

 **LATITUDE Chicago**

AIR 2024

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

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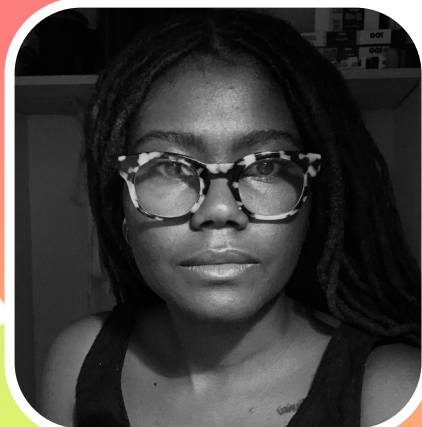
ABOUT OUR ARTIST RESIDENCY

Our Artist in Residence Program grants a diverse group of 8-10 artists full access to our facilities and community to develop their practice. During their one-month residency, artists are given unlimited scanning, an ink stipend, lifetime free lab access, a personal workstation, training and guidance by our staff, and an organized public event to present their new work. Residents are asked to be mentors to the community, sharing their insights and creative methods. LATITUDE aims to actively support free expression of ideas, techniques, and work produced by our residents. Through collaboration, we organize a dynamic range of social, academic, and professional events dedicated to the arts, such as artist talks, pop-up exhibitions, and off-site performances.



MEET OUR 2024 AIR

MARCH



Anwulika Anigbo

APRIL



Lawrence Agyei

MAY



Xi Li

JUNE



Yashoda Latkar

JULY



Kean O'Brien

AUGUST



Cristina Velasquez

SEPTEMBER



Billie Carter-Rankin

OCTOBER



Joseph Josué Mora

NOVEMBER



Jade Williams



MARCH

ANWULIKA ANIGBO

Anwulika Anigbo (b. Nigeria 1987) is a Chicago-based artist tracing the historical and somatic roots of everyday life as it is practiced within blackness through imagery and processes. Her work chronicles and investigates self-determination, presence, knowledge production, and memory. At any given moment we stand at the intersection of histories, embodying and accessing more than what we have personally experienced. How far back and forward can individual and collective memory take the process of self-determination? Anigbo's work uses familiar personal moments and cultural references to access somatic memory and histories of self-determination layered onto our most rudimentary and interior moments. She uses deep embodiment to make meaning at the intersections of life by rooting her practice in creation as a continuous process of personal and domestic liberation.

Anwulika's work has been exhibited at The Czong Institute for Contemporary Art (South Korea), Chicago Artist Coalition(Chicago), EXPO Chicago with FOR FREEDOMS (Chicago) and the Chicago Athletic Association (Chicago). She was recently a 2022-23 Fellow with the Economic Security Project, the December 2022 and January 2023 Artist in Residence at Chicago Athletic Association, a 2021-22 Artist in Residence at the Chicago Artist Coalition, and a 2022 3Arts Ignite Fund Awardee. Her work is included in the collection at 21c Museum, Ryan Lee Gallery, and private collections.





APRIL

LAWRENCE AGYEI

Currently based in Chicago, Lawrence Agyei (b. 1990, Sassuolo, Italy) is a visual storyteller who draws inspiration from his cross-continental upbringing. His work is influenced by his multifaceted identity as a third-culture child, and touches upon notions of multiculturalism as a way to celebrate the juxtaposition between his Ghanaian heritage, Italian upbringing, and teenage and adult life in the American Midwest. He has had the pleasure of working with companies and publications, such as Apple, Nordstrom, Teen Vogue, Adobe, Vanity Fair, and The New York Times. His work has toured internationally in the exhibition "The New Black Vanguard," curated by Antwaun Sargent. Additional exhibitions include "The Promised Land at South Side Community Art Center" curated by Lola Ogbara and Creator Labs by Google. Agyei has been featured in i-D, Soho Magazine, among several other media outlets, and he has sat on panels at Apple and the Museum of the African Diaspora in San Francisco. In 2020, Agyei was ranked among the "30 New and Emerging Photographers to Watch" by i-D, and in 2022 he was awarded the Boooooom Photo Book Award for his photo series "DRILL." The accompanying exhibition to the book, "Lawrence Agyei: DRILL," will open at Blanc Gallery in Chicago in April 2024.





MAY

**XI
LI**

Xi Li (b. 1995 Suzhou, China) is an artist who works with photography, video, installation and bookmaking to focus on the process of image-making and alternative narratives using methods of construction, simulation, intervention and refabrication, to consider the unstable harmony between actual and fictive recollections of the past, and to blur the lines in between. Li has exhibited internationally in François Ghebaly in Los Angeles, AMANITA and Latitude Gallery in New York City, Madeln Gallery in Shanghai and others. Li is the recipient of Aperture 2023 Creator Labs Photo Fund. Her self-published book *Traces of Invisibilities* has been shortlisted for Photo 2020 x Perimeter International Photobook Prize. Li earned a Bachelor of Design from Pratt Institute and an MFA in Photography from Yale School of Art. Li currently lives and works in New York.





