

THE
44TH
ANNUAL
ARTS AWARDS

BRIDGES

CONNECTING ARTS, BUSINESS,
AND COMMUNITY

September 2nd - 2020



Cultural Council
OF GREATER JACKSONVILLE

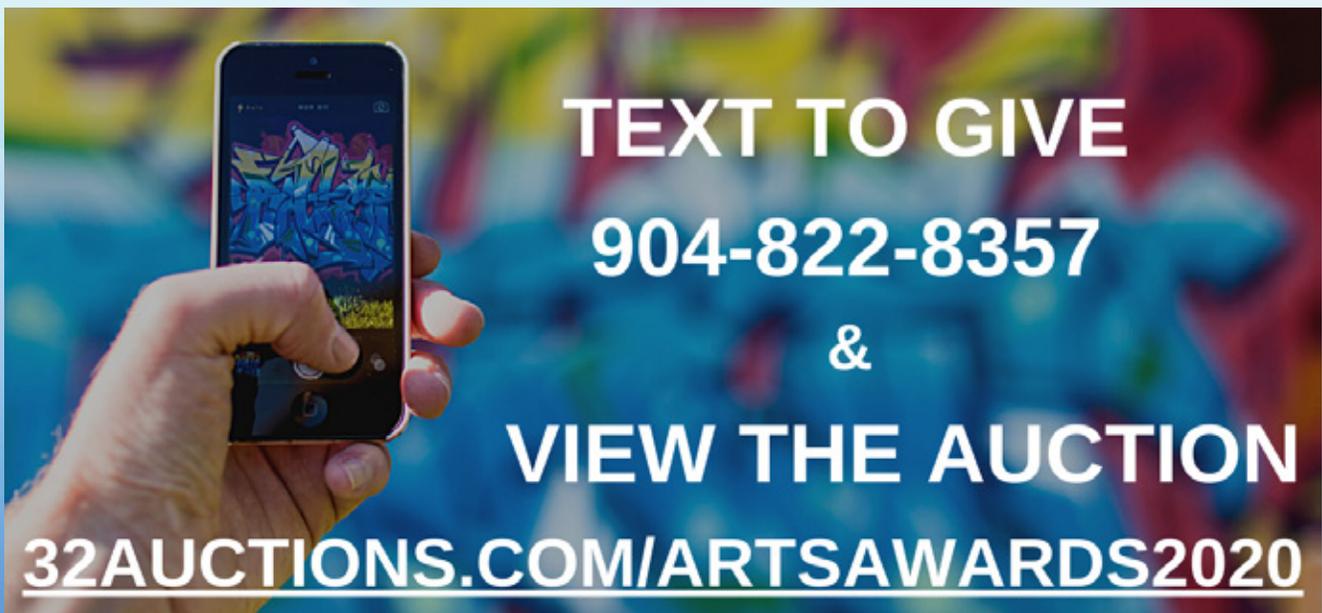
The 44th Annual Arts Awards is being presented by:



The Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville raises funds every year during the annual Arts Awards gala, which help fill budgetary gaps in operating and program budgets. Donations and sponsorships from amazing sponsors, such as Florida Blue, are critical for delivering interesting, innovative, and impactful programs for artists, youth, and nonprofit organizations. Donations and sponsorships are needed now more than ever. There are several ways for you to participate in our success.

Tonight's virtual Arts Awards features text to give and an online auction. The auction is full of Caribbean travel, gift certificates, experiences, and the artistry of local creatives. Your participation in the auction is also a platform for artists in our community to sell their work. Studies have shown that the arts industry was one of the hardest hit since March, losing over \$6M in revenue. Artists, of all disciplines, have suffered the consequences.

When you purchase a piece of artwork from the auction, the wholesale price (usually the minimum bid) of each piece of artwork sold will go directly to the artist. Anything above that will go towards the Cultural Council's fundraising goal. So, when you purchase a piece of artwork, know that your money is going directly to support a local artist.

A hand holding a smartphone displaying a colorful abstract painting. The background is a blurred image of a person in a blue shirt. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

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Cultural Council

OF GREATER JACKSONVILLE

Mission

The Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville's mission is to enrich life in Northeast Florida by investing in arts and culture. As Jacksonville's local arts agency and a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, the Cultural Council is dedicated to leading, engaging, advocating, and partnering to ensure arts and culture are accessible and vibrant in our city (LEAP).

Cultural Council programming provides: public art in parks and neighborhoods; critical grant funding to Jacksonville arts and cultural organizations that return \$85M to the local economy; quality arts education to 300,000 youth; employment and career exploration opportunities for youth from underserved neighborhoods; and, workshops and services that equip artists as entrepreneurs.

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at River City Science Academy

Adriel Rocha

Community Relations Manager at Jacksonville Jaguars

A special word of appreciation to Kemal Gasper, outgoing board member and Chair of the Development Committee. Your eight years of commitment and support has been unwavering. We appreciate all your contributions to the success of the Cultural Council.

Our Board Chair Woman, Jannet Walker-Ford



Dear Friends,

Welcome! Thank you for joining the Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville in presenting this year's arts awards celebration themed Bridges: Connecting Arts, Business, and Community. The 44th Arts Awards is a special time for acknowledging that non-profit arts organizations, artists, and business are cornerstones of Jacksonville's economy. Together arts and business bring vitality and livability to communities throughout the City.

The Cultural Council could not continue to invest in artists, deliver public art, or award grant funds to our nonprofit arts sector without you, our sponsors, donors, esteemed board members, staff, and all of our dedicated volunteers. We believe that the social and economic benefit of arts and culture is invaluable to all. Our work only exists through your generous support.

