

The Sachs Program for Arts Innovation 2020 Grant Awards

Teaching Art Grants

- **Toni Bowers:** *European Pantomime and the Films of Charlie Chaplin*
Arts Course Development Grant

This new course will introduce students to the history of Western pantomimic performance and the place of Chaplin's work in that history.

Making Art Grants

- **Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts:** *Annenberg Center Remounts Toni Morrison's Dreaming Emmett with Artist-in-Residence DNAWORKS*
Extended Artist Engagement Grant

The Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts will bring DNAWORKS to Penn for the staging and performance of *Dreaming Emmett*, the first of two plays by Toni Morrison.

- **Asian American Studies:** *The Asian American Experience and the Craft of Writing with Jenny Zhang*
Visiting Artists Grant

Asian American Studies will bring Jenny Zhang, acclaimed writer of poetry, fiction, and creative nonfiction, to Penn for an intensive, two-day workshop.

- **Ivanco Talevski:** *Back and Forth: The Distance In Between* (working title)
Independent Creative Production Grant

Ivanco Talevski will develop an artist book and audio works to accompany a multi-media solo exhibition at The Print Center in Philadelphia.

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- **Levester Williams:** *dreaming of a beyond: Philadelphia*
Independent Creative Production Grant

Levester Williams will present a multi-media project that underscores the intertwined history of African-Americans' plight to full citizenship and Cockeysville Marble.

- **Mike Crane:** *Futures II*
Independent Creative Production Grant

Mike Crane will produce an experimental short fiction film based on the research of a former Annenberg faculty member, Amos Vogel.

- **Molly Lester:** *Building Ghosts*
Independent Creative Production Grant

Molly Lester will pursue an interdisciplinary interpretive project on the imprint and last impressions of demolished buildings on neighboring structures.

- **Office of the Curator:** *Currents* (working title)
Visiting Artists Grant

The Office of the Curator invites lauded Philadelphia artist Roberto Lugo to guest curate the next Penn Art Collection exhibition at the Arthur Ross Gallery.

- **Penn Museum:** *A Contemporary Queen in the Penn Museum*
Visiting Artists Grant

The Penn Museum will engage drag artist Eric Jaffe to explore non-binary gender issues, with a unique, site-influenced drag performance developed for the Museum.

- **Sosena Solomon:** *GENET* (working title)
Independent Creative Production Grant

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Sosena Solomon will pay tribute to her long-lost sister Genet through a film-based Installation project in which she captures Genet's truly remarkable life.

- **Wolf Humanities Center:** *Wolf Humanities Center Year of Choice Presents PHILADANCO Participatory Workshop*
[Visiting Artists Grant](#)

The Wolf Humanities Center will bring Philadanco to Penn for a participatory workshop with faculty, students, staff, and the general public.

Presenting Art Grants

- **Aaron Levy:** *Echando Ganas*
[Provosts Interdisciplinary Grant](#)

Slought will present an exhibition of Laurence Salzmans's photography and film works, focusing on the lives of Mexicans and Mexican-Americans in Philadelphia.

- **Alice Paul Center for Research on Gender, Sexuality, and Women; Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies Program; Native American and Indigenous Studies; Department of Music:** *Performing Environmental Feminisms*
[Collaborative Provosts Interdisciplinary Grant](#)

Three performances will take place as part of a symposium on Environmental Feminisms, with a focus on Indigenous Feminisms and Transnational Feminisms.

- **Department of Music:** *Philadelphia Student Composers Project*
[Student Engagement Grant](#)

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Philadelphia Student Composers Project brings together student composers from Penn, Curtis, Tyler, and UArts, to offer two collaborative concerts per year.

- **Graduate Fine Arts: Annual MFA Satellite Show**
Provosts Interdisciplinary Grant

The department has sought seed funding for the next two years of an annual satellite show in New York, which will complement the MFA thesis exhibition in Philadelphia.

