

Marcella Brenner Grants for Faculty Development & Research and the Stanley Rosen Faculty Development Endowment

Spring 22

Marcella Brenner Grants for Faculty Development and Research funds projects that contribute to the faculty member's professional, artistic, or scholarly research and development. The Faculty Grants Committee meets to review Marcella Brenner Grants applications and recommends a ranked slate of proposals for grant awards on the basis of the evaluation criteria. This round of Brenner Grants for Faculty Development and Research grant program received 22 applications, of which 10 were able to be supported.

Kristian Bjørnard

Graphic Design

Portable Plastic Processing

Plastic waste is an international problem for solving at the local level. Recycled plastic is a resource & opportunity for new models of hyper-local, agile material sourcing & making. Kristian Bjørnard is building a transportable plastic melting oven and a plastic grinder to explore this space. This will be both an educational tool & a tool for my own production (exploring new materials). Recycling plastic in situ engages an audience—a class, colleagues, community groups, local government—on the issues of plastic proliferation & the novel opportunities dealing with plastic actually creates (small scale production, mostly free raw materials, hyper-local circular economies). This project was awarded \$2,000.00.

Annet Couwenberg

Fiber

Living organisms: The Intersection of Traditional Craft and Emerging Technology

The Atlas Institute has invited Annet Couwenberg to generate woven cloth with embedded soft circuitry to animate origami sculptures. During her residency she will create prototypes that respond to the body's motion through the stimulation of programmed Arduinos, causing them to unfold and expand in an effort to invoke living organisms. By combining motion with a circuit using conductive threads, Couwenberg will change the meaning and function of cloth—introducing a new, exciting interactive

component that will transform into dynamic sculptures. This project was awarded \$2,000.00.

Gail Deery

Printmaking

Rewilding Watermarks: Specimen Collecting, Filigranology, Fabriano, Italy

Watermark codification, a concealed language, is challenging to decipher and arguably hidden within the context of handmade paper and print history. Gail Deery has been invited to study the Augusto Zonghi collection of ancient papers at Fabriano, Italy. The collection, recently purchased by Fondazione Fedrigoni Fabriano and conserved at the historic archives of Cartiere Miliani, is now available to scholars with permission from the Foundation and ISTOCARTA. Deery will study the collection as an artist-in-residence at Fabriano and use their paper facility to produce works influenced by this special collection. This project was awarded \$1,671.00.

Liz Ensz

Fiber | First Year Experience (FYE)

Queering Cast Iron: Material Pairings Panelist at the 9th ICCCIA Conference, Berlin

Liz Ensz will use the Brenner funds to attend the 9th International Conference on Contemporary Cast Iron Art in Berlin, where they have been invited to present artwork as part of a panel titled *Material Pairings: Looking Beyond Dichotomy*. Ensz's presentation will include contextualization of their material choices as they relate to their identity as a non-binary queer person—still a very marginal identity in the traditional field of cast iron art. In addition, their mixed media cast iron sculpture will be featured in two exhibitions in conjunction with the conference. This project was awarded \$2,000.00.

Bill Gaskins

Photography+Media & Society

Black Mystery Month

Black Mystery Month is an exhibition of a suite of 30 still-life photographs and a short video that combines appropriated photographs of African Americans (and others) from the picture press with typographic elements made to engage audiences through their

unexpected form and content. *Black Mystery Month* playfully tests cultural and historical aptitudes and guides viewers to lessons on one of the most durable pandemics in the United States—the myth of racial inferiority. This project was awarded \$2,000.00.

Erinn E. Hagerty

Animation

Radiolaria & the Geometry of Global Warming

The awarded funds will cover the full purchase price of a trinocular LED Phase Contrast Microscope to facilitate Erinn E. Hagerty's research and image generation for an animated film focused on radiolaria. Radiolaria are protozoa whose fossils make up a large part of our ocean floors. They bring focus to microcosmic and macrocosmic interconnections, and are both perfect geometric protozoa, which evoke complex chemical latticework and mathematical patterning, and are harbingers of significant temperature shifts within our oceans due to climate change. This project was awarded \$1,933.25.

Alexander Heilner

First Year Experience (FYE) | Photography

The New Arctic

Alexander Heilner will continue work on *The New Arctic*, his long-term project documenting coastal lands and communities of the far north as they are reshaped by global warming, rising sea levels, and attendant changes to social and economic patterns. He will participate in a three-week residency aboard a sailing ship traversing the coast of Svalbard, the remote island which comprises one of the most northerly ecosystems in the world. Alex will be making photographs and videos by sea, land, and air via drone to document the physical and social contours of the western coast of Svalbard, and Longyearbyen, the population center of the island. This project was awarded \$1,419.25.

Heilner's project was awarded an additional \$500 in funds by the Grants Committee through the Stanley Rosen Faculty Development Endowment. This grant is awarded annually to a deserving faculty member who is identified by the Grants Committee from their review of the spring applications for the Brenner Grants for Faculty Development & Research.

Paul Jaskunas

Humanistic Studies

Eco-Poetry in a Time of Ecological Crisis

Paul Jaskunas is writing a series of poems that reflect on the expected disappearance of thousands of species due to climate change. To aid the development of the work, Jaskunas will participate in a workshop called *Refreshing Our Wonder/Honoring Our Grief: Eco-Poetry in a Time of Ecological Crisis*. The class will be led by poet Anne Haven McDonnell. This project was awarded \$1,000.00.

Hugh Pocock

First Year Experience (FYE)

Burren Annual Exhibition 6/23/22 -7/22/22: No Man's Land

No Man's Land is a solo exhibition hosted by the Burren College of Art, County Clare, Ireland. For the past several years Hugh Pocock's work has focused on the growing international movement toward the legal sovereignty of Nature. This exhibition will bring together photographs, drawings, and video that is the outcome of that research and creative engagement with these dynamic issues. This project was awarded \$1,976.50.

Valeska Populoh

Fiber

Together Now! Community Parade

Together Now! is comprised of a series of workshops at Black Cherry Puppet Theater (BCPT) that culminate in a parade in the Hollins Market neighborhood of Baltimore on Sunday, May 29, 2022. The project holds space for skills sharing and relationship-building among people interested in processional work and community celebration—uplifting the role of community celebration and collaborative creative work as a vital healing force. Valeska Populoh will work with artists Michael Lamason and Dirk Joseph to build a series of large-scale processional objects and devise choreography for the final celebration and parade. This project was awarded \$1,500.00.