

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Mary Headrick (mheadrick@crafthouston.org)
Houston Center for Contemporary Craft
713.529.4848 x.107

HOUSTON CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY CRAFT ANNOUNCES 2023 - 2024 RESIDENT ARTISTS

(HOUSTON, TX) August 16, 2023 — Houston Center for Contemporary Craft (HCCC) is pleased to announce its newest class of residents for 2023 – 2024, a group of 11 outstanding local, national, and international artists working in craft media.

For more than 20 years, the Center's artist residency program has offered time and space for craft artists to focus on their creative work and interact with the public. The program supports emerging, mid-career, and established artists working in all craft media, including but not limited to clay, fiber, glass, metal, wood and mixed media. Residents are required to have their studios open for at least two days each week, giving visitors the unique opportunity to walk in, ask questions, and watch them work. This deeper level of interaction between artists and visitors allows the public to learn about a range of craft processes and techniques and helps artists to gain exposure, make connections within the Houston community, and educate people of all ages about craft.

Over the past few years, HCCC has increased the diversity of its artist residency program by removing financial barriers and expanding its outreach and marketing. This year, HCCC partnered with Crafting the Future, a nonprofit working to diversify the fields of art, craft, and design, to reach a broader pool of national applicants and offer a BIPOC support grant for the incoming cycle of artists. (The grant allows artists who identify as BIPOC to receive unrestricted funding, ranging from \$500 - \$1,000, in addition to their monthly honorarium.) As a result of these efforts, over 50% of this year's nearly 200 applicants and over 70% of the final group selected identify as BIPOC.

HCCC also continues to collaborate with Houston Center for Photography (HCP) on a joint Interdisciplinary Craft + Photography (ICP) Artist Residency. The residency, designed for artists creating work at the intersection of contemporary craft and photography, supports artists with an experimental, multidisciplinary edge, who are testing the boundaries within both fields. ICP residents are hosted in a studio space at HCCC and receive all the benefits of regular resident artists, as well as printing credits and digital lab access from HCP.

The juried selection of artists is based on quality of creative work, ability to interact with the public, career direction, and program diversity. In addition to 24/7 access to studio space, HCCC provides the artists with a materials-and-living stipend, a variety of professional development opportunities, and a group exhibition at the conclusion of the residency cycle.

The artist residency program is generously supported by funding from the Windgate Foundation; the John & Robyn Horn Foundation; Susan Vaughan Foundation, Inc.; and the Gordon A. Cain Foundation. Grant support contributes to monthly stipends for the residents, as well as the operations and administrative needs of the program.

HCCC 2023 - 2024 Resident Artists

Bifei Cao, Metal (Guangzhou, China)
Winter 2023 – Summer 2024
<https://www.instagram.com/bifeicao/>

Nela Garzon, Fiber (Houston, Texas)
Spring – Summer 2024
<http://www.minkstereo.com/>

Liz Hingley, Craft + Photography (London, England)
Interdisciplinary Craft + Photography Residency
(in collaboration with Houston Center for Photography)
Spring - Summer 2024
<https://www.lizhingley.com/>

Robert Hodge, Fiber (Houston, Texas)
Winter 2023
<http://www.robertleroyhodge.com/>

Ann Johnson, Fiber (Houston, Texas)
Fall 2023
<https://www.solesisterart.com/home>

Sarah Knight, Clay (St. Louis, Missouri)
Fall 2023 – Winter 2024
<https://www.sarahknightart.net/>

Hai-Wen Lin, Fiber (Chicago, Illinois)
Spring 2024
<https://www.haiwenlin.com/>

Rebecca Pipkin, Fiber (Phoenix, Arizona)
Summer 2024
<https://www.rebeccapipkinfineart.com/>

Lin Qiqing, Fiber (Born in Guangdong, China; based in New York City)
Fall 2023
<http://qlin.otherpeoplespixels.com/home.html>

Terumi Saito, Fiber + Clay (Born in Shizuoka, Japan; based in New York City)
Fall 2023
<https://www.terumisaito.com/>

Sarita Westrup, Basketry (Dallas, Texas)
Winter 2023

<https://www.saritawestrup.art/>

The fall residents move into their studios at HCCC this September. The application for the 2024 - 2025 residency cycle opens January 1, 2024. More details about the artist residency program can be found at <https://www.crafthouston.org/artists/residents/apply-to-program/>.

About Houston Center for Contemporary Craft

Houston Center for Contemporary Craft (HCCC) is a nonprofit visual arts center dedicated to advancing education about the process, product, and history of craft. For more than 20 years, HCCC has served as a treasured resource in the Houston arts community and the region by showcasing emerging and acclaimed artists in exhibitions, introducing visitors of all ages to contemporary craft through hands-on and virtual programming, and supporting the development of working artists through its artist residency program.

HCCC is open Tuesday - Saturday, 10 AM – 5 PM. Admission is free. **Holiday hours for 2023: HCCC will be closed to the public November 23 – 27 for the Thanksgiving holiday weekend and December 24 – January 2 for winter holidays.** HCCC is also closed on Easter, Memorial Day, Juneteenth, July 4th, and Labor Day.

Before visiting, the public should visit www.crafthouston.org to view visitor guidelines. HCCC is located in the Museum District at 4848 Main Street, three blocks south of the Wheeler Ave. MetroRail station. Free parking is available directly behind the facility, off Rosedale and Travis Street.

HCCC is supported by individual donors and members and funded in part by The Brown Foundation; Houston Endowment, Inc.; the City of Houston through the Houston Arts Alliance; Texas Commission on the Arts; the National Endowment for the Arts, the Kinder Foundation; the Morgan Foundation; Windgate Charitable Foundation; and the Wortham Foundation. HCCC is a member of the Houston Museum District and the Midtown Arts District.

For more information, call 713-529-4848 or visit www.crafthouston.org. Find HCCC on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram @CraftHouston.

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