



Awardee News JUNE 2020

BEN LAMAR GAY (2018 3Arts/Stan Lipkin & Evelyn Appell Lipkin Awardee)

The [Jazz Coalition](#) selected Ben to create a new work as part of their Commission Fund, which aims to support “a new canon of music that represents our collective resilience moving us forward.”

DAMON LOCKS (2019 3Arts/Reva & David Logan Foundation Awardee), **VERSHAWN SANDERS-WARD** (2013 3Arts/Southwest Airlines Awardee)

ANNA MARTINE WHITEHEAD (2018 3Arts/HMS Fund Awardee)

Damon, Vershawn, and Martine are featured artists in this year’s [Pivot Arts Festival](#), “a celebration of contemporary performance in virtual space.” On June 6, Vershawn will present *Resilience Re-Imagined* with Red Clay Dance Company. On June 7, Damon will screen his animated film *The Long Term* in a program with other Prison + Neighborhood Arts Project collaborators. On June 8, Martine will present *(Un)Touched* as part of a series of “Short Works by Artists in Quarantine.”

CECIL MCDONALD JR. (2010 3Arts Awardee)

Cecil is a recent interview subject on Sergio Gomez’s [The Artist Next Level podcast](#). Cecil talks about what he’s working on during the shutdown, including finishing the image editing for his newest photography monograph, *In the Heat of the Cool*, which he hopes to release sometime this year.

FAWZIA MIRZA (2015 3Arts Community Awardee)

Gallery 400 is offering free online screenings of Fawzia’s short film [The Queen of My Dreams](#) on the organization’s website through June 8. In the 3-minute film, Fawzia looks back on “growing up, struggling to come out as queer, and realizing she no longer has to weigh her dreams against those that were pre-fabricated for her... she can construct her own.”

VERSHAWN SANDERS-WARD (2013 3Arts/Southwest Airlines Awardee)

Vershawn and the Red Clay Dance Company were profiled in Clef Notes for the organization’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Their “[Dance Pamoja Challenge](#),” a 12-month initiative beginning June 1, focuses on wellness, building resilience, and preventing death from COVID-19 among African-American families living on Chicago’s South Side. Involving a collaboration with a team of health professionals, the company will invite participants to be part of an observational study that includes blood pressure monitoring, increased activity and exercise through dance, and community support.

ARAM HAN SIFUENTES (2016 3Arts/Stan Lipkin & Evelyn Appell Lipkin Awardee)

Newcity published a feature article on Aram about two recent projects focusing on voter rights and immigration, including her “[Voting Kits for the Disenfranchised](#),” which was funded in part on our 3AP platform.

CAULEEN SMITH (2013 3Arts Awardee)

Cauleen’s Instagram account (@cauleen_smith) is featured in the *New York Times* recent list of [Five Art Accounts to Follow on Instagram Now](#). In the write-up, reporter Jillian Steinhauer says “Since the pandemic began, the artist has been sharing some of her remarkable, experimental short films under the hashtag #shutinfilmfestival. Each one is distinct, yet they share an aesthetic — often retro looking and purposefully choppy or collagelike, with the strong presence of music — and a common concern: Ms. Smith draws on images and material from the past to conjure possibilities for black futures.”

SAM TRUMP (2019 3Arts/Southwest Airlines Awardee)

For the City of Chicago’s first Soundrotation’s summer concert series of 2020, Sam will perform a set of soulful and uplifting music along with DJ Duane Powell and Nola Ade. This virtual event will be streamed through the [DCASE YouTube channel](#) as well as [Millennium Park’s Facebook](#) page.

June 18, 6:00 – 7:30pm.

CALAMITY WEST (2014 3Arts/Merrill Lynch Awardee)

[Sideshow Theatre Company](#) named Calamity and two other fellow playwrights, Regina Victor and Justin J. Sacramone, as new ensemble members.

AVERY R. YOUNG (2012 3Arts/Merrill Lynch Awardee)

Commemorating the 155th anniversary of Juneteenth, Rebuild Foundation and Experimental Sound Studio are hosting a [Juneteenth Quarantine Concert](#), curated by Yaw Agyeman and featuring local artist performers, including Avery. Proceeds from this virtual concert (hosted just days before what would have been Tamir Rice's 18th birthday) will support the Tamir Rice Foundation's endeavors to create the Tamir Rice Afrocentric Cultural Center in Cleveland.

June 19, 5:30pm