We know that our sector must face difficult choices as we navigate this health and economic crisis, knowing that it is highly likely that our ways of working will be forever altered. However, we must preserve and draw on our existing positive achievements to move to a brighter and better future. Tonight's virtual presentation of the Arts Awards is a testament to achievements in and on behalf of arts and culture. As our theme suggests each nominee and award winner is an important connector for the arts, business, and community.

It is with admiration and gratitude that we present the 44th Arts Awards.

JANNET M. WALKER-FORD

Our Executive Director



Dear Friends,

First and foremost – We are grateful and thankful. We are grateful to be here with you despite the tremendous challenges brought to us by coronavirus and social unrest. We are thankful that you have chosen to spend your time and treasure with the Cultural Council.

So many people and organizations in our city act as bridges for the arts and cultural community, connecting across divides.

These relationships are filled with tremendous synergy towards community solutions and mutual support. Tonight, we are welcoming the 2020 cadre Arts Awards winners. This 44th arts awards event, Bridges: Connecting, Arts, Business and the Community, is being presented to honor the many fruitful relationships between artists, arts and cultural organizations, and the entire businesses community. Though we are unable to join together in person to recognize award winners, we are celebrating virtually. We can't wait to meet all of you in person again.

Tonight is the start of an amazing future. I am optimistic that connecting and working together in and through the arts is a bridge whatever comes before us. E pluribus arts.

JOY YOUNG, Ph.D.

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communicate it, **preserve** it
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Hosts and Performers



TENIKKA HUGHES - *Host*

Tenikka Hughes anchors the 4, 5, 6 and 10 and 11 p.m. newscasts on CBS47 & FOX30 Action News Jax. She is an award-winning journalist from the small town of Whitakers, North Carolina. Tenikka has been in the television news industry for more than 16 years and has also worked in Charlotte, Memphis, and Macon.

Tenikka regularly volunteers her time in local schools and daycares; reading to children and sharing her passion for youth literacy and education. She also spearheads an annual effort to collect book donations for children who participate in the Jacksonville Public Library's Summer Learning Program. Since its inception in 2018, "Tenikka's Books for Kids" has helped collect more than 12,000 free, new books for local children.

She graduated summa cum laude with an undergraduate degree in Mass Communications from Benedict College in Columbia, South Carolina. Tenikka also earned a Master's in Journalism from the University of Maryland at College Park. She enjoys traveling and trying new restaurants with her husband Timothy.



AL EMERICK - *Co-host*

Al is an entrepreneur who helps people and companies discover the DNA of their value and impact. His career has been spent as a multi-channel storyteller & communicator consulting with Fortune 100 & 500 companies as well as start-ups, small businesses, and non-profits. An avid theatre enthusiast and performer, Al's face and voice have been part of the brand story in more than 15,000 TV, radio, video productions, and commercials, as well as speaking and emceeing before more than a quarter-million people. He has dedicated his life to lifting others and helping society connect and share value. He does this through his company's ValueMapping and Al Emerick Productions. Al is currently producing a podcast called ValueJourneys as well as writing his first book exploring how value lives and grows within our lives.



PHILIPH PAN - *Performer*

Violinist Philip Pan was born in Schenectady, New York to Chinese immigrants. After receiving his Masters in Music from the Juilliard School, Pan started his career with the Jacksonville Symphony in 1984 and retired as Concertmaster in 2017. Pan is also a founding member of the Bold City Contemporary Ensemble and currently performs with Folk is People, Different Folk, and Mariachi Primera Costa. Recently, Pan served as the Assistant Music Director on Jennifer Chase's "Majigeen" at FSCJ and performed at the Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival. He works as a performer, arranger, and composer in diverse musical styles that range from bluegrass to prog metal. Pan is the 2017 winner of the 42nd Arts Awards Performing Artist of the Year.

CHRISTIAN SCOTT

Performer

Christian Scott started attending the Don't Miss a Beat (DMAB) program along with his 3 other siblings for two years. He joined the "Music Art and Academic Enrichment Summer Camp," and was cast as one of the "Storytellers," in our 2019 production of "Once on this Island Jr," at the Ritz Theatre. Christian is incredibly articulate, smart, very driven as a student, and is a great writer. Because of his love of writing and speaking, Artistic Director Ulysses Owens Jr, felt this performance would be a great opportunity for Christian to display his talent. Christian Scott is also a student at Stanton College Preparatory High School. The poem that Christian is reciting was written by Jaida Ings. Together, they worked to present this message that they wholeheartedly believe in. This presentation demonstrates to the world their brilliance as powerful young black voices. This poem was also performed as part of the 2020 "Picnic at the Cabaret," performed at DMAB. The mission of Don't Miss a Beat is to blend music, art, academic achievement, and civic engagement to inspire and enlighten children and teens in the Riverside, Woodstock and Brooklyn communities.

The Creator of the Awards



This year's awards were designed by Megan Reid, local artist and Jacksonville University alumni.

The circular glass waves are an adaptation of the Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville's logo and representative of Jacksonville's rivers. It was fitting with this year's theme of Bridges: Connecting Arts,

Business, and Community as the river flows underneath every bridge. The waves also fit in with the artist's efforts in advocacy for ocean conservation.

Art doesn't
just reflect
life. It makes
it brighter,
every day.



We're proud supporters of the arts, and big fans of the people behind them. Thank you, Cultural Council and Arts Awards winners, for helping to make Jacksonville a beautiful place.





Nominees

Helen Lane Founders Award

Presented by PNC Bank

The nominee for this award: **A.** focuses on integrating arts and culture into everyday life within their community; **B.** uses creative ideas on how to incorporate arts and culture with other elements of life; **C.** demonstrates commitment to the importance of arts and culture; **D.** sets the example as to how arts can be incorporated with everyday life; **E.** advocates for the incorporation for arts and culture with everyday life.

The nominees for this award are:



MARIA HANE

President Museum of Science & History.

