

Arts, Equity, & Education Fund™

A QUARTERLY SPOTLIGHT - NOVEMBER 2023

Fellowships A Space to Grow



Kiki Teshome on a research visit to Ethiopia, 2023

As part of our commitment to elevating underrepresented voices, AE&E Fund is proud to support a wide range of fellowships in the arts. Fellowships can be a crucial step in establishing careers, allowing space for experimentation and growth, all while breathing new life into traditional fields.

We caught up with Kiki Teshome, Curatorial Assistant at the Studio Museum in Harlem, and inaugural Margaret Powell Curatorial Fellow at the Carnegie Museum of Art (CMOA) to reflect upon the fellowship experience and its nourishing potential for elevating diverse perspectives.

What did having a fellowship in a major museum allow you to discover?

I think it was so expansive and eye-opening in terms of understanding how a museum operates.

At CMOA, I had access to a wide range of different opportunities because everyone was so willing to have me participate in some of their projects. This meant that I got to work on a publication through doing rights and reproductions for the collection handbook. I got to see how an exhibition is formed from the ideation and planning stage to the implementation stage. I also learned what it was like to run a program for an exhibition. I really got to see different logistical sides of how a museum operates.

I also think a lot about the relationships I was able to form with different colleagues and the conversations we had. We were able to consider logistical aspects, but also think conceptually about what it means to do this work.

What's coming up next for you in the arts?

That's a good question. And I would say it is one that I'm asking myself every day! I am working as a curatorial assistant at the Studio Museum in Harlem. We're in the process of building a new building, so during this moment of closure, we've been able to pause and think about the collection in deep ways. It's very nice to be a part of that and to dive deeply into this very culturally specific collection that holds work mostly by artists of African descent.

I am also working on Find Art Here that the Museum started in 2018 when it originally closed its doors. Find Art Here is an initiative in which the museum installs reproductions of artworks in its collection at different neighborhood spaces. It's kind of a departure from the work that I was doing at CMOA but my skills are still transferable and being used in a very specific way that relates directly to what my interests are in the field and where I want to go.

I can't say with any definitive certainty about what's in the future, but I know that I'm interested in thinking about museums and specifically the ways artists relate to museums and museum collections. It's an interesting moment to think about the role of these institutions and I want to continue thinking through that in my future as well.

News & Updates

ALMA | LEWIS – Exhibition Pittsburgh

Naomi Sims: (Super) Model Citizen

November 8 2023 - February 24 2024

Naomi Sims was a fashion icon, entrepreneur, author, and one of the first "supermodels". Born in Oxford, MS, Sims grew up in Pittsburgh, PA, and graduated from Westinghouse High School in Homewood. This exhibition is a visual and narrative journey that celebrates her life, her impact on the world of fashion, beauty, health, and art, and her advocacy for true diversity and inclusivity within the industry.

María Magdalena Campos-Pons Receives MacArthur Genius Award

AE&E Fund proudly supported María Magdalena Campos-Pons' "When We Gather" documentary film in 2021.

We are excited to congratulate María Magdalena Campos-Pons on receiving the prestigious MacArthur Fellowship.

Brew House Arts – Exhibition Pittsburgh

Buttery Spread

November 9 2023 – December 30, 2023

Curators Emma Honcharski and Chas Wagner present an exhibition that is sensory, playful, exploratory, and non-transactional. *Buttery Spread* is produced through the Prospectus Curatorial Residency at Brew House Arts

Jeffrey Gibson at the 2024 Venice Biennale

In 2019, AE&E Fund enthusiastically supported Jeffrey Gibson at the Brooklyn Museum for his exhibit: *When Fire Is Applied to a Stone It Cracks* (February 14, 2020 - January 10, 2021).

We are thrilled to continue following Jeffrey's work to the 2024 Venice Biennale from April 20, 2024 to November 24, 2024!

The [Margaret Powell Curatorial Fellowship](#) at the Carnegie Museum of Art is made possible by Arts, Equity, & Education Fund™.

Arts, Equity, & Education Fund™ strives for a better reflection of the real world in arts and education.

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