- **General Robotics, Automation, Sensing & Perception (GRASP) Laboratory and Fine Arts and Design: Robotics Art Residency**
Collaborative Provosts Interdisciplinary Grant

A cross-school residency program to explore the use of robotic technologies in addressing contemporary social, cultural, and environmental challenges.

- **Jean-Christophe Cloutier: ComicsLab**
Provosts Interdisciplinary Grant

JC Cloutier has sought support for a weekly initiative called “ComicsLab,” an innovative workshop and educational resource centered on the inimitable art of making comics.

- **Lorene Cary: #VoteThatJawn**
Student Engagement Grant

#VoteThatJawn supports content creation by young voters to encourage other young voters to get out the vote.

Student Arts Innovation Grants

- **Abhinav Ramkumar and William Deo: Using Novel Materials for Adaptable Acoustics**

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Two students will develop novel materials that can be used to produce adaptable acoustics and create broader possibilities for musicians.

- **Bethany Monea:** *First-Gen Stories: A Web Series*

A collaborative web series documenting eight first-gen-to-college Latina young women's experiences as they graduate high school and begin college.

- **David Chavannes:** *langa dan ruop*

David Chavannes will produce an installation comprised of sound recordings and textual fragments from a pirate radio station 100,000 years in the future.

- **Elizabeth Bynum:** *Audible Metropolis*

A creative audio documentary related to Elizabeth Bynum's dissertation on citizen and government practices of measuring, evaluating, and controlling sound in Mexico City.

- **Emilio Martinez Poppe and Emmanuela Soria Ruiz:** *Stages of Learning*

A multi-day engagement exploring the potentialities of classroom aesthetics and techniques through lectures, workshops, and learning environments.

- **Erin O'Malley:** *Gendered Exile: A Narrative of Chinese (Trans)national Adoption*

Erin O'Malley will write a hybrid collection of prose to reflect on their experience of being orphaned for being female, while no longer identifying as a woman.

- **Flannery Cunningham:** *Groundwater*

Groundwater is an hour-long multimedia musical work in which sounds leave visual echoes that are in turn manipulated and fed back into new sonic processes.

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- **Harold Milton Gorive, Shalom Obiogo, and Evan Thomas:** *Cool Kid Rules* (working title)

Harold Milton-Gorive, Shalom Obiogo, and Evan Thomas will create of a three-song visual EP, which they will present as part of an exhibition on Penn's campus.

- **Incubation Series:** *Incubation Series 2020-2021*

The Incubation Series will produce a sixth year of its programming, which showcases the work of MFA students and provides curatorial opportunities to History of Art students.

- **Living Room:** *Living Room*

The Living Room will launch an artist space in University City to support transgender, gender-non-conforming, and genderqueer artists.

- **Ministry of Culture in Exile:** *Taste of the Sanctioned*

An exhibition on the history of sanctions to generate critical thinking about its common reception as a less violent, more diplomatic alternative to war.

- **Nathan Courtright:** *On remembering, ceasing to be*

Nathan Courtright will premiere “On remembering, ceasing to be”, a chamber concerto for Daedalus Quartet with eight other players from Arcana New Music Ensemble.

- **Q-INE:** *Q-INE*

An LGBTQ+ interest magazine developed to give Penn’s queer community an outlet for expression and a platform for interests and concerns.

- **Roopa Vasudevan:** *Machine Readable*

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A body of work exploring the ways in which human identity is altered, flattened, and compartmentalized to fit the demands of algorithms and technology.

- **Tamir Williams:** *A Space to Appear, A Space to Tarry*

An exhibition of works from the photographic series “Black Nightclubs on Chicago’s South Side” (1975-1977) by Penn alumnus Michael Abramson.

- **Viola Bordon:** *Bet / Salt Room*

Viola Bordon will install a temporary site-specific artwork in Utah’s seasonally flooded Bonneville Salt Flats, over the course of three weeks in the spring of 2021.