

## PRESS RELEASE

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### Textile Center Announces 2022 McKnight Fiber Artist Fellows



From left: *Watershed* by Moira Bateman; *Gather Resources* and *Isaac* by Blair Treuer

(Minneapolis, MN – January 24, 2022) — Textile Center is proud to announce the two recipients of the 2022 McKnight Fellowships for Fiber Artists: Moira Bateman and Blair Treuer.

Designed to identify and support outstanding mid-career Minnesota artists, the McKnight Fellowships for Fiber Artists provide recipients with a \$25,000 unrestricted cash award. In addition, the fellows receive public recognition, studio visits with critics from the field, an exhibition in the Joan Mondale Gallery at Textile Center, professional development support, participation in public discussions featuring fellows and critics, the opportunity to apply for an artist residency in partnership with McKnight and the Artist Communities Alliance, and access to Textile Center's resources, including a library of more than 32,000 books and periodicals and a state-of-the-art dye lab. The fellowships are funded by the McKnight Foundation and administered by Textile Center.

"In this third year of our program, we had a pool of 48 applications from mid-career Minnesota artists. Their portfolio submissions encompassed the broad realm of fiber art, from materials to technique, sculpture to installation, and from 2-D textile-based and mixed media works to fashion and couture. Source material and concept were innovative and extremely varied," says Tracy Krumm, Textile Center Director for Artistic Advancement.

Krumm continues, "These fellowships are instrumental in raising the bar for the discipline of fiber arts within our community. We congratulate Moira Bateman and Blair Treuer for being selected to receive the 2022 McKnight Fiber Art Fellowships, and are grateful to the McKnight Foundation for their extraordinary support of working fiber artists in Minnesota."

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## ABOUT THE FELLOWS



**Moira Bateman** creates assemblages from silk, stained with waterway sediments. Her chosen fabrics are soaked for days, months, and even years in the waters, mud, and sediments of rivers, lakes, and bogs of Minnesota. Past collaborative projects with authors, poets, theater makers, and scientists have monitored and documented the conditions of Minnesota's watersheds. Bateman's work has been exhibited across region including the Minnesota Museum of Arts, the Science Museum of Minnesota, and the Minnesota Marine Art Museum in Winona. *By Way of Water* was presented as a solo installation at the Bowery Gallery in New York City in 2019, and her work was recently featured in a virtual exhibition at the Integral Museum of Akademgorodok, Novosibirsk, Siberia. She holds a Master's degree in Landscape Architecture from the University of Minnesota. Currently, her studio is located in the Northeast Minneapolis Arts District in the Northrup King Building.

[moirabateman.com](http://moirabateman.com)



**Blair Treuer** is a storyteller from rural northern Minnesota, who paints with fabric and draws with thread – beginning with blankets for her children's participation in Native American ceremony, to her current series' of portraits that explore intimate and spiritual aspects of life. Her work both celebrates and juxtaposes her white American culture and her husband and family's traditional indigenous culture, to address a range of challenging topics. Treuer's award winning works have been exhibited at numerous venues across the country and internationally, including the Bloomington Art Center, the MacRostie Art Center in Grand Rapids, MN, Yeiser Art Center, Paducah, KY, Art Center Sarasota, FL, O'Hanlon Center for the Arts, Mill Valley, CA, Yellowstone Museum of Art, Billings, MT, and the Art3 Paris Expo and Borders Art Fair 2020 in Venice. Her work has been recognized with both a Region 2 Arts Council Artist Fellowship Grant and an Individual Artist grant, and she continues her practice in her studio in Bemidji. [blairtreuer.com](http://blairtreuer.com)

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## ABOUT THE JURORS

The 2022 McKnight Fiber Art Fellows were selected by a panel of three arts professionals of varying backgrounds, whose careers reflect the field of fiber art in numerous ways. This year's jurors were:

- **Annie Carlano** is the Senior Curator of Craft, Design and Fashion at the Mint Museum. Carlano was formerly senior curator at the Museum of International Folk Art in Santa Fe, and department head and curator of Costumes & Textiles at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. She is an internationally known scholar who has published and lectured on a wide variety of topics related to fine art and craft. Her recent books include *Sleeping Around: The Bed from Antiquity to Now* and *Contemporary British Studio Ceramics: The Grainer Collection*. Other writing and editing projects include *One Work: Sheila Hicks at the Mint* (ed., 2012) and *William Ivey Long: 2007-2016* (contributing writer and ed., 2017).

- **Kyong Ae Cho** is an internationally exhibited fiber artist whose work has appeared in venues including the North Carolina Museum of Art, Raleigh, NC; San Jose Museum of Quilts and Textiles, San Jose, CA; John Michael Kohler Arts Center, Sheboygan, WI; Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, MO; Carnegie Art Museum of Oxnard, CA; Textilemuseum, Tilburg, Netherlands; and the National Museum of Modern Art, Kwachon, South Korea. She has received numerous awards including the Lillian Elliott Award, a Pollock-Krasner Grant, and a Wisconsin Arts Board Award Fellowship. Cho currently teaches at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.
- **Jenni Sorkin** writes on gender, material culture, and contemporary art. Her recent book, *Art in California*, was written for Thames & Hudson's acclaimed World of Art series. Other books and essays include *Live Form: Women, Ceramics and Community* (2016), and "Affinities in Abstraction: Textiles and Otherness in 1970s Painting," in *Outliers and American Vanguard Art*, Lynne Cooke, ed. (2018). She has published widely in *Artforum*, *Art Journal*, *Frieze*, *The Journal of Modern Craft*, and *Modern Painter*. Sorkin is the recipient of fellowships from the American Council of Learned Societies, the Center for Craft, Creativity, and Design, and the Getty Research Institute. She is currently an Associate Professor in the History of Art and Architecture at UC Santa Barbara.

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### ABOUT THE MCKNIGHT ARTIST FELLOWSHIPS

Founded on the belief that Minnesota thrives when its artists thrive, the McKnight Foundation's arts and culture program is one of the oldest and largest of its kind in the country. Support for individual working Minnesota artists has been a cornerstone of the program since it began in 1982. The McKnight Artist Fellowships Program provides annual, unrestricted cash awards to outstanding mid-career Minnesota artists in 14 different creative disciplines. Program partner organizations administer the fellowships and structure them to respond to the unique challenges of different disciplines. Currently the foundation contributes about \$2.8 million per year to its statewide fellowships. For more information, visit [mcknight.org/artistfellowships](http://mcknight.org/artistfellowships).



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### ABOUT THE MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION

The McKnight Foundation, a Minnesota-based family foundation, advances a more just, creative, and abundant future where people and planet thrive. Established in 1953, the McKnight Foundation is deeply committed to advancing climate solutions in the Midwest; building an equitable and inclusive Minnesota; and supporting the arts in Minnesota, neuroscience, and international crop research.



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### TEXTILE CENTER – A NATIONAL CENTER FOR FIBER ART

Textile Center is unique as America's national center for fiber art, with a mission to honor textile traditions, promote excellence and innovation, and inspire widespread participation in fiber arts. The Center's resources include exceptional fiber art exhibitions, an artisan shop, a professional-grade dye lab, a natural dye plant garden, and one of the nation's largest circulating textile libraries open to the public. Textile Center produces more than 200 classes a year for all ages and skill levels through its youth, adult, older adult, and outreach programs. A dynamic hub of fiber activity for more than 25 years, Textile Center brings people together in community to learn, create, share, and be inspired by fiber art. For more information, visit: [textilecentermn.org](http://textilecentermn.org).

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