

NEWS FROM THE VERMONT PRIZE

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Four contemporary art organizations offer \$5,000 Vermont Prize for visual artists



Images available for download:

Image 1 ([download](#)) - The Vermont Prize Logo

Image 2 ([download](#)) - Independent Juror Chrissie Iles, the Anne and Joel Ehrenkrantz Curator at the Whitney Museum of American Art

Image 3 ([download](#)) - Will Kasso Condry, winner of the 2022 Vermont Prize

Photo Credit: Alexa Herrera Condry

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. — Four of Vermont’s leading contemporary art institutions are teaming up once again to award [The Vermont Prize](#), an endeavor that celebrates and supports visual art being made in Vermont today. Inaugurated in 2022, The Vermont Prize is a collaborative initiative of the [Brattleboro Museum & Art Center \(BMAC\)](#), [Burlington City Arts \(BCA\)](#), the [Hall Art Foundation](#), and [The Current](#) (formerly the Helen Day Art Center).

“Although Vermont is a small state, there is an astonishing variety of exceptional visual art being created here,” BMAC Director Danny Lichtenfeld said. “The goal of this collaboration is to enhance public awareness and appreciation of that particular thread in Vermont’s rich cultural fabric.”

The Vermont Prize is awarded to one artist annually. Last year, visual artist, graffiti scholar, and educator [Will Kasso Condry](#) received the inaugural prize. In his Afrofuturist art, Condry “weave[s] the rich and layered stories of the African diaspora,” as he wrote in an artist statement, in an exploration of the Black imagination and of Black joy.

The winner of The Vermont Prize receives \$5,000, and their work is showcased and archived at vermontprize.org as well as on social media. The Vermont Prize is open to individuals as well as

collaborating artists currently living and working in Vermont. Artists working in any visual medium are welcome to apply. There is no application fee. The application deadline is March 31, 2023.

The Vermont Prize is juried by a team consisting of one representative from each of the four partner organizations, as well as a fifth independent and unaffiliated juror. This year's independent juror is Chrissie Iles, the Anne and Joel Ehrenkranz Curator at the Whitney Museum of American Art. Iles has curated numerous exhibitions, including surveys of Louise Bourgeois and Donald Judd, as well as several major thematic exhibitions, including "Into the Light: The Projected Image in American Art 1964–1977," "Dreamlands: Immersive Cinema and Art 1910–2016," and "Mountain/Time." She also co-curated the 2004 and 2006 Whitney Biennials and is currently co-curating the 2024 Whitney Biennial. The other 2023 jurors are BMAC Director of Exhibitions Sarah Freeman, BCA Curator and Director of Exhibitions Heather Ferrell, Hall Art Foundation Director Maryse Brand, and The Current Executive Director Rachel Moore.

The winner will be selected on the basis of artistic excellence, regardless of career stage, and will be announced on June 30, 2023.

"Contemporary visual artists are increasingly coming to or staying in Vermont to work," Brand said. "These artists are creating innovative, beautiful, challenging, and exciting artwork, worthy of being appreciated within Vermont and also on a national level. We are excited to celebrate and support their work while also expanding on popular ideas of what constitutes Vermont art."

"This collaborative initiative provides an opportunity to share the high caliber work that comes out of Vermont and define our position within the contemporary art world," Moore said.

"The Vermont Prize is so important to our state and to our arts community for underscoring the incredible breadth of our contemporary art and artists. Joining together in this initiative, our collective organizations are proud to help counter some of the naive and outdated notions regarding the caliber of artists working in Vermont," BCA Executive Director Doreen Kraft said.

Visit vermontprize.org for more information or to apply.

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About the Four Partner Organizations

Celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2022, the [Brattleboro Museum & Art Center](https://brattleboromuseum.org) is a non-collecting contemporary art museum focused on the art of our time. An anchor of southern Vermont's vibrant cultural life, BMAC brings notable art and artists to Brattleboro and provides a platform for its region's many artistic riches. BMAC presents 15–20 exhibitions annually, complemented by 60–70 public programs and extensive educational offerings developed in partnership with area schools and service organizations.

For over 30 years, [Burlington City Arts](#) has helped cement Burlington, Vermont's reputation as one of America's most livable cities for the arts. BCA's physical locations include the BCA Center, a three-level, year-round exhibition space featuring regional, national, and international artists, as well as BCA Studios, which hosts art classes, camps, and open studio hours in its state-of-the-art facilities. BCA also produces city-wide festivals, events, concerts, films, artist markets, and more.

Founded in 2007, the [Hall Art Foundation](#) makes available postwar and contemporary art works from its own collection and that of Andrew and Christine Hall for the enjoyment and education of the public. In Reading, Vermont, its campus of converted galleries, situated on a former dairy farm, consists of a 19th-century stone farmhouse, three barns, as well as a reception center and cafe. The property's five historic buildings make up approximately 6,000 square feet of museum-quality exhibition space, and are surrounded by approximately 400 acres of pastures, hayfields, and extensive woodland. Outdoor sculptures by world-renowned artists are installed throughout the grounds.

[The Current](#), a center for contemporary art located in Stowe, Vermont, was established in 1981 as Helen Day Art Center with a mission to enhance the human experience through the visual arts. The Current produces major exhibitions featuring a range of artists representing diverse geographies and career stages. Exhibitions are accompanied by a robust interpretive learning program including lectures, panels, and film screenings free to the public. The Current provides progressive arts education programs for all ages, with year-round classes, tours, workshops, and other interactive programs.