

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ART READY **Selected Works from the Artist Mentorship Program**

May 21—25, 2025

Opening Reception: Wed. May 21, 6-8PM



This exhibition presents the artwork of students who participated in the 2024-2025 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 photography, graphic design, painting, sculpture, textile and video. The exhibition showcases an impressive range of media, such as paintings, drawings, tapestries, posters, videos, apparel, plaster and fabric sculptures, among others.

Smack Mellon

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.

Coming together from 10 different high schools, this year's student artists included: MJ Abazi, Esul Baek, Yessenia Bonilla, Jameson Butler, Jessica Castelan, Nina Fields, Thomas Flores-Ramírez, Ashlee Ghosh, Gabrielle Gonzalez, Louisa Haimo, Eric Huang, Laadan Jarrett, Leanna Lai, Diana Martinez-Lozada, Allison Mealy, Esmeralda Mendez, Joshua Muentes, Sophia Nikishova, Olivia Rivera, Marcos Rosales.

This year's professional Artist Mentors included: Juan José Cielo, Anastasia Corrine, Florencia Escudero, Angélica Maria Millán Lozano, Craig Anthony Miller (CAM), and Phillip Shung.

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