



ADAA Foundation Announces 2026 Grant Recipients

The ADAA Foundation Awards Grants to Four U.S. Art Museums in Support of Exhibitions, Research, and Community Engagement

New York City, New York (October 6, 2026) – The ADAA (Art Dealers Association of America) is pleased to announce the ADAA Foundation's 2026 grantees: the **Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum** (Ridgefield, CT), the **Bronx Museum of the Arts** (Bronx, NY), the **Harn Museum of Art at the University of Florida** (Gainesville, FL), and the **Kemper Art Museum at Washington University** (St. Louis, MO). Awarded annually to nonprofit visual arts organizations in support of exhibition development, public programming, and curatorial research, these \$10,000 critical grants reflect the significance of the ADAA's role in sustaining the U.S.'s cultural ecosystem.

As the national organization representing accredited American dealers, the ADAA occupies a unique position at the intersection of the commercial and nonprofit sectors, facilitating relationships that connect the broader arts landscape. The ADAA Foundation was established in 1970 as a branch of the organization dedicated to making meaningful contributions to the fields of art and art history, including those that advance equity, access, and representation. Each year, museums and arts institutions with operating budgets of up to six million dollars are invited to submit proposals for funding to support the research and development of new art exhibitions, educational programming, and community engagement initiatives. Recipient institutions are selected through an ADAA member-wide vote on applicant finalists, and the grants themselves are funded primarily by member galleries.

Across their planned initiatives (details for which can be found below), the 2026 grant recipients will use their awards to highlight groundbreaking explorations of feminism, foreground overlooked or underrecognized artists, present new frameworks for understanding Asian American art, and steward the next generation's perspective on identity, community, and social change.

"The ADAA Foundation represents the entire membership in financially supporting regional arts institutions in the development of exhibitions, educational programming, and community engagement initiatives. This year's grantees represent a range of thoughtful and ambitious projects that highlight this commitment to help these institutions better serve their communities and the public in general" said **Jill Newhouse, President of the ADAA Foundation.**

The announcement precedes the return of the ADAA's annual fair this fall, which will relaunch in November as the ADAA Fair. For the first time this year, the fair's Preview Gala will benefit the Whitney Museum of American Art's education and artist programs, again underscoring the



ADAA's mission to support galleries, artists, and museums across the United States while advancing its ongoing commitment to philanthropy in the visual arts.

ADAA Executive Director Kinsey Robb adds: "Vital to the ADAA's mission is serving not only our members, but the broader arts ecosystem in which they operate. The work of the ADAA Foundation, and its support of institutions advancing the arts communities across the country, reflects the ADAA's commitment to fostering collaboration and mutual support between the commercial and nonprofit sectors of our field."

INITIATIVES SELECTED FOR 2026 ADAA FOUNDATION GRANTS

Mimi Smith: Dear Art, A Sixty-Year Survey
The Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum
February 7 - September 19, 2027

Mimi Smith: Dear Art, A Sixty-Year Survey is the first major museum survey dedicated to six decades of work by Mimi Smith. One of the most significant yet underrecognized artists practicing today, Smith's influential career, spanning sculpture, drawing, painting, installation, and artists' books, draws on her living history to address collective issues affecting women, from financial inequality and reproductive rights to the absence of supporting infrastructure for working mothers and gendered ageism. The exhibition will include important examples from major series from the 1960s to the present, alongside new, never exhibited, and rarely seen individual works and installations, as well as an archive of ephemera and publications. The exhibition will be accompanied by the artist's first monograph.

"For more than six decades, Mimi Smith has used the intimacy of everyday life to confront some of the most urgent social and political issues of our time," said **Amy Smith-Stewart, The Aldrich's Diana Bowes Chief Curator**. "Her work is both prescient and deeply personal, anticipating conversations around feminism, labor, technology, and the environment that continue to shape our lives."

We Are Family
The Bronx Museum of the Arts
November 2027 - February 2028

We Are Family is a major exhibition celebrating the Bronx as a center of artistic innovation by featuring the work of 30 socially engaged artists whose practices are shaped by the borough's communities and cultural diversity. Through new commissions, participatory public programs, and a scholarly catalog, the exhibition highlights marginalized voices, fosters community



engagement, and reimagines contemporary art history by placing collective creativity and lived experience at the heart of its narrative.

