

# PRECIPICE FUND

.....**EMBARGOED RELEASE 12:00 AM Dec 11, 2014**.....

## **2014 PRECIPICE FUND GRANT AWARDS TO BE ANNOUNCED**

The Precipice Fund announces the recipients of \$75,000 of direct support to local artists' projects and spaces at an award ceremony and winter fête celebrating a year of PICA's artistic programming including Precipice Fund's sophomore year.

Nineteen projects funded. Hundreds of artists served. \$75,000 in total support. December 11, 2014, at the Portland Institute for Contemporary Art (PICA).

**PRECIPICE FUND WEBSITE:** [www.precipicefund.org](http://www.precipicefund.org)

**DATE:** THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2014

**TIME:** 6:00 PM, PRECIPICE ANNOUNCEMENTS / GRANTEE PRESENTATIONS

8:00 PM, PICA WINTER FÊTE: DJ CLAUDIA MEZA, DANCING, SURPRISES...

**LOCATION:** PICA, 415 SW 10TH Ave. THIRD FLOOR

**INFO:** FREE ADMISSION. Holiday cocktails, winter Tamales, other bites, and beverages available for purchase.

**WEBSITE FOR PARTY:** [www.pica.org](http://www.pica.org)

**RSVP** requested for the Precipice Announcement (6-8 PM): [precipice@pica.org](mailto:precipice@pica.org).

### **PRESS INQUIRIES:**

Noelle Stiles, Communications and Marketing Manager  
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Administered by the Portland Institute for Contemporary Art (PICA) as part of the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts' Regional Regranting Program, the Precipice Fund awards grants to unincorporated visual art collectives, alternative spaces, and collaborative projects in Portland, Oregon. Recognizing barriers to funding faced by independent arts initiatives, Precipice Fund supports both new and existing projects emblematic of Portland's alternative, on-the-ground art community. In mid-November, Kristan Kennedy, PICA's Visual Art Curator and Roya Amirsoleymani, PICA's Community Engagement Manager, gathered three panelists to review more than 50 projects. On Thursday, December 11th, we will announce the grantees at a winter party located at PICA's downtown headquarters. The Panel awarded a total of \$75,000 to 19 collaborative artist projects and spaces. The 2014 Precipice Fund Panelists were: Yoko Ott, Curator and Founding Director The New Foundation (Seattle, WA), Peter Simensky, Artist, Associate Professor and Chair MFA Visual Studies Pacific Northwest College of Art (Portland, OR / New York, NY), Libby Werbel Artist and Curator / Founder Portland Museum of Modern Art (Portland, OR).

C/O PICA  
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At the Precipice Fund reception, grantees will present a lightning round of presentations about their projects. After the awards ceremony at 8:00 PM, join PICA for a year-end celebration.

## 2014 PRECIPICE FUND GRANTEES

### **At the Drive-In**

**\$3,000**

**William Rihel, Jeffry Richardson, Casey Keasler, Amy Fredericks**

A series of outdoor events in the summer of 2015 that will present locally made video, film, performances and installations from various local curators. Programming will be presented in a 27-car parking lot in Northeast Portland, adjacent to a two-story building that serves as a projection screen.

### **BCC: BrownHall**

**\$5,000**

**Collaborators: Sharita Towne, Joy Davis, Diamond Ferguson, sidony o'neal, keyon gaskin, Alex Riedlinger**

A collective of Black artists who will present interdisciplinary art programming to address the dearth of Black Art and creative spaces in Portland. This programming includes art and performance related gatherings, workshops, and an annual printed publication highlighting the works of artists and members of the largely marginalized Black community in Portland.

### **composition**

**\$3,000**

**Collaborators: Kayleigh Nelson, Grace Hwang**

An alternative space in Chinatown, whose intimate setting presents a backdrop for exhibitions, performances, projects, workshops and lectures by local and national artists. Composition focuses on bringing together mediums to create a dialogue between visual art, performance, video, music, and writing.

### **Free Spirit News**

**\$5,000**

**Collaborators: Joshua Kermiet, Corey Lunn, Raf Spielman, Jeffery Kriksciun**

A free, local community newspaper that presents irreverent and engaging content, including comics, puzzles, poetry, jokes, doodles, and generally untethered expression by local artists. Inspired by early Mad Magazine, Zap Comics, and Mothers News, Free Spirit News presents irreverence and creativity as the "news of the spirit."

### **I'd Rather Goya Robbed Me of my Sleep than Some Other Son of a Bitch**

**\$2,400**

**Collaborators: Ruth Wikler-Luker, Jude Christian, Molly Gardner**

A presentation of Rodrigo García's performance text, Prefiero que me quite el sueño Goya a que lo haga cualquier hijo de puta, in the space of a visual art gallery. Curated by Ruth Wikler-Luker of Boom Arts and directed by London-based Jude Christian.

