled to announce their collaboration on the fifth annual **21c Artadia Award**, this year in **St. Louis, MO**.

Launched in Louisville, KY in 2021, the 21c Artadia Award is a long-term partnership that annually provides **\$15,000 in unrestricted funds** to one artist living and working in the unique creative communities where 21c Museum Hotels are located. Previous 21c Artadia Award cycles have granted four artists with unrestricted awards – **Kiah Celeste** (2021 Louisville), **Kathy Liao** (2022 Kansas City), **André Leon Gray** (2023 Research Triangle), and **Erika NJ Allen** (2024 Cincinnati).

The 21c Artadia Award is designed to provide essential funding and recognition to artists at pivotal points in their careers, strengthen arts communities, and spur new levels of career achievement. In addition to the grant itself, the Award includes lifelong access to the Artadia Network, a support program nurturing strategic relationships and connecting Awardees with a community of fellow artists and a diverse cohort of professionals.

Open June 15–July 15, 2025, the 21c St. Louis Award application is an open call, free to apply, and available to visual artists currently living and working within **St. Louis City, MO, St. Louis County, MO, St. Charles County, MO, St. Clair County, IL and Madison County, IL** for at least two years. To apply and learn more, [visit **artadia.org/awards**](https://artadia.org/awards). The 21c St. Louis Artadia Awardee will be announced in August 2025.

“We are excited to mark the fifth year of the 21c Artadia Award, which remains a vital resource for artists across the country. On top of the unrestricted funding, this initiative allows us to connect artists outside of our program cities to a broader network of 400+ artists and numerous arts professionals. Our ongoing partnership with 21c is a testament to our shared commitment to nurturing and elevating the careers of artists,” shared **Artadia’s Executive Director, Patton Hindle**.

21c Chief Curator and Museum Director, Alice Gray Stites remarked: “A shared commitment to supporting the most dynamic artists working today continues to drive 21c’s ongoing collaboration with Artadia. This award has proven to be valuable in many ways to the applicants, finalists, and the communities that 21c calls home. We are especially excited that the fifth 21c Artadia Award will be given to an artist in St Louis, a city with an exceptionally vibrant arts ecology.”

“Receiving the 2024 21c Cincinnati Artadia Award has been truly transformative, allowing me to invest in essential equipment—like an air-compressed extruder—that has eased strain on my wrist and made my ceramics practice more sustainable,” said last year’s 21c Artadia Awardee, **Erika NJ Allen**. “This support has expanded my technical abilities and given me the freedom to create without physical limitations. It has also lifted a huge weight off my shoulders by allowing me to purchase materials upfront for exhibitions. Having the financial stability to commit fully to my work without constant financial worry has been invaluable. I am deeply grateful for this opportunity and the impact it has had on my practice.”

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About 21c Museum Hotel St. Louis

Located in the heart of downtown St. Louis, this 173-room boutique hotel houses a contemporary art museum, Idol Wolf restaurant, Good Press café, and Locust Street Athletic and Swim Club, a full-service wellness center. Infusing the extraordinary into daily life, radical access to contemporary art is the modus operandi of 21c St. Louis with over 14,000 square feet of exhibition space, where visitors and locals alike are invited to enjoy rotating, curated exhibitions free of charge, seven days a week.

About 21c Museum Hotels

21c Museum is a multi-venue museum located in seven cities. One of the largest contemporary art museums in the U.S., and North America's only collecting museum dedicated solely to art of the 21st century, each property features exhibition space open free of charge to the public, combined with a boutique hotel and restaurant. It was founded in 2006 by Laura Lee Brown and Steve Wilson; philanthropists, preservationists, and collectors, committed to expanding access to contemporary art as a means of catalyzing revitalization and civic connection. 21c presents a range of arts programming curated by Museum Director, Chief Curator Alice Gray Stites, including both solo and group exhibitions that reflect the global nature of art today, as well as site-specific, commissioned installations, and a variety of cultural events. The organization collaborates on arts initiatives with artists and organizations worldwide, including Speed Art Museum, North Carolina Museum of Art, Contemporary Arts Center, Cincinnati, Artadia, Creative Time, For Freedoms, and others.

About Artadia

Artadia is a non-profit grantmaking organization and a nationwide community of visual artists, curators, and patrons. Over two decades, Artadia has worked collaboratively to foster a more just arts economy and improve the conditions necessary for artists of all backgrounds to thrive. We elevate the careers of artists at critical moments in their practice through a proven combination of recognition, grantmaking, community support, and advocacy. Since its founding in 1999, Artadia has awarded over \$6 million in unrestricted funds to over 400 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.

For more information, visit artadia.org

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