"Rooted in the creativity of The Bronx, *We Are Family* is our love letter to the borough and the artists and communities who have made it a vital center of cultural innovation," said **Director & Chief Curator Shamim M. Momin**. "As part of the months-long celebration of the opening of our transformed campus, we are thrilled to bring artists and audiences together for participatory experiences inside and outside the museum, embracing the inclusivity that is the heart of our mission."

Becoming: Asian American Art Unbound
Harn Museum of Art at the University of Florida
August 24, 2027 - January 2, 2028

Becoming: Asian American Art Unbound explores nearly a century of Asian American art through works from the museum's collection and major institutional and artist loans. Featuring 29 artists and 55 works of art representing diverse Asian American communities, the exhibition presents a new framework for understanding Asian American art as a dynamic process of transformation and exchange rather than through fixed ideas of identity or nationality. Accompanied by a scholarly catalogue and free public programs, the exhibition will engage students, educators, and community partners while highlighting the central role of Asian American artists in American and global modern and contemporary art.

"The Art Dealers Association of America (ADAA) makes it possible for the Harn Museum of Art at the University of Florida to present the exhibition *Becoming: Asian American Art Unbound*," said **Dr. Lee Anne Chesterfield, Director of The Harn Museum of Art at the University of Florida**. "The exhibition and an associated catalog will deepen public and academic understanding of Asian American art and the contributions of its artists beyond the walls of the museum."

Building Consciousness and Community: Student Convening and Creative Response Exhibition
Kemper Art Museum at Washington University
Spring 2027

Building Consciousness and Community: Student Convening and Creative Response Exhibition is a program accompanying the spring 2027 exhibition *The Brockman Gallery: Black Art and the Making of Community, 1967–1990*. Inspired by the Brockman Gallery's legacy of fostering artistic expression and community empowerment, the initiative will bring together approximately 200 middle and high school students from across the St. Louis region for exhibition tours,



artist-led discussions, and collaborative artmaking to encourage dialogue across geographic, economic, and racial divides. The program will culminate in a student exhibition showcasing original artworks created in response to the exhibition, highlighting young people's perspectives on identity, community, and social change.

"The program, *Building Consciousness and Community: Student Convening and Creative Response Exhibition*, provides an opportunity for students from a variety of neighborhoods to convene, converse, create, and learn together with renowned contemporary artists. We are grateful for the support of the ADAA Foundation as we strive for a deeper, more cohesive sense of community in the St. Louis region, bridging historic divides through arts-based learning and amplifying the voice of youth artists as we collectively imagine new possibilities" said **Kira Hegeman, Head of Learning and Engagement, Kemper Art Museum**.

About the ADAA Foundation

The **ADAA Foundation** supports nonprofit visual arts organizations nationwide through grants for exhibitions, public programming, and curatorial research, strengthening the institutions and initiatives that contribute to a vibrant and sustainable arts community.

About the Art Dealers Association of America

Founded in 1962, the [ADAA \(Art Dealers Association of America\)](#) is a nonprofit peer-reviewed membership organization that supports the economic and cultural contributions of the nation's leading fine art galleries. The ADAA includes approximately 200 members from nearly 40 cities in the U.S., representing hundreds of established and emerging artists internationally. ADAA members have extensive expertise across primary and secondary markets and established reputations for upholding the best practices in the field. The ADAA serves as a resource and advocate, raising awareness of dealers' critical roles in the international art market and the cultural community. The ADAA is a leader on issues pertaining to connoisseurship, scholarship, ethical practice, and public policy.

About the ADAA Fair

Organized by the ADAA, the [ADAA Fair](#) brings together the country's leading galleries to showcase incisively curated exhibitions of both historical and contemporary works. Building on ADAA's longstanding presence at the Armory, this new fair reflects the organization's renewed focus on supporting the arts and strengthening the cultural landscape nationwide.

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