Maria has worked for 11 years as President and has sought out ways to build a new Museum as a center for science, innovation and humanities through MOSH 2.0. driven by a passion to advance the practice of inclusion, diversity, equity and access through education, science and dialogue. Hanes will Retire from MOSH August 31, 2020. She has been recognized for the Jacksonville's Tillie K. Fowler Distinguished Leadership Award; Nonprofit Center of NE Florida Change Agent Award for Collaboration; JASMYN's Emerald Award. And the Founding member of Cultural Fusion as a collaborative network to strengthen Jacksonville's arts and cultural community.



JENNY HAGER

Artist, Sculptor, Teacher, Collaborator and Professor of Sculpture at the University of North Florida.

Hager received her MFA in Sculpture and Digital Media from San Jose State University in San Jose, CA. Interested in a variety of processes and materials, including steel, cast iron, post-it notes, video, wood, digital photography and found objects, she finds inspiration in dreams, objects from her childhood, gadgets, sea life and other curiosities. She is also very interested in collaboration; the spirit of community important in both her teaching practice and in her own work. Hager's work has been exhibited across the country and recently in the Cymru Ironstone Castle Exhibition in Wales, the Pedvale Open-Air Art Museum in Latvia and Il Giardino di Daniel Spoerri in Seggiano, Italy. Flight Lab, a video installation by Hager, has traveled to the Ogden Museum of Southern Art in New Orleans and York, Pennsylvania. Hager's most recent series "Second Line" celebrates diversity of culture, individual storytelling and the spirit of the Second Line tradition of New Orleans parade culture. Most recently, Hager created a 20' tall steel mosaic giraffe sculpture for the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens and two sculptural benches for downtown Jacksonville. Hager is an active member of the Jacksonville art community. She has served on the MOCA Collections and Exhibitions committee, as well as the MOCA Education committee. Interested in promoting local artists and creating creative networks in Jacksonville, she has served on the steering committee for the Northeast Florida Sculptors group since its inception in 2009. Since moving to Jacksonville in 2006, Hager and Vickery have installed over 80 pieces of large scale sculptures in the area (some permanent and some temporary).