JUNE

YASHODA LATKAR

Yashoda Latkar is a mixed-media artist from Southern New Mexico, US. She recently completed her MFA (studio art) from New Mexico State University (Spring 2023). She has previously worked in the field of commercial photography for over a decade. Born in Mumbai, India in 1990, Latkar moved to the United States in 2019. Her current artwork explores the complicated realities of migration, domesticity and the push and pull of living between the two worlds.





JULY

KEAN O'BRIEN

Kean O'Brien (he/they) (b. 1984, Lima, Ohio) is a white trans, chronically ill, disabled, artist, educator, and academic living between Chicago and Madison. As a multimedia artist working interdisciplinarily between photography, painting, found images, installation, and writing, he focuses on the nuance of gendered construction, whiteness, and the body as a landscape for survival, death, grief, and trauma. His academic writing explores the current landscape of higher education from an abolitionist, decolonial lens.

Kean O'Brien received an MA in Education and Leadership in 2022, an MFA from CalArts in 2011, a BFA from SAIC in 2008, and a Ph.D. student at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Recent and upcoming writing publications include *The Desire for Ugliness: Queers, Rebels, and Freaks* (part of Vol. 5 *Playing Shakespeare's Characters*, published by Peter Lang Press). *Home: The Trans Body* (FWD: Museum, published by UIC Museum Studies Department and *Sister Spit*, 2020), *Boyle Heights and The Fight Against Gentrification As State Violence* (*The American Quarterly Journal*, published by John Hopkins Press, 2019), *The American Culture of Guns and Prisons* (*FAYN Magazine*, 2017), and others.

O'Brien has exhibited, screened, and curated work at Geffen Contemporary at MoCA, Rochester Contemporary Art Center, Emory College, Fotografiska Museum, The Gay and Lesbian Canadian Archive, and Czung Institute of Contemporary Art in South Korea, among others. They have also shared their experience as creative educator with various institutions, speaking at University of Illinois, the University of New Mexico, University of Lebanon, Beirut, University of Arizona in Tucson, University of California, Santa Cruz, National Women's Studies Association Conference in San Francisco, and American Studies Conference in Honolulu.





AUGUST

CRISTINA VELASQUEZ

Cristina Velásquez is an artist working primarily with photography and weaving. She is interested in the way one culture narrates and translates another, and how inevitably, a dominant culture sanitizes and reduces the other in a subtle, and not so subtle, continuity of colonialism. Velásquez's work has been shown widely including exhibitions at Musée de l'Elysée, ICP Museum, ArtBo, MoMA PS1, ICP, and Houston Center for Photography (HCP), in addition to being held in numerous private and public collections. Recent recognitions include Regeneration 4, Musée de l'Elysée, Lausanne (2020); the Light Work AIR Program, NY (2019); The Carol Crow Fellowship, Houston (2019); and the Kris Graves Projects, Lost II Book Prize, NY (2019). Some of her publications include: Quiereme mucho, published by Matarile Ediciones, 2021; Viterbo, published by Kris Graves Projects, 2019; Al camello camello y al amor amor, published by Editorial La Cigarra, 2019; and Montañera, published by ICP, 2017. Since 2017, she has taught at ICP, Univ. of Houston, and HCP. Since 2018, Velásquez is a curator at New Poetics of Labor, and she is currently part of the Paisajes coloniales team, as art director. Velásquez is currently based between Brooklyn and Bogotá.





SEPTEMBER

BILLIE CARTER-RANKIN

Billie Carter-Rankin (b.1995) is a visual artist from Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She experiments with photography, darkroom processing, and archived images to explore loss within personal and collective memory. Her work primarily focuses on the absence of information, and the potential that is created as a result of that absence. Carter-Rankin has been featured internationally in exhibitions such as the Setouchi Triennial 2019 in Japan, and has contributed to publications such as TIME Magazine, The New York Times, The New Yorker, Oxford American, and The Guardian. She graduated with a MFA in Photography from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in 2020, and her BA in Media, Journalism, and Film from Howard University in 2018.





OCTOBER

JOSEPH JOSUÉ MORA

Joseph Josué Mora is a Mexican born and Chicago raised artist. He has exhibited in the Chicago Latinx Art Now Biennial (2016), National Museum of Mexican Art (2018 and currently), and debuted a series of new and ongoing work in a solo show titled Clearance at the Chicago Art Department (2019). Mora co-organizes Undocumented Projects since 2017. He was selected as one of the eight Breakout Artists of 2022 in Newcity Chicago Magazine and the Chicago Artists Coalition. In May 2022, Mora created a temporary graphite mural titled Needed, But Not Wanted (In Masses), through Mind Map, a bi-monthly program at MANA Contemporary Chicago. Recently Mora was selected as an artist for the Center Program at the Hyde Park Art Center. Mora's artwork can be found in the collections of the National Museum of Mexican Art and the Illinois State Museum in Springfield.

