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## New VCCA Fellowship Recipients Announced

The Virginia Center for the Creative Arts (VCCA) has awarded four grant-funded Fellowships for the upcoming winter residency period. These Fellowships are made possible by the generosity of the Jacques and Natasha Gelman Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Richard S. Reynolds Foundation. Each Fellowship provides a residency which includes a private bedroom, individual studio, and all meals in a community of more than 20 creative writers, visual artists, and composers.

**The Jacques and Natasha Gelman Fellowship supports residencies for Latinx or African-American visual artists.** Veronica Jackson (Bedford, VA) will be VCCA's next Jacques and Natasha Gelman Fellow. Over the past two years, Jackson has developed a multidisciplinary and autobiographical visual art practice that stems from her position as a black woman marking space upon a landscape that consistently overlooks and devalues her. Of her upcoming residency, she writes: "As an emerging artist, I constantly struggle with whether my work is important or meaningful to anyone beyond myself. Receiving the Gelman Fellowship validated that my conceptual art practice is a worthy pursuit. I ardently look forward to being immersed in VCCA's nurturing and supportive environment as I develop various visual art projects."

**The Collateral Reparations: Artists Residencies for Military Veterans Fellowships, funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, supports residencies for military veteran writers, visual artists, or composers.** Visual artist Davey Mann (Memphis, TN) and writer Jackie Munn (Alexandra, VA) are VCCA's most recent recipients of the Collateral Reparations Fellowship.

Davey is a visual artist currently maintaining a studio practice at Marshall Arts Gallery in Memphis. He uses insight gained from the loss of one-fourth of his platoon while serving during the The Last Stand in Mosul, Iraq, followed by a deployment to Kandahar, Afghanistan, to explore and process the effect of conflicted standards of masculinity and war on society through his art. In the past two years he has been featured in eight shows as well as in two print publications.

Munn is a writer, a West Point graduate, and a former Army officer who deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. Her work has been published in *The New York Times Magazine*, *The War Horse*, *National Geographic's* blog for *Chain of Command*, and *A Common Bond II: An ASAP Anthology*. She was also featured on the *Today Show* for International Women's Day for speaking out against sexism in the military.

**The Richard S. and Julia Louise Reynolds Poetry Fellowship supports residencies for poets.** Amanda Galvan Huynh (Middletown, NY) has been selected as VCCA's inaugural Richard S. and Julia Louise Reynolds Poetry Fellow. Galvan Huynh is the author of a chapbook, *Songs of Brujería* (2019) and co-editor of *Of Color: Poets' Ways of Making: An Anthology of Essays on Transformative Poetics* (2019). During her upcoming residency at VCCA, she proposes "to deepen my research and writings on the complexities of miscegenation in America. At this moment, my poems revolve around the present-day struggles of interracial couples, and intertwines my own experiences in my interracial relationship."

VCCA is a unique Virginia-based organization of national stature and international impact that provides time and space for national and international writers, visual artists, and composers of talent and promise to bring forth their finest works. VCCA hosts over 400 artist-Fellows annually at its Mt. San Angelo facility in Amherst, Virginia, and its Moulin à Nef Studio Center in Auvillar, France. The artists who come to VCCA, whether emerging or established, are selected through competitive peer review on the basis of the important or innovative work they are doing in their respective fields. Since its founding in 1971, VCCA has hosted over 6,000 writers, visual artists, and composers.

*Because the arts are vital,  
diversity is a strength, and creativity is essential.*

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