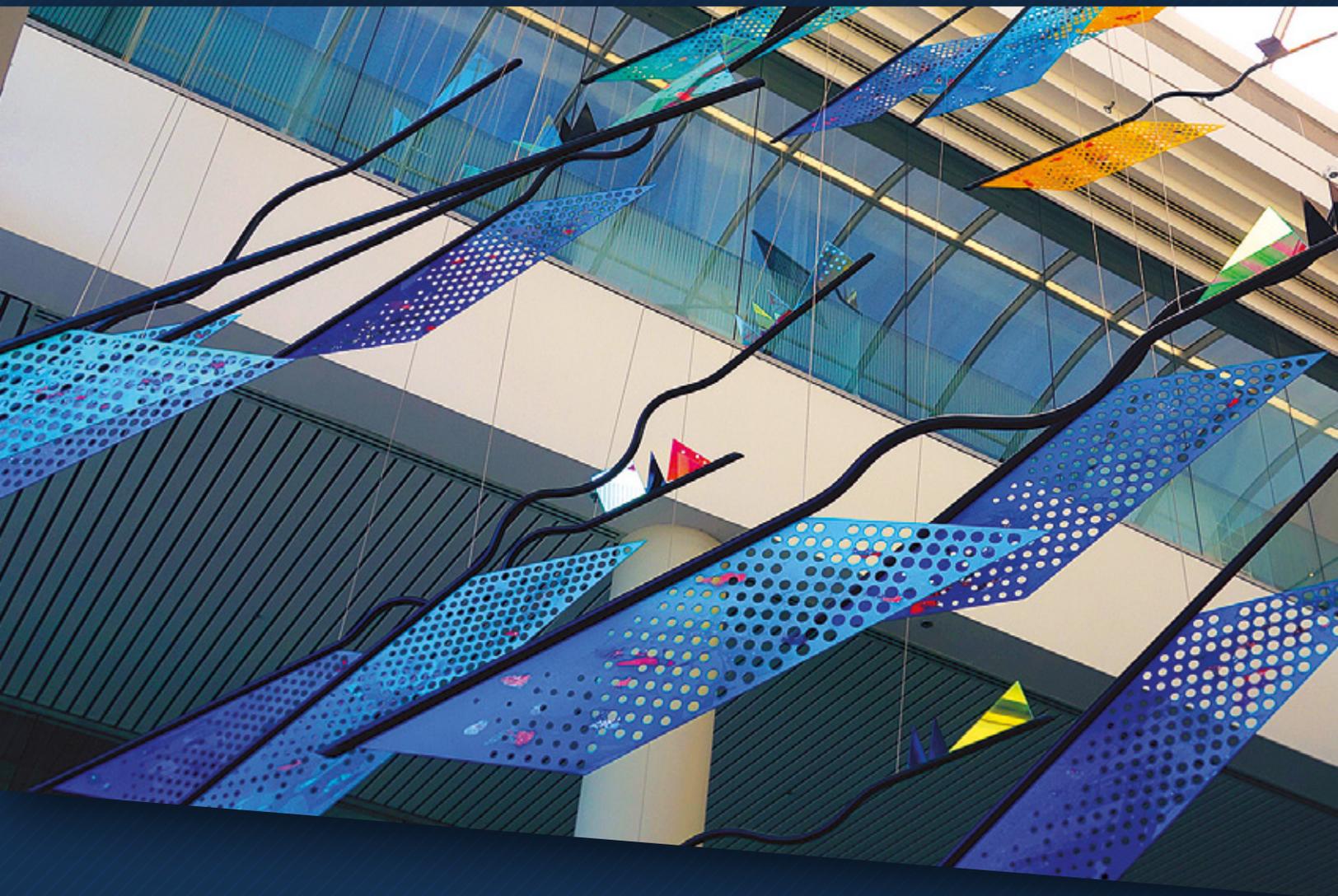
SHAWANA BROOKS AND ROOSEVELT WATSON III

Artists

Shawanna Brooks is a spoken word poet, memoirist, public speaker, author, and curator whose art revolves around personal storytelling fused to issues of social justice around multiple topics. Her Husband, Roosevelt Watson III, is a visual artist, art educator, and illustrator in Jacksonville, Florida. Brooks and Watson's work happens through grassroots initiatives, created outside of traditional institutions. They have designed spaces to spark conversation and innovation. Their outdoor pop-up gallery, 6 Ft Away, which started as a "Covid project, has since evolved to receive national attention for the city. This Gallery showcases Watson's multi-media assemblages that tackle themes as wide-ranging as the meaning of Zodiac signs to the slow gentrification of American Beach. His work highlights people such as Eartha White, A. Phillip Randolph, and Stetson Kennedy.

Their most recent project, Color Jax Blue was born from Brooks' and Watson's experience prioritizing civic engagement into their work. A mural project designed to encourage voting, grew out of Brook's observation of little to no public art in underserved neighborhoods. Watson wanted to create more opportunities for Black artists to present their work in a public setting and to build experience. Working together, Brooks designed a project for artists of color to gain abilities to learn the public art process.

Brooks was awarded the Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville's, Robert Arleigh White Award for Artist Advocacy. She is a recipient of the Community Foundation of Northeast Florida Art Venture's Individual Artist Grant. The Yellow House Gallery hosted her first solo show, "Magic, Mirth and Mortality: Musings on Black. Watson was also in Yellow house for his Waymaker Series, large scale art assemblages dedicated to African Americans of Northeast Florida.



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Corporate Business of the Year Presented by The Haskell Company

The nominee for this award: **A.** has more than 250 employees; **B.** graciously gives support to arts and cultural programs and organizations; **C.** inspires a culture of giving to serve their community; **D.** sets the example to their employees as an advocate for arts and culture organizations; **E.** gives to various organizations within the arts and culture community; **F.** offers sustained support of organizations through financial vehicles, volunteer opportunities for staff, and builds long term relationships with arts and culture organizations.

The nominees for this award are:



JACKSONVILLE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION CENTER (JRTC) AT LAVILLA

The Jacksonville Regional Transportation Center (JRTC) at LaVilla is an innovative and visionary multi modal mobility hub in the heart of Downtown Jacksonville. It connects JTA transportation services with intercity bus service and future mobility options in once centralized location. By planting our flag in the heart of this historic neighborhood, the JTA has created a space that will serve as a catalyst for its continued resurgence, and the connective tissue for our entire region.



VYSTAR CREDIT UNION

VyStar Credit Union is a not-for-profit financial cooperative owned by its members and governed by a volunteer Board of Directors. Formerly Jax Navy Federal Credit Union, VyStar was chartered in 1952 by 12 founding members with \$60 at the Naval Air Station Jacksonville to provide civil service and military personnel and their families a safe place to save and borrow money. VyStar Credit Union supports many organizations that are partners with The Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville such as JAMS, MOSH, ArtRepublic and Cathedral Arts Project. Our relationship with The Cultural Council helps ensure that the 20-plus Cultural Service Grant Organizations and local artists in Northeast Florida can make arts and culture essential for all in our community. In partnering with The Cultural Council, we are also supporting artist initiatives in conjunction with The State of Florida, Division of Cultural Affairs and The Florida Council on Arts and Culture.



JACKSONVILLE AVIATION AUTHORITY

The Jacksonville Aviation Authority (JAA) recognized the need for art in airports, so in 1995, the Jacksonville International Airport Arts Commission was formed. Under the direction of the JAA, the mission of the JAA Art & Culture Program is to provide a positive distraction, soothe and inspire, and educate visitors regarding the abundant artistic and cultural resources available within our service region including Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, and Saint Johns counties.

The airport shows the work of professional and emerging artists. Its twelve collective indoor display spaces and two outdoor sculpture gardens showcase either fine art, cultural exhibitions, or the history of flight in Northeast Florida. All fine artworks are available for purchase, directly supporting the creatives living and working in Northeast Florida.



Most recently in late 2019, the JAA Art & Culture Program was awarded the distinction of being in the Top 15 Airports in the United States for its artistic and cultural offerings by the National Transportation Review Board, in a study commissioned by the FAA. The JAA's art program has been honored and given accolades by regional and national, art and aviation industry trade magazines during its 25-year history.

The environment created by this program has assisted in JAX being awarded the important, aviation industry Airport Service Quality (ASQ) Award for excellence. This award represents the highest possible accolades for airport operators and is an opportunity to celebrate the commitment of airports worldwide to continuously improve the passenger experience. JAX has been recognized in the Top 3 U.S. Airports annually for the past 4 years.

Through 25 years of arts advocacy, the Jacksonville Aviation Authority has showcased works by more than 700 artists, provided 68 cultural exhibitions, and introduced this region's creatives to more than 130,000,000 visitors.

THE BAKER FAMILY ADVISED FUND



C O N G R A T U L A T E S
THE 2020 ARTS AWARDS RECIPIENTS



Art Educator of the Year Award

Presented by The Baker Family Advised Fund

The nominee for this award demonstrates: **A.** dedication to enriching their students with a passion for the arts; **B.** an understanding of the value of the arts, and a desire to participate within the arts and culture community; **C.** use of the arts as a vehicle to educate; **D.** incorporates the arts into their teaching methods; **E.** thinks creatively how to use the arts to develop other skills within their students; **f.** has passion for seeing their students growth and development.

