

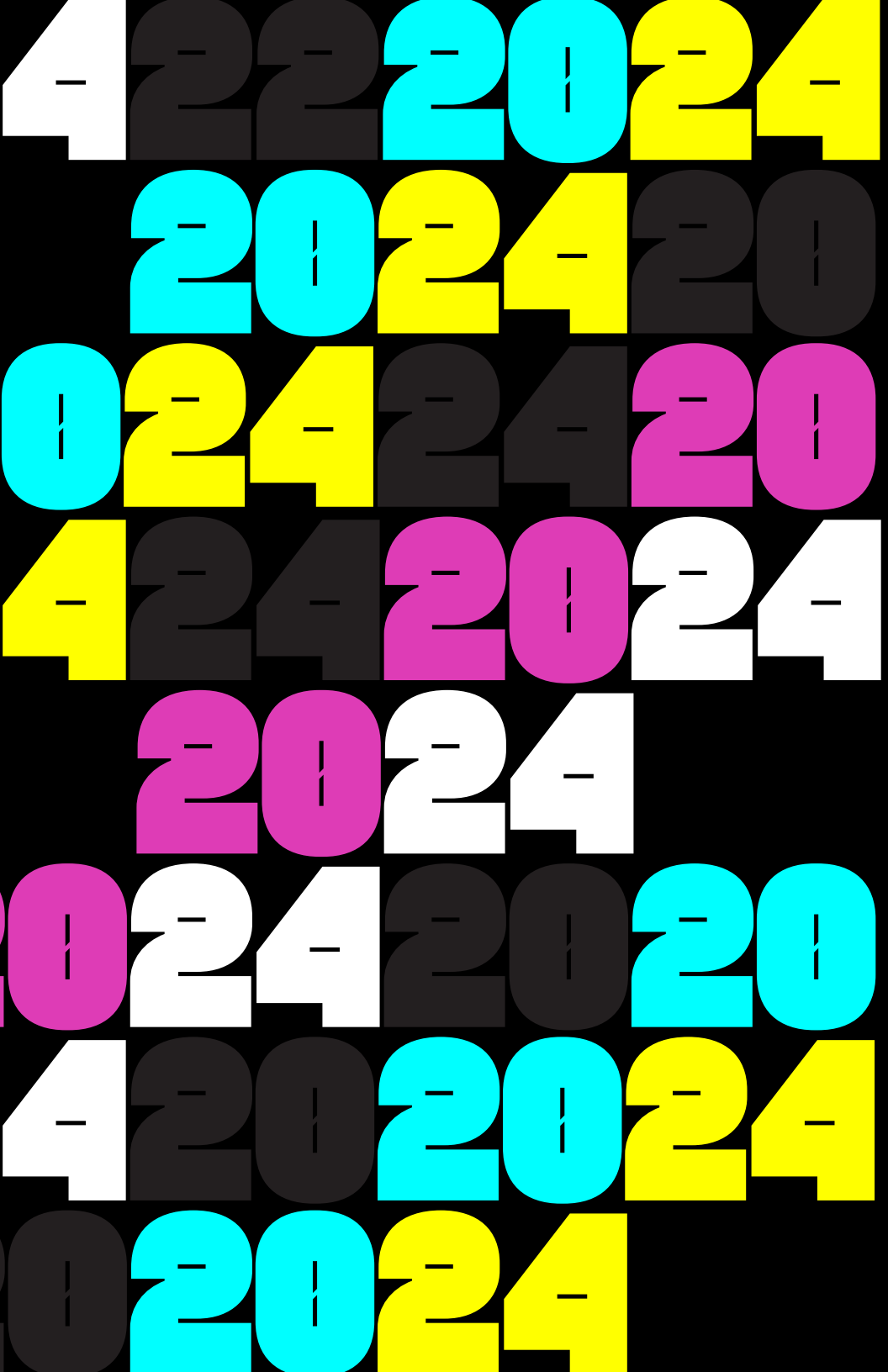
**Tuesday,
April 30th
4:30-7 PM**

**The Arts Lounge
at the Annenberg Center
3680 Walnut Street**

**THE SACHS
PROGRAM
FOR ARTS
INNOVATION**
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

**2024
GRANT
AWARDS
PARTY**





THE SACHS
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2024 GRANT AWARDS PARTY

INTRO

Welcome to our 7th Annual Grant Awards Celebration. We are excited to announce this year's Annual Grant Awards and to celebrate the recipients with a night of camaraderie, food and drink with our colleagues and friends. It is also our pleasure to welcome Interim President J. Larry Jameson, who will kick off our program tonight with some opening remarks.

