

Children’s Museum of the Arts Announces Recipients of Inaugural Artist-Educator Residency

*Selection Committee Includes
Brian Belott, Pablo Helguera, Tomashi Jackson, Milah Libin,
and Michael Rips*



Clockwise from top left: Frank Traynor, Ciana Malchione, Jacob Hicks, Catherine Tati Nguyen

(NEW YORK, NY — September 21, 2021) — **Children’s Museum of the Arts (CMA)** is pleased to announce the selection of four Artists-in-Residence to participate in the inaugural **CMA Artist-Educator Residency**. The 2021 residency cycle will provide the selected artists with physical space, time, financial resources, and professional support to work alongside young artists to develop new methods for arts education, while exposing them to the rich cultural community of New York City. Each Artist-in-Residence will receive a \$40,000 yearly salary with benefits.

“Arts education resists all quantitative metrics, and yet every artist I know can point to at least one transformative experience, formal or not, that keeps them attuned to the sense of presentness art demands. This makes the questions of art education both profound and confounding, and I can’t wait to

see how our resident and child artists dig into them together,” said **CMA Executive Director Seth Cameron**.

Over the last six weeks, CMA's **Artist-Educator Selection Committee** reviewed an extensive pool of over 65 applications. The cohort—which includes experts in the arts, writing, and children's education—shares in CMA's belief that cross-generational collaboration plays a vital role in the revitalization of culture. The Selection Committee is as follows:

- **Brian Belott**, *Artist and Archivist of the Rhoda Kellogg International Child Art Collection*
- **Pablo Helguera**, *Artist, Writer, and Educator*
- **Tomashi Jackson**, *Artist and Educator*
- **Milah Libin**, *Founder and Editor-in-Chief of DIZZY and MISHOU, a children's art magazine*
- **Michael Rips**, *Attorney, Author, and former Executive Director of the Art Students League*

FROM THE SELECTION COMMITTEE:

“CMA's artist residency is the perfect distillation of its mission to celebrate and enable the artwork of children. This is an amazing group of residents, who together will totally reimagine the role of arts education at CMA.” — **Milah Libin**

"Art education is the means by which we gain access to the many languages of art in order to connect with others and to collaboratively invent new ways to communicate and change the world."

— **Pablo Helguera**

The Artists-in-Residence represent a diverse range of disciplines, including painting, filmmaking, illustration, and songwriting. United by a deep commitment to arts education, the Artists-in-Residence share CMA's belief that all children are artists and together will help build a community of experimentation, curiosity, and creativity at CMA.

2021-22 Artists-in-Residence:

- Jacob Hicks
- Ciana Malchione
- Catherine Tati Nguyen
- Frank Traynor

FROM THE ARTISTS:

“A dream I have for this residency is to create immersive environments and paintings inspired by the archetypal stories children can so readily imagine. I want kids to have the freedom to build and direct their visions. I hope to provide kids with the knowledge necessary to develop enriching and sustainable art practices. Everyone is an artist from the start, and we shouldn't forget or let this power dissipate as we grow.” — **Jacob Hicks**

“I have a tremendous respect for children's creative abilities. As an educator, I facilitate conversations, introduce students to artists, demonstrate techniques and provide guiding prompts. But when it comes down to the actual production of their work and ideas, I do all that I can to get out of their way. I feel I work well with children because I, like them, am endlessly curious and constantly tinkering. To me, The Children's Museum of the Arts is an ideal space for co-learning and co-tinkering to happen. I'm thrilled by the opportunity to work alongside artists of all ages to tackle some of art's big questions.” — **Ciana Malchione**

The selected Artist-Educator Residents will be actively involved in co-research, co-inquiry, and co-reflection with children artists to reimagine arts education. Residents will be overseen by CMA's newly appointed Producer, Tommy Coleman who brings experience as an artist and educator at The Cooper Union and Yale University. Residents will have a hand in developing in-person public programs, participate in professional development opportunities, and aid in the production of museum exhibitions. The residents will also have the opportunity to be part of the creative team to write and produce original material for CMA's digital commons, *The Look Make Show*—the museum's newest signature program. Learn more about the CMA Artist-Educator Residency [here](#).

ABOUT CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF THE ARTS

Children's Museum of the Arts (CMA) unites children and artists to create and share ambitious works of art with their communities and the world. Born out of an artist's SoHo studio in 1988, the museum has built a living collection of over 2,000 works by children from over 50 countries dating back nearly a century, while connecting young New Yorkers to art and artists. In 2021 CMA's Executive Director Seth Cameron established *The Look Make Show*, the first digital commons specifically designed for child-artist-centered learning.

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