



Photo: Thomas Jordan

“Our 2018 Fellows represent the remarkable breadth and depth of the American cultural landscape. We are thrilled to be able to make these awards possible and to provide a windfall of support to help artists so that they can continue to be keepers of our collective humanity.”

-- Steven H. Oliver, United States Artists Board Chair

Martinez Studio is thrilled to announce that Sandra and Wence Martinez have received the [United States Artists 2018 USA Fellows award](#). Selected from a pool of 500 nominees around the country by a panel of experts, Sandra and Wence are among this year’s 45 artists selected to receive the USA Fellows award for their creative accomplishments and to help advance their artistic endeavors.

With this award, Martinez Studio is excited to expand their work on the *Legacy Project*. The *Legacy Project* celebrates the award-winning designs, distinctive weaving styles, and cultural heritage of Sandra

and Wence through a collection of textiles based on Sandra's contemporary paintings and woven by mentored apprentices. The award provides additional support for cultivating and expanding the project, including the mentoring of apprentices as they carry on the multi-generational weaving tradition of Wence's birthplace, Teotitlan del Valle, Oaxaca, Mexico.

Sandra and Wence are deeply grateful for the support and encouragement from so many individuals and gatekeepers throughout the years. They are humbled and honored to receive this award from United States Artists to continue their work of strengthening the artistic traditions of their heritage and supporting a new generation of artists and weavers.

To learn more about the *Legacy Project* click [here](#).

About *United States Artists*

Founded in 2006 by the Ford, Rockefeller, Rasmuson, and Prudential Foundations, USA is among the largest providers of unrestricted support to artists working and living in the United States. To date, USA has provided more than \$22 million in the form of unrestricted monetary awards directly to artists and collectives working in all disciplines and at every career stage.

To learn more about the 2018 USA Fellows and the United States Artists, visit www.unitedstatesartists.org

USA's 2018 Fellows are:

Architecture & Design

Norman Kelley (Carrie Norman, Thomas Kelley) – Architects & Designers – Chicago, IL

Amanda Williams – Public Artist – Chicago, IL

Craft

Julia Galloway – Potter – Missoula, MT

Tony Marsh – Ceramicist – San Pedro, CA

Martinez Studio (Wence Martinez, Sandra Martinez) – Weaver & Painter/ Designer – Sturgeon Bay, WI

Warren Newton Seelig – Sculptor – Rockland, ME

Patti Warashina – Ceramicist – Seattle, WA

Dance

Oguri – Dancer & Choreographer – Venice, CA

Okwui Okpokwasili – Performer & Choreographer – Brooklyn, NY

Allison Orr – Choreographer – Austin, TX

Bill Shannon – Performance & Video Artist – Pittsburgh, PA

Amara Tabor-Smith – Dancer & Choreographer – Oakland, CA

Media

Starlee Kine – Podcaster & Writer – Brooklyn, NY

Terence Nance – Artist – Brooklyn, NY

Elaine McMillion Sheldon – Filmmaker – Morgantown, WV

TNEG (Elissa Blount Moorhead, Arthur Jafa, Malik Sayeed) – Filmmakers – Baltimore, MD, Los Angeles, CA

Music

Terence Blanchard – Trumpeter & Composer – New Orleans, LA

Amir ElSaffar – Multi-Instrumentalist & Composer – New York, NY

Ruthie Foster – Singer & Songwriter – Atlanta, GA

Tania León – Composer & Conductor – Nyack, NY

Danilo Pérez – Pianist & Composer – Quincy, MA

Toshi Reagon – Musician – Brooklyn, NY

Wayne Shorter – Composer – Los Angeles, CA

Somi – Vocalist & Songwriter – New York, NY

Tyshawn Sorey – Composer & Musician – New Haven, CT

Theater & Performance

Luis Alfaro – Playwright – Los Angeles, CA

Lileana Blain-Cruz – Theater Director – New York, NY

Las Nietas de Nonó (Lydela Nonó, Michel Nonó) – Performance Artists – Trujillo Alto, PR

Tarell Alvin McCraney – Writer – Miami, FL

My Barbarian (Malik Gaines, Jade Gordon, Alexandro Segade) – Performance Art Collective – New York, NY
& Los Angeles, CA

Mary Kathryn Nagle – Playwright – Tulsa, OK

Traditional Arts

DY Begay – Textile Artist – Santa Fe, NM

Sonya Kelliher-Combs – Mixed-Media Artist – Anchorage, AK

Dawn Nichols Walden – Basketry Fiber Artist – Vulcan, MI

Visual Art

Cassils – Multidisciplinary & Performance Artist – Los Angeles, CA

Abigail DeVille – Installation Artist – Bronx, NY

Vanessa German – Sculptor & Citizen Artist – Pittsburgh, PA

Pepón Osorio – Installation Artist – Philadelphia, PA

Ebony G. Patterson – Painter & Mixed-Media Artist – Lexington, KY

Dread Scott - Multidisciplinary Artist - Brooklyn, NY
Cauleen Smith - Multidisciplinary Artist - Los Angeles, CA

Writing

Molly Brown - Poet & Essayist - Sweet Briar, VA
Lucas Mann - Writer / Literary Nonfiction - Providence, RI
Fred Moten - Poet & Cultural Critic - New York, NY
Susan Muaddi Darraj - Writer / Fiction - Phoenix, MD

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For more information on the 2018 USA Fellows, visit www.unitedstatesartists.org

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