The nominees for this award are:



AMANDA HOLLOWAY

Visual Art Teacher

A middle school Art Educator for Duval County Public Schools, Holloway teaches 2D and 3D art at James Weldon Johnson College Prep Middle School and teaches art after school for Cathedral Arts Project, adult art class at night time at Fletcher High School, and art workshops at the Atlantic Beach Arts Market. Amanda comes from a family of artists, including Aunt Ann Holloway who was an art teacher and created the mosaic mural on the Jessie Ball DuPont building back in the 60's or 70's. Holloway has executed several murals as well as volunteered on many community-related art projects, murals, festivals, even (most recently) having student artwork published in RadX magazine. Holloway takes pride in building bridges between the Jacksonville arts community and public school's arts programs. Holloway and her husband have curated exhibitions for group shows with local artists and other art educators in Duval and St. Johns County.



Laurie Hopcock

Supervisor of the Visual and Performing Arts for Duval County Public Schools.

Laurie serves over 420 fine arts teachers across the school district through advocating for the support of high quality public fine arts education. During her 10 years in Jacksonville and with Duval County Public Schools, Laurie has worked in multiple school settings serving students with varying exceptionalities including, but not limited to autism, Down Syndrome, emotional and/or behavioral disturbances, learning disorders, seeing impairments or blindness, deaf or hard of hearing students. This passion led her to seek out opportunities to share her work and best practices with other art teachers so that they could expand their own practices to better support students with special needs. As the Supervisor of the Arts for DCPS, one of the most forward-facing parts of her work has been serving with our local art education association, the Northeast Florida Art Education Association and the planning and coordinating of fine arts events like our regional event, the Northeast Florida Scholastic Art Awards. Her Scholastics program is part of the national Scholastic Art & Writing Awards and involves the collection of over 3000 works of art from students around northeast Florida. She is working to find new ways to expand the innovative and specialized programming she offers students in our public schools, whether through highly-specialized fine arts programming, or fine arts programs that are specialized to student learning needs.



REBECCA R. LEVY

Choreographer, Performer, Educator.

Levy serves as a professor and Director of Dance at Florida State College at Jacksonville. Her critically acclaimed choreographic and performative work has been featured in festivals, films, concerts, and events internationally and throughout the country. The privilege of living in a variety of areas within the United States provided her with a diverse set of influences in her art. In 2012, she co-founded and took on the role of artistic director of Jacksonville Dance Theatre, a professional contemporary modern dance company, and has been working to slowly change the art culture of the city ever since. Her role in the company is to create dances, mount performances, commission new and innovative artists, and provide dance training to company members. In a recent presentation for TEDx, she gave a talk titled “Engaging A Movement” about her experiences founding JDT and advocating for professional dance in Jacksonville. Throughout her career in dance she has created, produced, and mounted a multitude of shows, events, performances, and pop-ups on national and international stages. Her work was shown in Puebla, Mexico, and during a tour to France last year she had the opportunity to perform at the Chartres and Grail Haven Labyrinths. Through her work with JDT Rebecca has had the opportunity to dance in works choreographed by Jonah Bokaer, Bryn Cohn, Bliss Kohlmyer, Lisa D. Long, Tiffany Santeiro, James Morrow, and many others. Levy recently earned a 40 Under 40 award from The Jacksonville Business Journal, and was named Outstanding Faculty of the Year in 2016. She was awarded a 2019 Individual Artist Grant by Community First Bank, and a 2020 Arts Ventures Individual Artists Grant by the Community Foundation of Northeast Florida. Levy is a registered Certified Yoga Instructor, a certified Pilates instructor and dabbles in aerial acrobatics.



Robert Arleigh White Award for Advocacy Presented by OMIT

The nominee for this award: **A.** fosters an environment of educating and learning of the benefits of the arts; **B.** builds and maintains relationships with the general public to benefit the arts and culture community; **C.** builds and maintains relationships with business leaders to benefit the arts and culture community; **D.** builds and maintains relationships with elected officials to benefit the arts and culture community; **E.** advocates through the use of multiple messages such as economic impact of the arts, personal stories, and transformational accounts.

The nominees for this award are:



GEEHELLA (JEE-EL-UH)
Activist

Geexella (Jee-el-uh) - Geexella uses music as a vehicle to create spaces that connect marginalized communities. Geexella uses this platform to highlight barriers and challenges that Black and Latinx LGBTQI+ communities face in Jacksonville, by creating a dance night called Duval Folx. Geexella is the Program Coordinator at JASMYN (a LGBTQI+ Youth center) and also facilitates HIV testing.



ULYSSES OWENS JR.

Performer, Producer and Educator.

Ulysses Owens Jr. is a drummer who “take[s] a back seat to no one” (The New York Times). He is the co-creator of his online jazz drum video course, “Finding Your Beat,” and author of three instructional books. Owens is Artistic Director of Don’t Miss a Beat, Inc. a non-profit organization founded by his family. This organization has the mission of empowering young people to dream big and give back to their communities through a blend of musical, artistic, academic, and civic engagement programming. Owens is also the “Educational Artist in Residence,” at Savannah Music Festival Jazz Academy and the “Jackie Cornelius Artist in Residence” at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts.



TONI SMILAGIĆ

Photographer & Owner of Cre8Jax

Smailagić is a photographer and owner of Cre8Jax, a platform that highlights the cultural development and successes of Jacksonville. In 2019 Toni Smailagić published a visual book titled “Introducing Jacksonville to Jacksonville. This book of photography documents and showcases Jacksonville’s great diversity, from its unique street style to its nightlife.

