

# locustprojects

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**WAVEMAKER  
GRANTS**

www.wavemakergrants.org

**FOR IMMEDIATE  
RELEASE: [MIAMI,  
FLORIDA]**

**LOCUST PROJECTS  
ANNOUNCES  
2019 WaveMaker Awards**

**2019 Grantees:**

**New Work/Projects:**

A.G.  
Evan Marcus + Maya Billig  
Ani Mercedes  
Lauren Shapiro

**Long-Haul Projects:**

the BLCK family  
Liene Bosqué  
Franky Cruz  
Mother Earth Miami  
Aurora Molina + Alina  
Rodriguez

**Research+Development /  
Implementation**

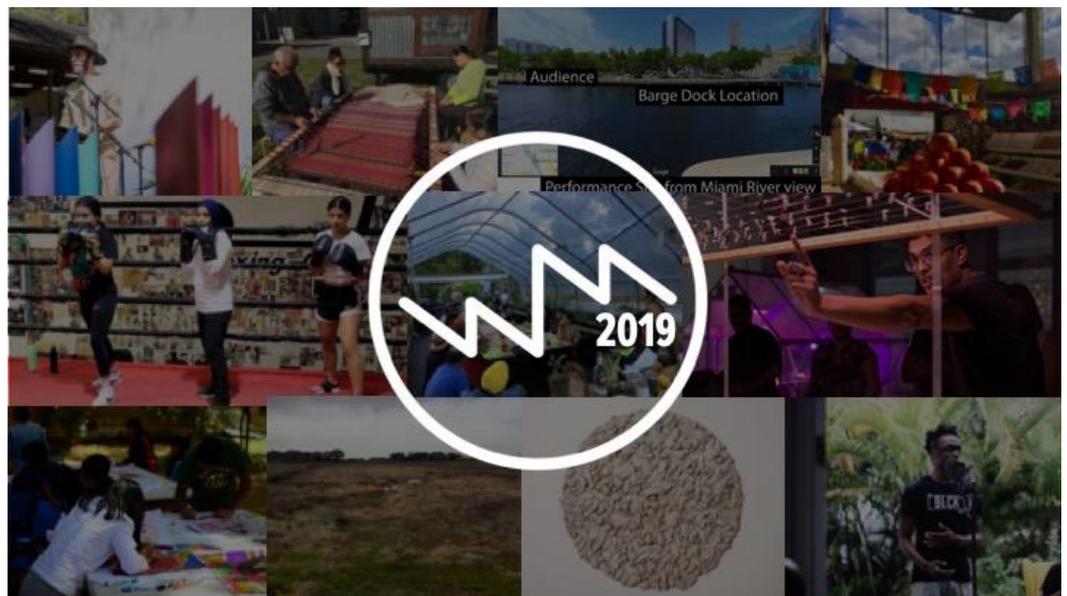
OCR  
Oscar Rieveling  
Onajide Shabaka

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**MAKING WAVES! LOCUST PROJECTS AWARDS \$60,000 IN WAVEMAKER GRANTS  
TO MIAMI ARTISTS & COLLECTIVES**

**12 artists and collectives receive grants of up to \$6,000 each  
to produce publicly engaged projects across Miami**



**MIAMI, FLORIDA - March, 2018** - WaveMaker Grants, an Andy Warhol Foundation funded regional re-granting program administered by Miami-based nonprofit Locust Projects, announces the grantees for 2019. Twelve grant recipients were selected from approximately 100 applicants. WaveMaker grantees are awarded up to \$6,000 for a total of \$60,000 in three categories:

**New Work/Projects:** to support the creation and presentation of new work or projects that are artist-driven, artist-centric, and innovative in concept and form.

**Long-Haul Projects:** in response to Miami's seemingly insatiable appetite for what is new, fast, and fashionable, this category supports the continuation or completion of existing long-term projects, highlighting the value in time, focus, and determination required to take-on and ultimately finish lengthy artistic pursuits.

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**R+D/Implementation:** to support research and development for ambitious new projects that require a longer period of planning. Upon completion of the R&D phase of this category, grantees will be invited to submit a short-form proposal to receive additional funds to implement their projects.

With support from the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts' Regional Regranting program, WaveMaker grants have provided four cycles of vital funds supporting Miami-based artists, collectives, curators and more, at critical moments in the development and implementation of publicly accessible, innovative projects across Miami-Dade County.

“As part of Locust Projects mission to support artists with opportunities and resources to advance their careers, WaveMaker grants is an important program that helps support artistic practice at various stages – from idea inception to implementation—even over the long-haul,” says Lorie Mertes, Executive Director at Locust Projects. “Focused to support projects by Miami-based artists in publicly accessible venues, WaveMaker exposes audiences to innovative artistic practices in non-institutional/non-traditional spaces and serves as a catalyst for dialogue and exchange.”

Grantees for the fifth cycle of WaveMaker Grants were selected by an independent juror panel of distinguished arts professionals: **Daniel Fuller**, Curator at Atlanta Contemporary (Atlanta, Georgia), **Natasha L Logan**, Associate Director of Public Projects at Creative Time (New York, New York), **Phillip Agnew**, 2017 WaveMaker Recipient & Co-Founder of Smoke Signals Studios (Miami, Florida) and **Carolina García Jayaram**, President of CGJ Consulting (Miami); former President & CEO National YoungArts Foundation, and Co-Founder of Cannonball (formerly LegalArt). The jurors selected the grant recipients based on the projects' conceptual rigor and relevance to the local cultural, geographic, and socio-economic context, uniquely innovative and visionary impact on the local community, and the accessibility of the resulting project to the public.

