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LONG ISLAND CHILDREN'S MUSEUM RECEIVES \$25,000 GRANT FROM NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

GARDEN CITY, NY —National Endowment for the Arts Acting Chairman Mary Anne Carter has approved more than \$80 million in grants as part of the Arts Endowment's second major funding announcement for fiscal year 2019. Included in this announcement is an Art Works grant of \$25,000 to Long Island Children's Museum. The NEA grant will support "***A Community of Artists***," an educational series featuring three exhibitions and artist-led workshops for visitors and schoolchildren.

"These awards, reaching every corner of the United States, are a testament to the artistic richness and diversity in our country," said Mary Anne Carter, acting chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. "Organizations such as Long Island Children's Museum are giving people in their community the opportunity to learn, create, and be inspired."

"We are gratified by the support of the National Endowment for the Arts for this series of art exhibitions that will expand the Children's Museum's commitment to the presentation of the visual arts," explained LICM President Suzanne LeBlanc. "The artists selected for this series approach art from different angles; offering visitors, both children and adults, a variety of entry points to access the visual arts."

"A Community of Artists" is comprised of three exhibitions featuring the work of Julie Peppito, Janet Fredericks and Ernani Silva. While their work is on exhibit, each of the artists will design and lead workshops to engage family visitors and school children in an exploration of the themes in their work.

The Children's Museum is recognized for the variety and depth of their art programs and the exhibition content of its KaleidoZone gallery. The dedicated art

gallery is often the first point of access to view and discuss art in a setting designed specifically for families. Through exhibits, studio workshops and outreach programs, the Museum has introduced young audiences to artists such as Andy Warhol, Georgia O'Keefe, Jean-Michel Basquiat, Man Ray, Faith Ringgold, Willem de Kooning and Louise Nevelson.

In an effort to support children in self-identifying as artists, the Museum provides opportunities for visitors to not only view art, but artists at work. The Museum offers programs where children can learn artists' processes and techniques in workshops the artists' design and present or work alongside them on collaborative pieces to demystify the artistic process. Exhibitions frequently include the opportunity for visitors to view artists' studio settings to explore their tools, materials and works in progress. Exhibitions and workshops are presented to promote self-expression and curiosity - skills that will support and empower children throughout their lives.

"A Community of Artists" series will launch in March of 2020 and conclude in April 2021. (Artists' bios and exhibit schedule attached.)

Art Works is the Arts Endowment's principal grantmaking program. The agency received 1,592 Art Works applications for this round of grantmaking, and will award 977 grants in this category. This is the third NEA grant that LICM has received. Previous funding supported the traveling exhibition "The Art of Andy Warhol" and related public programming and the development of a sensory-friendly production of "The Adventures of Perseus" for families with children on the autism spectrum.

For more information on this National Endowment for the Arts grant announcement, visit [arts.gov/news](https://www.arts.gov/news).

About the Long Island Children's Museum

The mission of Long Island Children's Museum is to connect all our communities' children, and those who care for them, to a life of wonder, imagination and exploration. At LICM, children discover their passions and their relationship to the world we share. The 40,000-square-foot museum welcomes nearly 250,000 children and annually. The private, not-for-profit institution chartered by the New York State Board of Regents, offers museum-based educational programs and cultural experiences, as well as an extensive community outreach program

offered in schools, libraries and youth centers across Long Island. The Museum is the recipient of the 2012 National Medal for Museum & Library Service, the highest honor conferred on museums for extraordinary civic, educational, economic, environmental, and social contributions.

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“A Community of Artists”

Exhibition Schedule

March-April 2020

Julie Peppito earned her B.F.A. from The Cooper Union in New York City and an M.F.A. from Alfred University in Alfred, NY in 2004. She received a New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowship for sculpture and her one-woman show at Living Arts (Tulsa, OK), “Too Much Candy,” was supported by the Andy Warhol Foundation. Her work has been the subject of seven solo shows, including three at Heskin Contemporary in New York City. She strives to redefine boundaries between fine art and “found” art by embedding sentimental ephemera and natural objects within sculptures, photorealistic charcoal drawings and delicately sewn illustrations with raised patterns and repetitive motifs. She has designed both large-scale installations, such as playground sculptures in steel, bronze and mosaic; and small works like stitched collages, gouache and oil paintings, sewn and beaded jewelry, and experimental, amorphous tapestries. She lives and works in Brooklyn, NY.

June-August 2020

Janet Fredericks studied art at Green Mountain College (VT), William Patterson College (NJ) and received her B.F.A. from Barry University (FL). Her art is informed and inspired by her interest in and observations of her natural environment, and has been featured in solo exhibitions in Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Maine and Quebec. She has taught at Burlington College and The Community College of Vermont. She is a Vermont Arts Council and New England Foundation for the Arts Fellowship recipient, and has led residencies at The Virginia Center for the Creative Arts, the Ucross Foundation (WY), the Vermont Studio Center, the Venice Printmaking Studio (Murano, Italy) and the International Center for the Arts in Umbria, Italy. Her current drawings and paintings in graphite, ink, acrylic washes and watercolors function as conversation maps and express the artist’s continuing interest in the complexities of the drawn mark as visual language.

February-April 2021

Ernani Silva has been exhibited in his native Brazil and along the east coast from Florida to New York City, where he had his first gallery show in 1969. Largely self-taught, Silva focuses on four elements in his paintings: movement, color, texture and perspective. His work focuses on the vibrancy of life and the flora, fauna and culture of Brazil. He depicts these subjects using vibrant colors and imagery and a variety of non-traditional materials such as zinc, glass and wood as well as organic mixed media, including crushed egg shells and leaves, ground coffee, black pepper, rice, pastas and even curry powder. While using these materials enables the artist to explore different textural compositions that are multi-sensory, the most important element is always the human feeling conveyed. Silva speaks several languages and plays guitar, harmonica, and conga. He has been represented by galleries across the U.S. and his work is in several public and private collections.