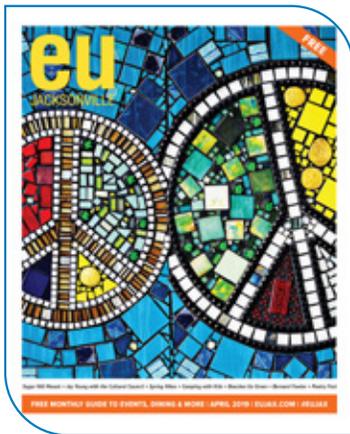


Small Business of the Year

Presented by Jacksonville Transportation Authority

The nominee for this award: **A.** has fewer than 250 employees; **B.** defines itself as a small business; **C.** graciously gives support to arts and cultural programs and organizations despite its size; **D.** inspires a culture of giving to serve their community; **E.** sets the example to their employees as an advocate for arts and culture organizations; **F.** gives to various organizations within the arts and culture community; **G.** offers sustained support of organizations through financial vehicles, volunteer opportunities for staff, and builds long term relationships with arts and culture organizations.

The nominees for this award are:



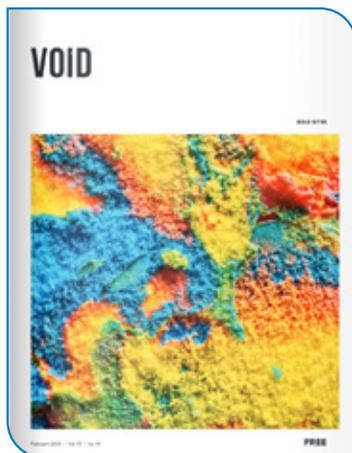
EU JACKSONVILLE NEWSPAPER

In memory of William C. Henley, Publisher (1951-2018)

Since 1978, EU Jacksonville Newspaper has provided local coverage of Northeast Florida's cultural landscape. Always family-owned and independently operated, EU Jacksonville maintains a diverse collection of local writers to cover performances, art, dining, sports, outdoor activities and all the other fun cultural activities in the area. "At EU Jacksonville Newspaper, we feel passionate about supporting local artists, creative groups and the culture in and around Jacksonville." Every year EU publishes a bi-annual performing arts preview, visual art guides, Spring & Fall festival previews, The Chef Selects dining issues, holiday event and local gift guides, Summer & Fall activity guides. EU Jacksonville has always believed in giving budding writers, artists, and photographers a platform and welcomed their



contribution to its publication. EU Jacksonville has partnered with local educators and important cultural institutions such as the Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville, the Museum of Science & History, the City of Jacksonville, Theatre Alliance of Greater Jacksonville, Jacksonville Historic Society, GastroJax Inc, Jacksonville Public Library, Jacksonville Riverkeeper, Tree Hill Nature Center, and many more, to contribute to our content and help widen their reach in the community. EU feels that this collaboration has given the publication a broad stroke of what Jacksonville's creatives provide, both in practice and recognition, for over forty years.



VOID MAGAZINE

Void Magazine is dedicated to keeping the reader's proverbial finger on the pulse of arts and culture, business and entrepreneurship, and issues of import in Northeast Florida. Aside from producing 30,000 copies of Void Magazine each month and dozens of web stories, as a media outlet Void's produced more than 25 digital video performances by local musicians via the "Into the Void: Office Music Series," released three all-local music compilations featuring more than three dozen

Northeast Florida artists pressed on 180-gram vinyl, hosted several art shows featuring the work of local artists (including the "Cover Art Show" last November, a group show in which artists produced distinctive versions of a Void Mag cover and proceeds from sales of prints went directly to the Kids Mural Project), and a podcast miniseries, "The VOIDCAST," made in partnership with WJCT Public media, which dove into the history and contemporary vibrancy of music from Northeast Florida.



At the onset of the pandemic, Void partnered with local clothing manufacturer Strata on the “Void This Virus” artist relief fund, which—through the Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville—provided direct financial assistance to Duval County-based artists who’d lost income due to the economic shutdown. In July, Void launched the Void Artist Network (VAN) a collaboration meant to—through collections of unique artist-designed merchandise—showcase work both inspired by our unique region and capable of inspiring others to push for a more-creative Northeast Florida.



PETRA - ELIAS HIONIDES

PETRA is a full service real estate brokerage, development, and management company. Founded in 1993, PETRA has established itself as Jacksonville’s premier boutique real estate company.

PETRA manages and represents over 1.2 million SF of commercial real estate in Greater Jacksonville with a focus on Jacksonville’s most dense and walkable communities. PETRA works closely with artists, community and civic leaders, and tenants and owners, to bring exciting and new concepts to the region, working to develop diverse and authentic communities. PETRA exists to create meaningful value to their clients and to create experiences that deepen the connections amongst people, culture, and the places they inhabit. The experience they offer is what people connect with or are turned off by most, so it is critical to be thoughtful about how people interact with your assets. PETRA specializes in creating positive experiences, ranging from our hands-on and local brokerage expertise, to short-term asset activations and long-term placemaking initiatives.



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We are proud to present this year's Art Innovator Award, because innovation and breakthrough storytelling are at the heart of everything we do.



Art Innovator Award

Presented by Brunet-Garcia

The nominee for this award: **A.** creates new and innovative ideas to benefit the community; **B.** infuses new creative and innovative ideas into the arts and culture sector; **C.** is willing to share ideas with others for greater benefits to all; **D.** contributes to and shares ideas and innovations with arts and culture organizations to benefit the community; **E.** personal achievement is to the benefit more individuals.

The nominees for this award are:



MR. AL PETE

Hip Hop artist, DJ, podcaster, curator, and CEO of Mister Peterson's Neighborhood, LLC.

Pete is a Hip Hop artist, DJ, podcaster, curator, and CEO of Mister Peterson's Neighborhood, LLC. The Pete brand also consists of the MPN Network, The Groove Suite, and Fly Socks & Tees. Pete currently manages a podcast network: The Neighborhood Podcast Network. He is also the music talent and program director of a weekly radio show, powered by The Sound of Duval: Cubicle Music Mondays.

Currently Pete serves as a media specialist/artist with the movement: Color Jax Blue.



