



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 3, 2026

Contact: Wendy Lawton, Communications
Phone: 401-837-6055
Email: wendy@thesteelyard.org

THE NEXT GENERATION OF ARTISTS SET TO ARRIVE AT THE STEEL YARD

PROVIDENCE, RI – Eight artists next month begin a year-long residency at The Steel Yard, where they get support and inspiration as they launch or grow their creative careers.

Residents get use of The Steel Yard's welding, ceramics, blacksmithing and jewelry studios, along with professional development experiences and two opportunities to show their work in group exhibitions at Providence galleries.

Residency Coordinator MJ Sanqui said artists also gain a group of peers – which is priceless.

"Working and learning alongside other artists drives professional and personal growth," Sanqui said. "The cohort is one of the best benefits of the program."

Artists-in-residence are selected by a national committee of artists, designers, and craftspeople, curators, academics, and non-profit professionals. Selection is based on several criteria, including artistic merit, diversity of perspectives, and alignment with The Steel Yard's industrial arts mission.

These artists have been selected for the 2026-2027 program:

- **Julia Inés Ambros**, Providence, Ceramic Artist and Designer, @julia_ambros_
- **Enid Corcoran**, Providence, Sculptor, @enidcorcoran
- **Naomi Dodds**, Toronto, Artist and Metal Fabricator, @naomi.dodds
- **Katherine Fu**, Providence, Ceramic Artist, @katherine__fu
- **Susanna Kim Koetter**, Providence, Interdisciplinary Artist, @team__jolie
- **Connie Liu**, San Francisco, Metalsmith and Stone Carver, @the.liuvre
- **Celeste Tooth**, Baltimore, Sculptor, @littlepilesofteeth
- **David Vuong**, Providence, Ceramic Artist, @quantum.eax

Residents begin Sept. 11, and their term stretches through the end of August 2027. Many residents teach courses at The Steel Yard during their tenure, and some have become long-time instructors. Several former residents, including Gillian Christy, Jim Drain, and Aja Blanc, have established award-winning careers in art and design.

The Steel Yard has hosted artists-in-residence since its founding in 2002. The nonprofit established the current program in 2017. Since its founding, the organization has supported over 100 emerging and established artists and designers.

The Windgate Foundation and Angell Street Galleries sponsor the residency program, and the Rhode Island State Council on the Arts and the Rhode Island Foundation provide general operating support to The Steel Yard, which is located in the Valley Arts District along the Woonasquatucket River.

###

Mission

The Steel Yard champions a world made by hand where collaborative making strengthens individuals, supports local economies, and enriches the shared spaces of our neighborhoods. We advance the industrial arts by providing artists, makers, and community members with the space, tools, training, and education they need to learn, create, and thrive. In this work we strive to dismantle barriers, address inequities, and ensure the future of the industrial arts is inclusive, diverse and sustainable.