



BELLE FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES 2015 GRANTS

Angela Haseltine Pozzi

Art Activism

Bandon, Oregon

Angela Haseltine Pozzi has started multiple organizations to promote art, including her most recent Washed Ashore, which works to educate and create awareness



about marine debris and plastic pollution through art. Ms. Pozzi is the lead artist who works with volunteers and staff to use debris collected from

local beaches and transform them into towering, striking sculptures of marine life.

“As an avid ocean lover, the art pieces draw you in with their beauty but then as you look closer, the realization of what they are made with sinks in. It creates a deep sadness that makes you want to get involved, raise awareness and change things.”

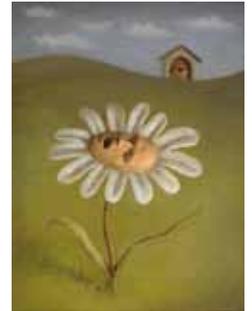
— Belle Foundation scout

Avery Palmer

Visual Arts

San José, California

Avery Palmer is a painter and sculptor inspired most notably by Surrealist painting. His figurative art presents ambiguous allegorical scenarios exploring the complex nature of the human condition, the subconscious, and the interconnectedness of all things. He started as a sculptor but switched to oil painting with ease. His paintings are nearly a still life of his sculptures with added environment and ambiance.



“I think of him as a child of Caravaggio, Salvador Dalí and Carl Jung. Because of this trinity of oddities, I believe it takes people time to ‘warm up’ to his unusual palette and visual vocabulary.”

— Belle Foundation scout



Keith Knight

Visual Arts

Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Keith Knight is a cartoonist whose work is humorous and universal, often dealing with political, social and racial issues. He draws *the Knight Life*, *The K Chronicles* and *(th)ink*. His work has been described as “mapping out a previously unknown vector of the vast cartoon universe.”

“He is offering a window through which people see neighbors they too often choose to ignore. Like the best in early hip-hop, there is a prescience in his words that speaks to what will happen in the future.”

— Belle Foundation scout

Jennifer Rochlin

Visual Arts

Los Angeles, California

Jennifer Rochlin works with ceramic tiles, paint and site-specific installations. She combines interesting materials — ceramic slabs and linen and canvas — in a unique and striking way to create delicate and yet very physical pieces. Her site specific work has been described as “bam-bam modernism” and has quite a different feel than her ceramic pieces, which are intricate miniature paintings.

“Her work looks like little jewels, they are so beautiful. She has redigested old ideas into something new.”

— Belle Foundation scout



Elizabeth Romanini

Visual Arts
Aptos, California



Elizabeth Romanini is a self-taught artist who draws intricate and detailed pictures of animals, plants and especially birds. She prefers to work with the actual animals, either live, taxidermic or frozen or will work from photographs (she prefers her own) to create a true sense of realism in her work. Her studio, brimming with bird nests, moss, twigs and shells, is a tribute to mother nature — just as each picture she creates.

“I was immediately struck by her beautiful spirit, which takes in the smallest details that life creates, then does her own interpretation of those details on paper using her imagination.”

— Belle Foundation scout

Lisa Waud

Installation Art
Ann Arbor, Michigan

Lisa Waud had a vision — to transform a decrepit house into a floral art installation that would showcase the troubles of Detroit’s blight in a new light. She paid \$250 at auction for a house, sight unseen, and created the Flower House, which was filled with 36,000 American-grown flowers all artistically designed into a series of still-life tableaus for one weekend in October 2015. She rallied the community, fellow florists and area nonprofits to help turn this floral fantasy into a reality. Now that the show is over, the plan is for the house to be demolished and the lot (and the neighboring lot) to be transformed into a seasonal farm.

“The neighborhood was abuzz with this crazy, fabulous project! She most definitely has a vision — not only for her art but to support and inspire her struggling community.”

— Belle Foundation scout



COLLABORATIVE GRANT

Tony Asaro & Carey McCray

Theatre
San Francisco, California



Tony Asaro and Carey McCray first met at Children’s Musical Theater in San Jose. They were both highly respected as performers and artists when they spread their artistic wings to New York City. After many years living in NYC, they were inspired to come back to the Bay Area and create art in their own backyard by starting FOGG Theatre Co. FOGG, which stands for Focus on Golden Gate, engages, entertains and enlivens the San Francisco Bay Area community with musical productions that examine and celebrate history, communities, heroes, concerns and ideologies.

“Their approach to creating new art feels uniquely in the spirit of the millennial generation. As we look to the future sustainability of the arts, those up-and-coming artists with the ability to uniquely capture the mindshare and interest of their peers AND put butts in seats should be lauded.”

— Belle Foundation scout

The Belle Foundation for Cultural Development was established upon the belief that education, the arts and humanities are among the most vital elements of human civilization. The Belle Foundation acknowledges also that through the actions and achievements of individuals our culture not only continues to develop, but flourishes.

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