PAUL BOURCIER

Curator at the Museum of Science & History (MOSH).

Bourcier is the Curator at the Museum of Science & History (MOSH). He oversees the museum's program of core, signature, traveling, outreach, and online exhibits. During the past four years, Bourcier has spearheaded the museum's Arts Infusion and Artist in Residence Programs, which explore the intersections of art with the humanities, natural science and the hard sciences and concentrates on the themes of environment, innovation, multiculturalism and social justice. These programs highlight the works of Duval area artists for audiences that may not go to art museums and galleries.



NICOLE RADACZ

Founder and Creative Director of Radx Magazine.

Radacz seeks to use her brand to highlight and uplift talented local artists in an innovative way. She showcases quality top-of-the line works of art and features dozens of creatives who make a difference. Her biggest achievement has been Radx Magazine because it has allowed her the opportunity to give back to the local art community and feature some of the most talented, underrated artists.

art ventures

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30 YEARS OF ART VENTURES

The visionary leadership of donors to The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida brought the Art Ventures Fund to life 30 years ago. Since then, hundreds of artists and organizations have been the beneficiaries.

As The Community Foundation celebrates this milestone, we honor 30 new grant recipients – more than in any other year since Art Ventures was launched. Celebrate with us at a special exhibition at the Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens in January, 2021.

For more information, go to www.jaxcf.org/the-arts.

Photo: *Lily* (2018), Found objects glued to Board
By Zac Freeman, Art Ventures Individual Artist Grantee in 2007



The Art of Giving Award

Presented by The Community Foundation

The nominee for this award: **A.** stewards their resources to fund, support, and sustain arts and culture programs; **B.** gives to various organizations within the arts and culture community; **C.** is a philanthropist who willingly gives to benefit the mission of an organization; **D.** supports through their financial resources as well as their time commitment; **E.** develops long term relationships to assist with organizational growth.

The nominees for this award are:



MARK KRANCER

Photographer

Is a professional event photographer and fine art landscape, with a passion for visually telling the stories of our community. He enjoys working with nonprofits to better market themselves, especially Urban Planning, Historic Preservation, Prison Transitional housing/reform, and Arts related organizations. Krancer often donates fine art prints to silent or live auctions such as, Nemours, Angelwood, University of North Florida, Greenscape, American Cancer Society, Volunteers in Medicine, UCOM, Guardian Ad Litem, Downtown Vision, Feeding Northeast Florida, Lutheran Social Services, Jacksonville Jazz Society, and others. Most recently, Krancer donated his time and expertise for professional headshots of the young Douglas Anderson Students who created the beautiful mural in the Avondale area this past spring in hopes of helping them market themselves and begin their professional artistic careers.



TOMAS VERCHER

Retired Fine Artist/Designer.

Vercher teaches, creates, exhibits, donates and designs art of many mediums based in traditions of the African Diaspora. His work is meant to heal and unify all people and all cultures. He has worked in the aerospace, automobile, television and music industry using his education and experience to create, service and raise a family. Vercher retired from the Los Angeles Central Library after 25 years, while also maintaining his Studio. "This nomination," Vercher says, "means so much to me, after living in Jacksonville for 10 years and finally to be recognized at 75 years young."



TED AND ALEXANDRA STEIN

Founders of Jacksonville Arts & Music School (JAMS)

In 2011, the Stein's had a dream to start an arts based nonprofit. With the conviction that the art of problem solving was being lost in the schools, and the best way for kids to learn how to problem solve is to foster their creative abilities, they created JAMS, a Creative Youth Development Program. The vision of the Stein's is to create positive change in our community by developing tomorrow's problem-solvers, creative thinkers, and innovative leaders.

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“art transcends
cultural boundaries.”

– Thomas Kinkade



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Community Impact Award

Presented by VyStar Credit Union

The nominee for this award has: **A.** a record of visible transformational results that are evident within their community; **B.** a commitment to impacting other lives; **C.** community impacts that are measurable.

The nominees for this award are:



BASMA ALAWEE

Co-Founder & Executive Director of WeaveTales/Florida

Co-Founder & Executive Director of WeaveTales/Florida Refugee Organizer, Born and raised in Baghdad, Iraq, Alawee came to the U.S. with her husband as a refugee in 2010, leaving behind her career as an engineer with the Ministry of Oil within the Government of Iraq. As a refugee and activist, her stories and activism have been featured in the media. Most recently, she was nominated to be one of the Athena40 women in the world who are leading change and was the recipient of the 2019 OneJax Humanitarian Award. She was also elected the Florida delegate for the UNHCR Refugee Congress and is a board member of USAHello (formerly, Refugee Center Online) and many other nonprofits. Currently, Alawee is the State Refugee Organizer with the Florida Immigrant Coalition.



NICOLE "NICO" HOLDERBAUM

Artist, creative director, and community organizer

Artist, creative director, and community organizer whose murals can be seen all over the city. Holderbaum has developed various mural and arts initiatives including the Kid's Mural Project, through which she leads students in designing and painting murals in Title 1 schools of Duval County. Holderbaum's main focus is providing creative support for children and residents in Jacksonville from all over the city as a means to uplift and inspire communities in need.



MARGUERITE RICHARDSON

Conductor for the Civic Orchestra of Jacksonville

Richardson brings classical orchestral music to the entire Jacksonville community through innovative programming and community engagement by presenting free concerts throughout the greater metropolitan area. By its very existence, the orchestra attracts a large number of gifted musicians from a diverse variety of backgrounds, providing those players an opportunity to realize their musical aspirations regardless of age or skill level. By performing in venues located throughout northeast Florida, both the orchestra musicians and the audience reflect the wide diversity of the Jacksonville community. Marguerite is also Professor of Strings at Jacksonville University (JU) and Director of Orchestral Activities. Teaches violin and viola, and performs as violinist in the Kinne Trio. As co-director of the JU Summer Chamber Music Intensive, a week long music experience with students coming from as far away as Tampa, FL and Savannah, Ga. She works with students throughout Florida in all grade levels to enhance their experience with orchestral music. Marguerite is dedicated to music education as it relates to all aspects of a student's development, both creative and academic.



