

Press contact: Eddie Silva
314.535.0770 x313
esilva@camstl.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CALL FOR ARTISTS: GREAT RIVERS BIENNIAL 2020
Applications due April 26, 2019



Contemporary Art
Museum St. Louis

3750 Washington Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63108
314.535.4660 camstl.org

Great
Rivers

Biennial

March 4, 2019 (St. Louis, MO) – The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (CAM) and the Gateway Foundation announce the call for artists for the ninth edition of the Great Rivers Biennial. This collaborative initiative identifies talented emerging and mid-career artists working in the greater St. Louis metro area, provides them with financial assistance, and gives them significant professional exposure across the Midwest and nationally. The artists selected receive \$20,000 and are featured in the **Great Rivers Biennial exhibition at CAM, May 8–August 16, 2020.**

A distinguished panel of jurors will review all submissions that meet the eligibility requirements. Ten artists will be selected as semi-finalists, with these artists then receiving studio visits from the jurors. Up to three artists will be selected for the Great Rivers Biennial (GRB) award. The jurors include **Christopher Y. Lew**, the Nancy and Fred Poses Curator at the Whitney Museum of American Art and co-curator of the 2017 Whitney Biennial, and **José Carlos Diaz**, Chief Curator at The Andy Warhol Museum and a 2018 fellow at the Center for Curatorial Leadership. The third GRB juror will be announced at a later date. CAM Assistant Curator Misa Jeffereis will act as the organizing curator, and artists will work closely with her toward the successful implementation of their exhibitions.

Emerging and mid-career artists are invited to submit work from any of the following categories: drawing, film and video, installation, mixed media, painting, photography, printmaking, and sculpture. To be eligible, artists must have lived within the six counties of the St. Louis metro area for at least one year prior to the application deadline and continue to reside in the area during the designated planning, production, and exhibition period (metro area is defined as St. Louis City and the counties of St. Louis, Jefferson, and St. Charles in Missouri, or St. Clair, Madison, and Monroe counties in Illinois). **For complete eligibility requirements and to apply, visit camstl.org/grb. Applications due April 26, 2019, 11:59 pm CST.**

CAM will host two free [GRB Application Workshops](#) to offer guidance toward the submission of a competitive application. The workshops will be led by Brigid Flynn, Midwest Artist Project Services co-founder; Sarah Paulsen, 2018 GRB Award recipient; and members of the Museum staff.

Great Rivers Biennial Application Workshops

Saturday, March 23, 11:00 am

Thursday, March 28, 6:00 pm

Workshops are free and will be held at the Museum. Space is limited; early registration is recommended.

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Hours
10–5 Wed
10–8 Thu & Fri
10–5 Sat & Sun

CAM is free. Visit often!

Previous *Great Rivers Biennial* recipients:

2018: Addoley Dzegede, Sarah Paulsen, and Jacob Stanley
2016: Lyndon Barrois Jr., Nanette Boileau, and Tate Foley
2014: Brandon Anschutz, Carlie Trosclair, and Cayce Zavaglia
2012: David Johnson, Asma Kazmi, and Mel Trad
2010: Martin Brief, Sarah Frost, and Cameron Fuller
2008: Juan William Chávez, Corey Escoto, and Michelle Oosterbaan
2006: Jason Wallace Triefenbach, Moses, and Matthew Strauss
2004: Jill Downen, Adam Frelin, and Kim Humphries



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About the Jurors

José Carlos Diaz is the Chief Curator at The Andy Warhol Museum and was a 2018 fellow at the Center for Curatorial Leadership (CCL). At The Warhol he has curated *Farhad Moshiri: Go West* (2018) and is currently working on the upcoming exhibitions *Andy Warhol: Revelation* and *Fantasy America*, featuring Kambui Olujimi, Pacifico Silano, and Chloe Wise, among others. Prior to this Diaz was the Curator of Exhibitions at the Bass Museum in Miami Beach, where he curated artist commissions by Athi-Patra Ruga, Sylvie Fleury, the exhibition *GOLD* (2015), and organized *One Way: Peter Marino* (2015). Prior to joining the Bass Museum he worked at Tate Liverpool and at the Liverpool Biennial.

Christopher Y. Lew is the Nancy and Fred Poses Curator at the Whitney Museum of American Art. Lew oversees the emerging artist program at the Museum and was co-curator of the 2017 Whitney Biennial. He most recently organized *Kevin Beasley: A view of a landscape* (2018) and mounted the first US solo exhibitions for Sophia Al-Maria, Rachel Rose, and Jared Madere. He also organized Lucy Dodd's large-scale installation that was part of the exhibition *Open Plan* (2016) and was co-curator of the group show *Mirror Cells* (2016). Prior to joining the Whitney, he was Assistant Curator at MoMA PS1 and organized numerous exhibitions there. Lew has contributed to several publications including *Art AsiaPacific*, *Art Journal*, *Bomb*, *Huffington Post*, and *Mousse*.

About the Gateway Foundation

The Gateway Foundation strives to enrich St. Louis life and culture by supporting efforts to acquire, create, and improve tangible and durable art and urban design. The focus of Gateway is to foster and support cultural and artistic activities and, on occasion, related to educational activities devoted to improving the quality of life in the St. Louis metropolitan area. Visit the Gateway Foundation's website at gateway-foundation.org and Twitter feed @CitygardenSTL.

About the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis

The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis presents, supports, and celebrates the art of our time. It is the premier museum in St. Louis dedicated to contemporary art. Focused on a dynamic array of changing exhibitions, CAM provides a thought-provoking program that reflects and contributes to the global cultural landscape. Through the diverse perspectives offered in its exhibitions, public programs, and educational initiatives, CAM actively engages a range of audiences to challenge their perceptions. It is a site for discovery, a gathering place in which to experience and enjoy contemporary visual culture. CAM is located in the Grand Center Arts District.

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