

SCHOOL OF ART + ART HISTORY + DESIGN

September 8, 2020

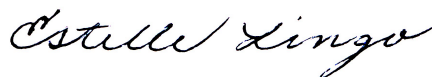
Re: Intersectional sustainability/CFS Summer Funding Cycle

Dear Colleagues,

As chair of the Division of Art History, I write in strong support of the application by the Graduate Students of Art History student organization (GSAH) for funding through the CSF's summer funding cycle, "Intersectional sustainability: Imagining solutions to racial and environmental injustices." Over the past two months, the GSAH has initiated and conducted a series of meetings to identify concrete actions to enhance education and dialogue regarding issues of diversity. As their proposal lays out, the GSAH has established three interrelated elements to address diversity in ways specific to the discipline of art history and to the needs of the School of Art + Art History + Design. Conceived around the theme "Dismantling the Canon," these include a reading group (already launched), a guest speaker at the end of each quarter, and a project website. In relation to their reading and discussions, the students plan to develop section syllabi dealing with various aspects of diversity across a wide range of regularly taught courses in the Division of Art History. Through the website, the GSAH will make available these syllabi and bibliographies as resources for current and future teaching assistants in Art History and across the university.

This student-led initiative by the GSAH will provide invaluable support to the School of Art + Art History + Design's efforts to promote awareness and education regarding diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility: <https://art.washington.edu/diversity-equity-inclusion-accessibility>. This ongoing work includes a fundraising campaign to renovate and increase the visibility of the School's Jacob Lawrence Gallery, an institution of central importance to all the School's programs as well as to the wider university and our public stakeholders. The funding requested by the GSAH will support modest honoraria for guest speakers, two of whom have already been booked, as well as the creation of the planned website. This project of immediate impact and lasting value has my full support, and I urge you to give it most serious consideration.

Yours sincerely,



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