Since our first awards in 2018, The Sachs Program for Arts Innovation has now awarded over \$1.8 million in grants and supported more than 300 projects and practitioners across the arts and humanities at Penn and within the diverse communities we serve. Between all of our categories, this year's pool of applicants was, once again, our largest to date. The proposals received represent the vast range of creative practices and areas of exploration by students, faculty, staff, artists, and community partners. The decisions made about what to support were difficult and not taken lightly.

The twenty-one projects we are supporting this year in our five annual grant categories—Community Partnership Grants, Artist Residency Grants, Project Grants, Independent Creative Production Grants, and Curricular Grants—include a wide portfolio of creative expression and practices: counter-cartographies, creative writing, film-making, theater and storytelling, visual arts, and music, to name just a few.

The projects supported also respond to and center a range of ideas, communities, and directives, including: uplifting those who clean in hospitals; developing an atlas of Afrotech; expanding disabilities studies curriculum; creating an immersive, multimedia installation

that alludes to the experience of trans-and transitioning bodies; challenging the spatial exclusion of unhoused communities through collaborative mapping and artistic practice; introducing young boys and men of color to the world of string instruments; offering conflict resolution through acting and roleplay to high school students in West Philadelphia. We are incredibly proud of the 2024 cohort and are thrilled to share all of their wonderful projects with you.

In addition, earlier this spring, we announced support for seventeen Student Grants, and over the course of the fall and spring semesters, we supported nine First-Year Seminar Grants (in partnership with the College of Arts and Sciences). We are delighted to celebrate the success of all of our 2023-2024 Academic Year Grant Award recipients tonight, and we ask you to join us in raising a glass in their honor!

The Sachs Program was founded by a gift from Keith and Kathy Sachs, whose visionary belief in the arts at Penn, paired with their deep commitment to the importance of arts access and creative practice, is a constant inspiration that guides all that we do.

We wish to thank Kathy and her late husband Keith for their unwavering generosity, along with everyone else that has made our seven years of grantmaking possible, most importantly our Grant Committees, for their incredibly thoughtful review of the grant proposals; and our Advisory Board, for their significant guidance and advocacy.

Special thanks as well to Provost John Jackson, and to everyone in the Provost's office for their continued and steadfast support of our work.

And thank you all for joining us tonight, and for your continued support and commitment to the arts. Congratulations to all the grantees and we hope you enjoy the celebration!

John McInerney
Executive Director

Chloe Reison
Associate Director

Tamara Suber
Executive Coordinator of Community and Equity Programs

2024 GRANTS

Artist
Residency
Project — 10

Community
Partnership — 12

Project — 14

Independent
Creative
Production — 16

Curricular — 18

Student — 20

First-Year
Seminar — 24

Artist Residency

Up to \$25,000 to bring artists, curators, and collectives (formal or informal) to Penn as Artists in Residence or Curators in Residence.

Aaron Levy and the Health Humanities Initiatives at Penn Medicine

Cleaning in the House of Healing, an Artist Residency with Teya Sepinuck and Collaborators

Johnny Irizarry and the Center for Latin American and Latinx Studies

La Protección (Protection), an Artist Residency with Jose Ortiz-Pagan

Community Partnership

Up to \$15,000 to support collaborations between Penn community members and community arts and civic non-profits and organizers.

Center for Social Norms and Behavioral Dynamics and the Bethesda Project
Counter-Cartographies: Spaces of Belonging for the Unhoused in Philadelphia

Matthew Kenyatta, The Philadelphia Film Factory (Philm Factory), and We Embrace Fatherhood
Urban Film Youth Mentorship Project

Barbara & Edward Netter Center for Community Partnerships and Acting Up Acting Out Drama School
Versus: Conflict Resolution through Acting and Roleplay

The West Philadelphia String Music & Mentorship Program Collective
The West Philadelphia String Music & Mentorship Program (WPSMMP)

Project

Up to \$8,000 to support engagement with the arts and humanities through projects directed towards the Penn community or broader public.

