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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CAM's New Art in the Neighborhood awarded \$15,000 from Bayer Fund



Artist Christine Corday meets with New Art in the Neighborhood students at CAM. Photo: Abby Gillardi.

July 26, 2019 (St. Louis, MO) - The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (CAM) announced the receipt of a \$15,000 grant from Bayer Fund for its flagship teen education program, New Art in the Neighborhood (NAN). The in-depth artist-training program, which began at the museum in 1995, gives St. Louis-area high school students the opportunity to work directly with major contemporary artists from around the world. This free program provides up to thirty participants, ages 14–18, more than fifty hours of studio time each semester, immersing them in contemporary art and ideas in order to develop a greater critical awareness of their own art-making and art history.

"Bayer Fund's (previously known as Monsanto Fund) continuing support allows CAM to provide local teens exceptional training in and exposure to contemporary art practice," said Alex Elmestad, CAM Director of Learning and Engagement. "Not only does NAN offer young artists the opportunity to explore and develop their creativity and interact with some of the most important artists of our time, they may receive college credit for their work. We can provide real incentives not only to stay in school, but to offer pathways to furthering their education."

Since NAN's inception, the program has served more than 700 high school students and partnered with more than 100 local, national, and international artists—Christine Corday, Amy Sherald, Trenton Doyle Hancock, Mickalene Thomas, and Sanford Biggers, among others—through workshops, studio visits, portfolio reviews, and lectures. With participants from St. Louis City, surrounding County public and private schools, and homeschoolers, NAN connects a diverse group of young artists who share ideas, collaborate on projects, and forge relationships that extend beyond the program's duration. NAN students are eligible for college credit through Webster University and the Kansas City Art Institute.



Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis

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CAM is free. Visit often!

About Bayer Fund

Bayer Fund is a nonprofit organization dedicated to strengthening the communities where Bayer customers and employees live and work by providing funding for food and nutrition, education, and community development projects. Visit here for more information.

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 thoughtprovoking 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.



Museum St. Louis