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## THE WAVEMAKER GRANTS 2019 AWARD WINNERS ARE:

### NEW WORK/PROJECTS



**A.G. (\$6000)** - *A celebratory public event highlighted by a curated program of time-based, queer expressions staged at Miami-Dade's first and only public artwork dedicated to the contributions of Miami-Dade County's LGBTQ Community. Utilizing the artist's permanent sculpture *Untitled (forms from MEDIAPRO HD ULTIMATE F/X 18 COLOR MAKEUP PALETTE)* as a site for a curated program of time-based queer expressions ranging from drag performances to spoken word.*



**Maya Billig + Evan Marcus (\$6000)** - *Emahoy In Miami: Prophecy of The Future In Exile*  
A community engagement project using dance performance and film to simulate the future reality of environmental instability for people living in South Florida featuring the music of Ethiopian composer Emahoy Tsegué-Maryam Guèbrou, whose work is reflective of her experience in political exile.



**Ani Mercedes (\$6000)** - *FEARLESS*  
A short documentary film that reveals the spiritual side of boxing through an unexpected group of boxers, teenage girls and women who uncover their power both inside and outside the ring.



**Lauren Shapiro (\$6000)** - *Temporary Terrains*  
A site-specific installation of endangered flora housed outside the entrance of Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, recreated in unfired clay attached to a wooden and wire mesh framework mounted to an architectural element: over time the unfired clay will dry and crack.

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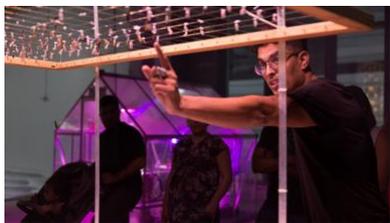
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## LONG-HAUL PROJECTS



### **Liene Bosquê (\$6000) - HamacaS**

An ongoing project exploring the cultural dissonance and emotional displacement experienced by immigrants in the United States, consisting of an interactive installation and research hub activated through collective-weaving sessions and workshops.



### **Franky Cruz (\$6000) - Vivarium Meconium Laboratory**

A native butterfly rearing and painting laboratory where the artist collaborates with South Floridian species of butterfly to collect their meconium later releasing them back into South Florida's ecosystem.



### **the BLCK family (\$6000) - BLCK Freedom Sessions**

A mobile, monthly series highlighting sound-based work activating a variety of venues. Formatted as a 45-minute live performance with non-hierarchical dialogue taking place thereafter, this program facilitates space for artists to participate in, appreciate and discuss their practice. the BLCK family founders, Rashaud Michel and Najja Moon.



### **Mother Earth Miami (\$6000) - Buenezas**

Mother Earth Miami (Katia Bechara, Gabriela Serra, Drigo The Culinary Alchemist (Rodrigo Richardson), Nicole Salcedo & Monica Uszerowicz) presents a project exploring, identifying, and experimenting with edible weeds around Little Haiti through a series of workshops, panels and activities addressing the topic of these local weeds and their forgotten, ancestral benefits.

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## **Aurora Molina + Alina Rodriguez (\$6000) - *Quilting Stories, Narrating Through Their Eyes***

An outreach project engaged in distilling the essence of the immigrant experience as seen through the eyes of children and the prism of textile art. Using the personal narratives of immigrant Haitian children, this project will revitalize and increase the visibility of traditional Haitian *drapo sèvis* (ceremonial Vodou flags).

## **Research & Development/Implementation**



## **Oscar Rieveling (\$2000) - *Auto-mariachi***

A group performance bringing together approximately 50 musicians from different mariachi groups to serenade each other. Presented in the context of a Central American flea market in South Florida, the project will aim to address questions of national identity, gender, and migration in a US context.



## **OCR (\$4000) - *OCR:Lincoln Memorial***

An art and research project by Doming Castillo and Adler Guerrier of OCR, dives into less-often-celebrated spaces in Miami gathering knowledge and narratives that interrogate its shaping and history in order to present the findings to a larger audience.



## **Onajide Shabaka (\$4000) - *"Alosúgbe: remembering (as far as the sun)"***

A research-based project focusing on colonial era and contemporary ethnobotany of the Caribbean region as material source for understanding the migrations of both humans and plants during those periods.

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## **ABOUT LOCUST PROJECTS**

LOCUST PROJECTS IS MIAMI'S LONGEST RUNNING ALTERNATIVE ART SPACE. WE PRODUCE AND PRESENT EXPERIMENTAL NEW ART AND IDEAS THROUGH ARTIST RESIDENCIES AND COMMISSIONED EXHIBITIONS, SUMMER ART INTENSIVES FOR TEENS, AND PUBLIC PROGRAMS ON CONTEMPORARY ART AND CURATORIAL PRACTICE. WE SUPPORT LOCAL ARTISTS WITH PROJECT GRANTS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT. **ART HAPPENS HERE.**

WaveMaker Grants is made possible by lead support from the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts and is part of the [Warhol Foundation's Regional Regranting Program](#). Part of a national network of Warhol-initiated re-granting programs, WaveMaker Grants, founded originally by the former nonprofit Cannonball in 2015, is the first in the southeast.

*Locust Projects exhibitions and programming are made possible with support from: The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation; The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts; The Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners; The National Endowment for the Arts Art Works Grant; Hillsdale Fund; The State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture; The Kirk Foundation, Vhernier, donors to the Team LAB Annual Education Fund, Locust Projects Exhibitionist and Significant Other members.*