Daedalus Quartet

Hearing Women's Voices

Laia Mogas-Soldevila, Campbell Grey, and Lauder College House

Constructing Community

MUSICA PRACTICA / ELETTRONICA

VIVA x Jasmine Henry

Planetary Return (Blacktronika Philadelphia)

Penn Museum

Juneteenth Community Arts Partnership

Barbara & Edward Netter Center for Community Partnerships and Shelley Spector

Flow

Independent Creative Production

Up to \$8,000 to support
faculty and staff in the
production of their own
artistic work.

Gavriel Cutipa-Zorn

Blood Orange

Jonathan Santoro

Purgatorio and Spare (Thinker)

Justin Gotzis

Puck

Dr. Matthew Kenyatta

*THE MUSEUM OF HIDDEN GENIUS:
An Atlas of Afrotech*

Rudy Gerson and lexi welch

The center [working title]

**Sarah Kim, Noah Jacobson-Carroll,
and Kat Nzingha**

Executable Transmutable Language (xtl)

Curricular

Up to \$4,000 for non-standing faculty, for the implementation of arts-based activities in a course that is currently running or expected to run.

Julia Bloch

First-Year Seminar at the Kelly Writers House

Lisa Britton

Caves, Cathedrals, and Curiosities: Unearthing Stories on the Chemin des Dames in France

Mae Eskenazi

Disabled Artistic Practices

Natalia Reyes

Helen Hunt Jackson's Ramona and its adaptations (The One Series)

Student

Provide up to \$4,000 to support creative practice, from independent projects, to thesis and dissertation-related work, to programs and initiatives intended to engage the student body or broader public.

Alicia Riccio

Weitzman School of Design, Graduate Fine Arts, MFA Candidate

Hard Copy

Alyssa Chandler

College of Arts & Sciences, Fine Arts, Asian American Studies, C'24

Save Chinatown, Save our City

Azsaneé Truss

Annenberg School for Communication, PhD Candidate

Conspi(racism)

Bonnie Samantha Maldonado

School of Arts and Sciences, Africana Studies, PhD Candidate

*Rematriación: Casa, Tierra, y Liberación/
Rematriation: Home, Land, and Liberation*

Catching On Thieves

Weitzman School, Graduate Fine Arts, MFA Candidate

*Catching on The Nose,
ep 01: what does a nose know?*

Cienna Davis

Annenberg School for Communication, PhD Candidate

(Digit)al Dread

Gayoung Lee

Weitzman School, Graduate Fine Arts,
MFA Candidate

Humming from Babel

Irma Flóra Kiss

College of Arts & Sciences, History of Art
and Comparative Literature, C'25

Phantom of a Fallen Queen

Jacob Weinberg

Weitzman School, Graduate Fine Arts,
MFA Candidate

Clusters (Landfill)

Janice Kim

School of Engineering & Applied Science,
Computer Science, SEAS'24

College of Arts & Sciences, Design, C'24

Predictive Living

Melissa B Skolnick-Noguera

Annenberg School for Communications
and the School of Social Policy & Practice,
PhD Candidate

*Philadelphia Artists & Culture Keepers:
A Digital Media Project*

Michael Martin Shea

School of Arts & Sciences, Comparative
Literature and Literary Theory,
PhD Candidate

*Imaginary Bodies: The Early Poems of
Liliana Ponce*

Neha Shetty

College of Arts & Sciences,
Health and Societies, C'24

*Illuminating Unhoused Patients' Healthcare
Experiences through Photography*

Nina Hofkosh-Hulbert

School of Arts & Sciences, History of Art,
MA Candidate

*Drawing Together: Medieval Today
(Working Title)*

**Participatory Action Art Mentorship
Program (Student Group)**

College of Arts & Sciences
and Wharton School of Business

*Participatory Action Art Mentorship Program
(PAAM)*

Penn Looks (Student Group)

Weitzman School of Design
and Wharton School of Business

*Penn Fashion Show 2024, Illustrated
Perspectives: A Rogue Relaunch*

Yuanyi Cen

Weitzman School, Landscape Architecture,
MLA Candidate

*The BagasSeat: An Ode to the
Southeast Asian Market*

First-Year Seminar

Up to \$2,500 to support arts activities and arts-driven pedagogy within First-Year Seminars. Awarded in partnership with the College of Arts & Sciences.

