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## ANNOUNCING THE 2023 VELOCITY FUND GRANTEES

Highlights:

- This year, we received a record number of 212 eligible applications, a 36% increase from last year.
- With this cohort of Grantees, we'll have funded 76 projects, granting \$360,000 directly to artists in Philadelphia since 2018.
- We continue to be AWFVA's only Regional Regranting Partner in Pennsylvania. Other Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Regional Regranting Partners include: Collective Futures Fund (Medford, MA), Generator Fund (Buffalo, NY), Grit Fund (Baltimore, MD), Interlace Grant Fund (Providence, RI), Kindling Fund (Portland, ME), Newark Artist Accelerator (Newark, NJ), and Wherewithal Grants (Washington, D.C.)

PHILADELPHIA — This year, The Velocity Fund awards \$60,000 directly to Philadelphia-based artists, for their [new projects](#).

Now in its sixth year of regranting, [The Velocity Fund](#) will administer 12 \$5,000 grants, totaling 76 funded projects since its beginning, as one of the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts' first Regional Regranting Programs.

Chosen from over 200 applications, this year's Velocity Fund projects include: an exhibition providing mentorship to local SWANA (Southwest Asian and North African) queer and women artists, an experimental performance in collaboration with Poblanos in the Italian Market, a sensory theater production for children with disabilities, a sci-fi fantasy short film reimagining an American Black folktale, a series of artist-curated movement-building events to support the Chinatown community, a multimedia project for childbearing people who have suffered traumatic births, a reprisal of a historic Mexican board game to teach sexual health, and a set of workshops training BIPOC educators on fiber-based art techniques. These projects will present public outcomes that range from theater performances to short film screenings, editing sessions to an educator resource library, weekly Lotería games to a multi-day erotic film festival.

This year's Velocity Fund Grantees think deeply and imaginatively about the ongoing lives of folktales and community struggles, and the usefulness of art in movement-building strategies. Their interpretations of visual arts consider expanded performance that prioritizes audience and performer pleasure, and thoughtful forms for sharing resources.

During The Velocity Fund's 2023 grant period, 2022 Velocity Fund Grantee feini yin, who had deferred *Our Fishing Log*, will also begin their collaborative project on fishing, cooking, fish printing (or *gyotaku*), and storytelling.

### 2023 Velocity Fund Grantees

*American Made* (working title), Shuja Moore

*Amor y Familia: Lotería in Philadelphia*, Ivonne Pinto-García and Eric César Morales

*Batikh Batikh*, Sarah Trad

*Della Can Fly!*, jasmine lynea

*Hot Bits Film Festival*, Hot Bits Collective

*Sensory Devised Theater Production*, Julia Gutman and Sarah Gordin

*Puebladelfia En Vivo*, Jezenia Romero

*Threading the Needle: Access for BIPOC Educators*, Joy O. Ude

*something soft*, Mawu Ama Ma'at G. Oyesii

*Let's Talk About Chinatown*, Yvonne Lung and Tess Wei

*The Fourth Trimester*, Nikki Brake-Sillá

*TENANTS/TENETS*, Very Good Dance Theatre

### About the Panelists

The 2023 Velocity Fund Panel comprised four reviewers who brought their experience as artists, curators, and educators, both institutionally and independently: [Daniel Fuller](#), Atlanta-based writer and curator; [Rami George](#), interdisciplinary artist and 2021 Velocity Fund Grantee; Rachell Morillo, Director of Public Engagement and Research at the Institute of Contemporary Art (Philadelphia); and [Jasmine Wahi](#), Founder and Co-Director of Project for Empty Space (Newark, NJ).

“As a new member of Philly's thriving arts community, I was thrilled to get to know the varied and innovative work that is being done across the city. Choosing among such thoughtful and engaging proposals was a tall order and I am honored to have served on a panel with such esteemed colleagues who also center community and civic engagement in their approaches. Selecting the grantees for this year's Velocity Fund has made me even more certain about the critical importance of the creative work being done in Philly, especially work highlighting queer and BIPOC perspectives.” —Rachell Morillo, 2023 Velocity Fund Panelist

“Having been a former Velocity Fund awardee, I was so grateful to play a role in selecting this year's grantees. It was beautiful to see how diverse Philly creatives are, what pressing issues are driving them, and the myriad ways people are working and creating (often in deep collaboration with local communities). There were more applications than ever before, and there were so many amazing projects that we wish we could fund — with that said, we're so excited to see this year's group of grantees share their projects in the coming year.” —Rami George, 2023 Velocity Fund Panelist

“The Velocity Fund is honored to support Philadelphia artists thanks to the unwavering commitment of the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts’ Regional Regranting Program. This year the dynamic range of applications provided hundreds of artistic visions. I am extremely grateful to our thoughtful panel for selecting 12 of these distinctive visions to be shared with communities throughout Philadelphia.” —Rob Blackson, Director of The Velocity Fund

### **About Philadelphia Contemporary**

Founded in 2016 as a nomadic organization, Philadelphia Contemporary’s mission is to connect the people and places of Philadelphia through art and partnership.

Re-imagining the 21st century arts organization, PC presents forward-thinking, world-class contemporary visual and performance art all over the city, harnessing the energy of local and international artists to bring a diverse cross section of Philadelphians together in the city’s heritage spaces.

Working in partnership with other community organizations, PC presents spoken word and musical mash-ups, immersive painting installations, festivals and block parties, billboard poetry, and sculptural installations in different spaces across Philadelphia.

### **About The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts Regional Regranting Program**

The Regional Regranting Program was established in 2007 to recognize and support the movement of independently organized, public-facing, artist-centered activity that animates local and regional art scenes but that lies beyond the reach of traditional funding sources. The program is administered by non-profit visual art centers across the United States that work in partnership with the Foundation to fund artists’ experimental projects and collaborative undertakings.

The 32 regranting programs provide grants of up to \$10,000 for the creation and presentation of new work. Programs are developed and facilitated by organizations in [Mobile \(AL\)](#), [Albuquerque \(NM\)](#), [Atlanta \(GA\)](#), [Baltimore \(MD\)](#), [Boston \(MA\)](#), [Chicago \(IL\)](#), [Cleveland \(OH\)](#), [Denver \(CO\)](#), [Detroit \(MI\)](#), [Houston \(TX\)](#), [Indianapolis \(IN\)](#), [Kansas City \(MO\)](#), [Los Angeles \(CA\)](#), [Miami \(FL\)](#), [Milwaukee \(WI\)](#), [Minneapolis \(MN\)](#), [Knoxville \(TN\)](#), [New Orleans \(LA\)](#), [Newark \(NJ\)](#), [Oklahoma \(OK\)](#), [Omaha \(NE\)](#), [Philadelphia \(PA\)](#), [Phoenix & Tucson \(AZ\)](#), [Portland \(OR\)](#), [Portland \(ME\)](#), [Providence \(RI\)](#), [Raleigh & Greensboro \(NC\)](#), [Saint Louis \(MO\)](#), [San Francisco \(CA\)](#), [San Juan, PR](#), [Seattle \(WA\)](#), and [Washington D.C.](#)

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