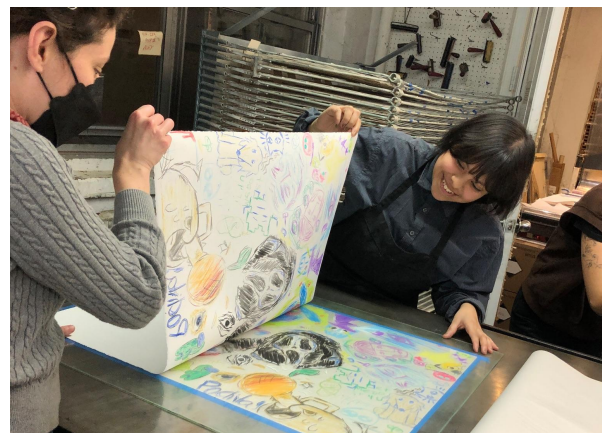


S m a c k M e l l o n

Art Ready: Selected Works from the Artist Mentorship Program

MAY 24 - MAY 28, 2023

Opening Reception: Wed. May 24, 6-7PM



This exhibition presents the artwork of students who participated in the 2022-2023 session of Art Ready, Smack Mellon's arts mentorship program for NYC public high school students interested in pursuing a career in visual arts. This year, students worked with professional artists who specialize in architecture, graphic design, painting, textile art, sculpture, public art, bookmaking and printmaking. Included in the show is an impressive range of media such as figurative paintings and drawings, handmade books and zines, mosaics, soft-sculpture, and public art installation, among other mediums.

Art Ready engages young people in a way no other arts education program does—by pairing students directly with successful working artists. Mentors provide professional and creative guidance as the students make decisions about their futures in the arts. They tutor the students in their creative process, introduce them to new ways of working, and encourage critical reflection. Museum admission, mentor time, snacks, and subsidized transportation are all provided to students free of charge.

This year's student artists came together from 10 different high schools and feature: Noah Abrahams, Peter Baldwin, Violet Bohan, Gabryela Cabab, Veronica Castanos, Alejandra Fernandez, Anniya Francis, Bren Godoy, Monica Hernandez, Rui Huang, Darren Lin, Bijou Lwin, Briana Melguizo-Szarf, Frida Nicosia, Vivian Parker, Sabrina Quint, Roxena Belle Reyes, Enayzah Rowell, Dunya Vasquez, and Chloe Zhou.

This year's professional Artist Mentors were Amanda Chung of Lucky Risograph, Florencia Escudero, Madjeen Isaac, Phil Shung, Janet Zweig, and Sage & Coombe Architects: Annabel Coleman and Max St. Pierre.

Smack Mellon's Education Programs are supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, New York City Council Member Lincoln Restler, and with support from Ruth Foundation for the Arts, Select Equity Group Foundation, Exploring The Arts, and Smack Mellon's Members.

Smack Mellon's programs are also made possible with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature, the National Endowment for the Arts, and with generous support from The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, The Edward and Sally Van Lier Fund of The New York Community Trust, Jerome Foundation, Lily Auchincloss Foundation, The Roy and Niuta Titus Foundation, Robert Lehman Foundation, Milton and Sally Avery Arts Foundation Inc., and Smack Mellon's Members.

Space for Smack Mellon's programs is generously provided by the Walentas Family and Two Trees Management.

Smack Mellon would like to extend a special thanks to all of the individuals, foundations, and businesses who have contributed to the NYC COVID-19 Response & Impact Fund.

In-kind donations are provided by BLICK, Wegmans, Front Street Pizza, Trader Joe's, Materials for the Arts, NYC Department of Cultural Affairs/NYC Department of Sanitation/NYC Department of Education.

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