

Press contact: Samantha Lyons  
314.492.2988  
slyons@camstl.org



Contemporary Art  
Museum St. Louis

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

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CALL FOR ARTISTS: Great Rivers Biennial 2024**  
**Applications open April 3; due June 4, 2023**



**March 28, 2023 (St. Louis, MO)** - The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis (CAM) and the Gateway Foundation announce the call for artists for the 11th 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, September 6, 2024–February 9, 2025.**

As with previous Biennials, a distinguished panel of jurors will review all submissions that meet the eligibility requirements. Ten artists, selected as semi-finalists, receive studio visits from the jurors. Up to three artists will be selected for the Great Rivers Biennial award. The 2024 Great Rivers Biennial jurors are **Rita Gonzalez**, Terri and Michael Smooke Curator and Department Head of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles County Museum of Art; **Jamillah James**, Manilow Senior Curator at the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago; and **Caroline Kent**, a Chicago-based artist and Assistant Professor of Painting at the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences at Northwestern University. The exhibition will be organized by CAM Associate Curator Misa Jeffereis.

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).

***\*Applications open April 3 and are due June 4, 2023, 11:59 pm CT.***

Instagram  
camstl

Facebook  
contemporaryartmuseumstl

Twitter  
ContemporarySTL

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

CAM is free. Visit often!



Contemporary Art  
Museum St. Louis

For complete eligibility requirements and to apply, visit [camstl.org/grb](https://camstl.org/grb).

### Great Rivers Biennial Application Workshop

[Thursday, April 20, 2023, 6:00–7:00 pm](#)

CAM will host a free Great Rivers Biennial Application Workshop as a guide to the submission of a competitive application. The workshop will be led by Brigid Flynn, Midwest Artist Project Services co-founder, and CAM staff. Registration is required.

### Previous Great Rivers Biennial recipients:

2022: Yowshien Kuo, Yvonne Osei, and Jon Young  
2020: Kahlil Robert Irving, Tim Portlock, and Rachel Youn  
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

### About the Jurors



**Rita Gonzalez** is the Terri and Michael Smooke Curator and Department Head of Contemporary Art at Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), where she has curated *Phantom Sightings: Art after the Chicano Movement* (2008); *Asco: Elite of the Obscure* (2011); *Lost Line: Contemporary Art from the Collection* (2013); *Agnés Varda in Californialand* (2013–14); *In Production: Art and the Studio System* (2019–20); *Christian Marclay: Sound Stories* (2019); and *View From Here: Recent Acquisitions* (2020), among other exhibitions. Gonzalez curated *L.A. Exuberance: New Gifts by Artists* (2016–17), an exhibition that featured 60 artists' gifts and marked the culmination of

LACMA's 50th anniversary year. From 1997–99, she was the Lila Wallace Curatorial Fellow at the Museum of Contemporary Art, San Diego. She was on the curatorial advisory team for Prospect 3 New Orleans and part of the curatorial teams for the first Current L.A. Biennial in 2016 and the Gwangju Biennale in 2018. Gonzalez was a 2018 Center for Curatorial Leadership Fellow.



**Jamillah James** is the Manilow Senior Curator at the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago. She was co-curator (with Margot Norton) of *Soft Water Hard Stone*, the 2021 New Museum Triennial, and has held curatorial positions at the Institute of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles (ICA LA); Hammer Museum, Los Angeles; the Studio Museum in Harlem, and Queens Museum, New York. Her recent projects include the survey *Rebecca Morris: 2001–2022* (2022), *Enter the Mirror* (2022–23), and *Sara Cwynar: Apple Red/Grass Green/Sky Blue* (2021). She has organized

exhibitions of Nayland Blake, Lucas Blalock, Njideka Akunyili Crosby, Alex Da Corte, Stanya Kahn, Simone Leigh, Harold Mendez, and B. Wurtz, among others. James is a recipient of the Noah Davis Prize from the Underground Museum, Los Angeles; Chanel Culture Fund (2021); Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts Curatorial Research Fellowship (2021); and VIA Art Foundation Curatorial Fellowship (2018).



**Caroline Kent** is a Chicago-based visual artist. Kent received a BS from Illinois State University (1998) and an MFA from The University of Minnesota (2008). Kent's work has been exhibited in institutions such as The Museum of Modern Art, New York; The Guggenheim Museum, New York; the Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, Berkeley; The Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago; The Walker Art Center, Minneapolis; The DePaul Art Museum, Chicago; The California African American Museum, Los Angeles; The Flag Art Foundation, New York; The Suburban, Oak Park, IL; and the University Galleries of Illinois State University, Normal, IL. Kent has received grants from The Pollock-Krasner Foundation, The McKnight Foundation, and The Jerome

Foundation. Additionally, the artist is the 2021 recipient of the Studio Museum in Harlem's Joyce Alexander Wein Prize, and was selected as an Artadia Foundation Chicago awardee in 2020. Kent's work is a part of numerous public collections including the Berkeley Art Museum and Pacific Film Archive, Walker Art Center, Art Institute of Chicago, New Orleans Museum of Art, Dallas Museum of Art, and the Minneapolis Institute of Art, among others. Kent is an Assistant Professor of Painting at the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences at Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.

The Great Rivers Biennial is made possible by the Gateway Foundation.

## GATEWAY FOUNDATION

### 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 devoted to improving the quality of life in the St. Louis metropolitan area. Visit the Gateway Foundation's website at [gateway-foundation.org](http://gateway-foundation.org) and Twitter feed [@CitygardenSTL](https://twitter.com/CitygardenSTL).

### About the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis

The Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis creates meaningful engagement with the most relevant and innovative art being made today. Founded by civic and cultural leaders in 1980, the Museum transformed from a small gallery into an internationally recognized arts institution, now permanently housed in a flexible, open, and inviting building designed by renowned American architect Brad Cloepfil. CAM's distinct architecture reflects the organization's values and supports a dynamic range of exhibitions, public programs, educational initiatives, and community collaborations. The only museum in the region solely dedicated to contemporary art, CAM is one of the preeminent non-collecting institutions of its kind in the United States. We are a site for discovery, a welcoming space, free and open to all. For more information, visit [camstl.org](http://camstl.org).