### **Habitat**

**\$2,500**

**Collaborators: Kello, Emily Wobb, Desiree Mariscal**

A visual art installation created through collaging video of Pacific Northwest natural scenes as a massive symmetrical mandala. The work will be presented in the Foster-Powell neighborhood and aims to inspire wilderness engagement.

### **HQHQ Project Space**

**\$4,200**

**Collaborators: Andre Filipek, Johnny Ray Alt**

An artist run exhibition and project space located in inner Southeast Portland, committed to presenting high caliber, multidisciplinary work by local, national, and international artists. The coming year of programming aims to enrich local art and artists' relationships to de-centralized contemporary art ecologies and global networks.

### **Moving Out**

**\$4,000**

**Collaborators: Tori Abernathy, Ross Young, Max Smith-Holmes**

A series of programming organized by RECESS, composed of temporary exhibitions and events in the Portland area. This programming is motivated by a curatorial strategy focusing on the use of public, alternative, and under utilized spaces by West Coast artists who make work using radical aesthetics and thought.

## 2014 PRECIPICE FUND GRANTEES

### **Muscle Beach**

**\$4,500**

**Collaborators: Flynn Casey, Tony Chrenka**

A collaborative, nomadic curatorial project that focuses on exhibiting emerging and established artists from the Portland area and other regions. Working outside of the hierarchical gallery format and centralized space, Muscle Beach encourages the collaboration between artist and curator to create installations in different locations around Portland.

### **One Flaming Arrow**

**\$5,000**

**Collaborators: Demian DinéYazhi', Kaila Farrell-Smith, Carlee Smith, Thomas GreyEyes, R.I.S.E (Radical Indigenous Survivance & Empowerment)**

An Intertribal music, art, and film festival dedicated to sustaining the creative practices of Indigenous Peoples of the Americas. This two-week art and music festival aims to invigorate a network of Indigenous artists and musicians whose work will push against contemporary notions of Native art by disrupting the narrow categories established by western art institutions.

### **Physical Education**

**\$5,000**

**Collaborators: Allie Hankins, keyon gaskin, Taka Yamamoto, Lucy Lee Yim**

Artist-run workshops offering visual, contemporary performance artists, audiences, and curious individuals immersive modes to engage with performance work and their bodies. PE will organize and host reading groups, lectures, curated performances, aerobics classes and dance parties in an effort to inspire critical dialogues between artists of varying disciplines and practices while deepening their sense of embodiment.

### **Portland 'Pataphysical Society**

**\$3,000**

**Collaborators: Josephine Zarkovich, David Huff, Crystal June Rome, Lionel DiGiacomo**

A domestic alternative arts space located in Old Town, offering exhibitions and events that take intelligent risks in the pursuit of the absurd and unachievable. The 'Pataphysical Society will present programming over the course of 2015 bringing national and local artists together to present challenging, non-commercial works.

### **PREQUEL Professional Development Program For Artists**

**\$4,000**

**Collaborators: Ryan Woodring, Alexis Roberto**

A four-month artist incubator program consisting of workshops and guest critiques that aims to educate local artists in a practicum of professional development skills. PREQUEL includes a mentorship program between the participants and established members of the arts community, and will culminate in a group exhibition of the participants' work.

### **Radical Imagination Gymnasium**

**\$3,000**

**Collaborators: Travis Neel, Erin Charpentier, Patricia Vazquez, Zachary Gough**

A multi-phase project presenting a series of public workshops and presentations, accompanied by a research based publication, that will examine, strengthen and articulate the radical imagination. Through their programming, the Radical Imagination Gymnasium will delve into how art, artists, and creatives from other disciplines reimagine and reproduce new political and social systems.

### **Surplus Space**

**\$4,500**

**Collaborators: Gabe Flores, Maggie Heath**

An alternative, artist run project space located in a residential home, offering interdisciplinary artists an opportunity to produce and show work that is in direct dialogue with current unfolding issues of social and political significance.

## 2014 PRECIPICE FUND GRANTEES

### **TakerLab**

**\$4,000**

**Collaborators:** Liam Drain, Beth Wooten, Brian Mumford, Jeff Clenaghan, Zareen Price, Sara Daegling

A series of public workshop and performance events organized by the IT503 collective intending to facilitate site-specific discussions that relate a critical text to a location in Portland. Through presentation, lecture, open conversation and entertainment, TakerLab will support an open dialogue about social and political issues.

### **they said don't bring her home**

**\$3,400**

**Collaborators:** sidony o'neal, Ariella Tai

A month-long film and performance series that transgresses genre and illuminates performative avenues through which Black women navigate, assert and translate respect and respectability across location, medium, and memory. *they said don't bring her home* will present multimedia programming, including film, dance and performance, to create a space for Black artists, educators and performers in the Portland area to discuss the issues of agency, respect and respectability.