Aaron Levy, PhD, MPhil
The Art of Care

Amy Hillier
Investigating the Old Seventh Ward

Corine Labridy
Laughter & Tricky Topics

Dagmawi Woubshet
Black Queer Traditions

Elizabeth Collins
Decolonizing French Food

Jonathan Zimmerman
Why College? Historical and Contemporary Perspectives

Julia Heim
Italian Film and Media Studies

Lisa Mitchell
Doing Research

So-Rim Lee
How to Talk About Korean Popular Culture

MISSION STATE- MENT

The Sachs Program for Arts Innovation's mission is to support and inspire creative practice and practitioners across the university – in all twelve schools, in the university's artistic and cultural centers, and through the many partnerships and collaborations that connect Penn to the world at large. We support a vibrant creative community and wish to ensure that our community members are valued and supported in the ways necessary to thrive. Diversity, equity, inclusion, and anti-racism are central to our goals as a program, as well as to our priorities for grantmaking.

We aim to bolster marginalized peoples and elevate voices that have historically been silenced. We also seek to support artists and practitioners in the creation of work that grapples with current issues and ideas relevant to our time, as well as in contextualizing scholarly and historical research in topical ideas and innovative approaches to practice and pedagogy. Experimentation is a core value of The Sachs Program, as is collaboration within and across disciplinary and institutional boundaries. We are committed to a holistic approach for enriching the arts at Penn, investing in schools and centers, as well as in creative practitioners, and contributing to collective efforts for the growth and expansion of arts-driven activities and spaces.

The Sachs Program is also committed to cultivating meaningful partnerships between Penn and its surrounding communities and encouraging non-hierarchical artistic and intellectual exchange. The Sachs Program does not place greater value on one art form over another but rather aims to support a range of innovative and experimental practices across disciplines, departments, centers, creative groups, and peoples.

SACHS PROGRAM

Staff

John McInerney

Executive Director

Chloe Reison

Associate Director

Tamara Suber

Executive Coordinator of Community and Equity Programs

Advisory Board

**Deborah A. Thomas, Co-chair
(currently on leave)**

R. Jean Brownlee Term Professor of Anthropology

Sharon Hayes, Co-chair

Professor of Fine Arts

Al Filreis (currently on leave)

Kelly Family Professor of English

Director, Center for Programs in

Contemporary Writing

Faculty Director, Kelly Writers House

Christopher A. Gruits

Executive & Artistic Director, Penn Live Arts

Dagmawi Woubshet

Ahuja Family Presidential Associate

Professor of English

Associate Chair, English Department

Grace Sanders Johnson

(currently on leave)

Assistant Professor of Africana Studies

Jasmine Elizabeth Johnson

Assistant Professor of Africana Studies

Josephine Park

Professor of English

Matt Neff

Director, Undergraduate Fine Arts and Design

Melissa E. Sanchez

Donald T. Regan Professor of English
and Comparative Literature
Director, Center for Research in Feminist, Queer,
and Transgender Studies
Director, Program in Gender, Sexuality,
and Women's Studies

**Michelle Lopez
(currently on leave)**

Associate Professor of Fine Arts

Timothy Rommen

Davidson Kennedy Professor in the College
Chair, Music Department

Sonal Khullar

W. Norman Brown Associate Professor
of South Asian Studies
Undergraduate Chair, History of Art

Zoë Ryan

Daniel W. Dietrich, II Director,
Institute of Contemporary Art

A list of our 2024 Committee Members will be shared through a digital announcement of our Grant Awards following this event on sachsarts.org.

The Sachs Program for Arts Innovation was established in 2017 by Penn Alumni Keith and Kathy Sachs to support the arts at Penn.

Event Design by Elaine Lopez.

Also on view: Etchingroom1: Safety Instructions, the fifth exhibition in the Annenberg Center's new Arts Lounge gallery space. Organized by Penn Live Arts; presented with thanks to ArtEast Gallery; supported in part by The Sachs Program for Arts Innovation.

AGENDA

- 4:30 pm** **Open Reception with music by DJ Muhammad**
- 5:30 pm** **Grant Awards Program**
Remarks by Interim President of the
University of Pennsylvania, J. Larry Jameson
- Remarks by Sachs Program Advisory Board**
Members, Josephine Park and Sharon Hayes
- 2024 Grant Awards Announcements by**
Sachs Program Staff & Advisory Board Members
- 6:15 pm** **Reception continues with music by DJ Muhammad**



SOUNDS BY
((((MUHAMMAD)))

Grayson & Kash Cafe