People's Choice

Presented by Helen Lane

The nominee for this award has: **A.** tremendous influence in arts and culture; **B.** is a popular figure in the community; **C.** has a unique following of friends, supporters and/or customers. The winner of this award will be determined by the total number of nominations received.

The nominees for this award are:



WILLIAM MCMAHAN

Art Director for the Art League of Jacksonville (ALJ)

McMahan is Art Director for the Art League of Jacksonville (ALJ), the organization that manages the Murray Hill Art Center. Working with artists ranging in age from 8-80 and beyond, McMahan teaches classes and workshops at the Cummer Museum, MOCA, Reddi Arts, and The Vault art gallery. Also, McMahan teaches private lessons with artists of all ages and backgrounds.



ELENA ØHLANDER

Elena Øhlander (b. 1988) is a visual artist working in the medium of Mixed Media Illustration and Mural-making, currently working and residing in Jacksonville, Florida. She attained her BFA in Photography from The Art Institutes in 2014, exhibiting her work at national galleries and museums. Her focus is in illustration that explores notions of identity, gender issues, space, individuality, and pop culture. Her main influences are Taiyo Matsumoto, Hayao Miyazaki and Yoshitomo Nara. She was awarded the Art Ventures grant through The Community Foundation in 2018, noted in publications such as Sixty Six Magazine, Kolaj Magazine and Rafu Shimpo - L.A. Japanese Daily News as well as receiving press on NPR and local media outlets.



NIKESHA ELISE WILLIAMS

Williams uses words as her art. Williams is an author, publisher, spoken word performer, and two time Emmy Award Winning Producer. In 2018 Williams was the Florida Authors and Publishers Association President's Award Winner for the novel *Four Women*. Other honors include the 2018 National Association of Black Journalist (NABJ) Outstanding Literary Work Recipient for the novel "Four Women". Williams recently released "Beyond Bourbon Street".



WORD REVOLT

Word Revolt Art Gallery Inc. is a free exhibition platform for local artists and charities. Word Revolt Art Gallery Inc. hosts curated pop-up exhibitions and events, once a month for artists and charities. 100% of proceeds raised from the events go directly to the artists, non-profit or charity featured. Artists include but are not limited to local university and high-school students as well as emerging and established artists. These artists receive mentorship on how to prepare their artwork for the gallery, with insight into curating and installation, while gaining valuable skills and experience to expand their network and opportunities. Over the past 3 years, Word Revolt has generated roughly \$20,000 directly to artists and charities through art sales and auction from a total of 26 exhibitions. Other non-profit organizations we have partnered with include Hope at Hand, Give Back Jax, Jacksonville Painting of the Paws, Beaches Sea Turtle Patrol, UNF, The Foundation Academy, Sisters of the Sea, The St. Elisabeth Convent, The Bruno Steel House, Burnt Glassworks and Canine Companions for Independence. In 2019 Word Revolt was awarded a public art grant from the City of Atlantic Beach for the Mayport Road Mural project. A community paint out day was organized and held on Nov. 3rd, 2019. Over 100 guests and members of the local community came out to paint and show their pride and dedication to the arts. In 2020, Word Revolt was awarded another public arts grant to create artist made lamp posts and a bike rack sculpture.

44th Annual Arts Awards

Nomination Process and Selection

The winners of the 44th Annual Arts Awards are determined by an Arts Awards Nominating Committee composed of Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville Board Members, Past Arts Award Winners, Cultural Serve Grant Recipients, and Members of the Arts and Culture Community. Committee members recuse themselves if a conflict of interest exists in voting.

Nominations for all nine categories were received via online submission. Each category has criteria to help nominators and the panel determine the appropriateness of the submission.

The Arts Award Committee reviews nominations for each category, and as a group, decides who are the final 3 nominees for each category. After The Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville announces the finalist for each category, the committee makes a final and confidential vote to decide the winner of each particular category. Past winners are not eligible to receive an award in the same category. The People's Choice Award has four nominees, which is an exception for this new category. This award is decided by the highest number of votes by the community. When the final vote for the People's Choice Award is tabulated, only select staff from the Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville Staff are aware of the winners. The Cultural Council of Jacksonville takes pride in having an equitable and transparent Arts Awards process.

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The Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville is sponsored in part by the City of Jacksonville and by the Florida Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, and the State of Florida.



A huge thank you to Adam and Monique Madrid and LOL JAX for going far and beyond the original plan and doing such a great job with the production, technology, and videos for the Arts Awards.

Thank you to the Arts Awards Nominating Committee.

We thank **Maria Montoya** and **MiAddVantage** for designing and developing the Arts Awards program book.

Frederic Derilus, Jr., we appreciate you for the design of the 44th Arts Awards graphic.

Pixie Larizza, thank you for your cleverness with the online.

Thank you, **Jennifer Jones-Murray**, for all of your help and encouragement.

We thank the many people who served as Arts Awards Ambassadors by connecting and sharing with others the message of the Arts Awards.

The staff of the Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville works with incredible dedication in support of arts and culture in our community.

Ellen Cottrill, Programs and Communications Coordinator

Hilda Etedgui, Public Art Project Manager

Amy Palmer, Director of Grants Administration

Megan Reid, Administrative Coordinator

Glenn Weiss, Director of Public Art Programs

Ashanta Williamson, Development Associate

Ashley Wolfe, Public Art Coordinator

Joy Young, Executive Director

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OF GREATER JACKSONVILLE