### **Environmental Impact Statement**

**\$5,000**

**Collaborators:** Lisa Schonberg, Amy Wheeler Harwood, Leif J Lee

An arts collective that will create collaborative work drawing attention to pressing conservation issues affecting the Mt Hood National Forest. The collective will focus on sites that are being considered for logging and whose ecological importance warrants conservation, creating work in response that will be presented online, in print media, and several public exhibits.

### **Worksound International**

**\$4,500**

**Collaborators:** Modou Dieng, Jesse Siegal

A space in Southeast Portland whose exhibition programming focuses on diverse international practices. Worksound International's programs will be accompanied by an online component and video series, aiming to place local and international communities in conversation with one another.

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*"Participating as a panelist to select this year's Precipice Fund recipients was a very enriching experience for me – I continue to be impressed by PICA's extraordinary professionalism and dedication to Portland's art community. I learned so much about the thoughtful work artists are doing in Portland to create sustained energy and engagement through self-organized initiatives, and was quite impacted by the spirit of generosity and collegiality happening across the city." - Yoko Ott*

*"The existence of the Precipice Fund is a huge vote of confidence in the arts ecosystem of Portland. Our city is rich with talented artists making progressive work, and many of these artists are initiating collective creative projects without formal funding. The Precipice Fund acknowledges that the future of Portland's art scene is currently taking shape within these alternative art spaces and self-envisioned projects throughout Portland. It is a true gift that we, as small arts organizations and projects, are getting recognition for our value in this city. - Libby Werbel*

**TOTAL NUMBER OF PROJECTS AWARDED FUNDING:** 19

**TOTAL NUMBER OF ARTISTS DIRECTLY SERVED WITHIN 2014 GRANTEE PROJECTS:** 66 (DOZENS MORE SERVED THROUGH GRANTEE PROJECTS)

**TOTAL AMOUNT GRANTED:** \$75,000

**RANGE OF AWARD AMOUNTS:** \$2,400 to \$5,000 each

**TYPES OF VISUAL ART PROJECTS FUNDED:** Exhibitions/Installations (all visual media), Artist-Run Spaces (Annual Operating/Programming), Itinerant Programs, Publications, Culturally-Specific Collectives, Social Practice, Outdoor/Public Programs, Interdisciplinary Performance in Galleries, Festivals, Artist-Driven Education, Screenings, Site-Specific Work, Professional Development by/for Artists, Art + Radical Politics

**ABOUT THE PRECIPICE FUND**

The Precipice Fund provides critical support for artist-driven organizations, projects, initiatives, and publications that exist on the edge of new practice. These projects operate outside of traditional forms of support, galvanize communities, promote critical dialogue, and encourage generative and expansive artistic process while driving culture forward regionally and nationally. These often informal, anti-institutional, serious, intentionally nebulous, and innovative projects are an integral part of Portland's vital art ecology and are emulative of the pioneering spirit of the Pacific Northwest.

While we believe strongly in the productivity, rigor, and excellence engendered by competitive funding, the Precipice Fund aspires to cultivate a culture of grantmaking that emphasizes community over competition, awarding projects that are highly connective and publicly accessible.

**ABOUT THE WARHOL REGIONAL REGRANTING PROGRAM**

The Regional Regranting Program aims to support vibrant, under-the-radar artistic activity by partnering with leading cultural institutions in communities across the country. The program allows the Foundation to reach the sizeable population of informal, non-incorporated artist collectives and to support their alternative gathering spaces, publications, websites, events and other projects. The Foundation plans to expand this program with partner organizations in areas where the level of on-the-ground, self-organized artistic activity is highest.

The nine re-granting programs--developed and facilitated by organizations in San Francisco, Chicago, Houston, Kansas City, Portland, OR, Portland, ME, New Orleans, Miami, and Baltimore--provide grants of up to \$6,000 for the creation and public presentation of new work. warholfoundation.org

**PARTNERS IN THE REGRANTING NETWORK**

- Alternative Exposure, San Francisco, CA
- The Idea Fund, Houston, TX
- The Propeller Fund, Chicago, IL
- Rocket Grants, Kansas City, MO
- Wavemaker Grants, Miami, FL
- Platforms Fund, New Orleans, LA
- The Kindling Fund, Portland, ME
- The Grit Fund, Baltimore, MD

**PRECIPICE SUPPORTERS**

Precipice Fund is administered with lead support from the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts and the Calligram Foundation/Allie Furlotti, as part of the Regional Regranting Program of the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts.

**ABOUT PICA**

Portland Institute for Contemporary Art acknowledges and advances new developments in contemporary art while fostering creative explorations of artists and audiences. PICA's programs support the experiments of the most vital and provocative artists of our time. Our vision is international, intergenerational, interdisciplinary, and decidedly forward thinking (even when those explorations look back in history). PICA is unique among institutions for working right alongside artists at the increasingly blurry boundaries between forms and at the edge of new ideas.

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