In addition to Mora's studio practice, he also has experience in gallery work as an art preparator (since 2016) and as the Assistant Director of Exhibitions and Staff Advisor for SITE Galleries and INCUBATOR at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, where he holds a bachelor's of Fine Arts degree from.

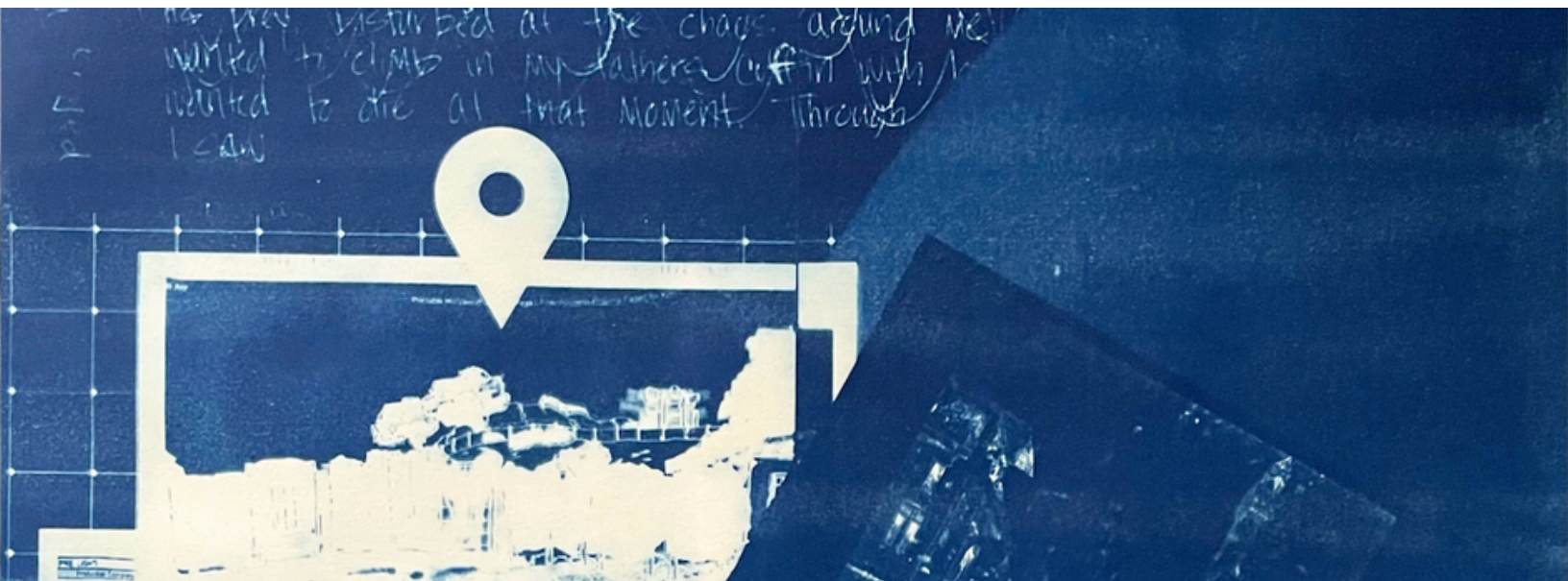




NOVEMBER

JADE WILLIAMS

Jade Williams (she/her) is an interdisciplinary artist, designer, and writer whose practice reflects the ways that she engages in the radical traditions of alteration, adornment, collecting, and congregating. Using textiles, family heirlooms, embellishments and other reflective materials, her world-building works investigate how she is both building and becoming an ideal home for her inner child and future selves. Jade received her BFA from the University of Illinois at Urbana- Champaign and is a graduate of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. Her works have been exhibited at spaces including the Krannert Art Museum, the Evanston Art Center, the Leather Archives and Museum, Dominican University, and Woman Made Gallery. Jade is a 2021 HATCH Artist Resident with the Chicago Artists Coalition, a 2022 Luminarts Cultural Foundation Fellow in Visual Arts, and a 2022 Economic Securities Project Artist Fellow. She currently lives and works in the Chicago Area where she's tending to her collective, The Black Bloom Project.



LATITUDE Chicago

The LATITUDE Residency program brings 8-10 artists into the lab annually to develop and produce their projects free of charge while receiving guidance, training and support from staff and volunteers. Artists gain access to the LATITUDE community through their day-to-day interactions, studio visits, and staff supported development of a piece of free public programming. In return, artists are asked to be active as both resources and mentors to the LATITUDE community, sharing their insights and creative methods. The goal of the residency program is to further LATITUDE's mission of promoting creative collaboration between our users and the wider art and photographic communities.

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