

2022 Scholarship Awards



Sophia Coscia

Sophia is finishing her first year at Carnegie Mellon University where she is pursuing a B.F.A. degree in theatrical production and design. She plans to be a projection designer for theatre and other spaces such as exhibitions, installations, and immersive experiences. Carnegie Mellon's annual Playground Festival included an artistic creation by Sophia. She was the only freshman submission to be granted a fully supported piece. She is a second year Arts Advocates scholarship winner.



Thaleia Dasberg

Thaleia is currently a junior at Barnard College of Columbia University, and a third year Arts Advocates winner. Thaleia's dream is to create and take part in interdisciplinary movement and poetry-based performance, exploring the ways in which each distinct form can become one onstage. "Poetry: dance in verse. Dance: poetry in motion. Theater: the spoken and dramatized incorporation of both." She hopes to further her artistic development through a study abroad program in Berlin or London.



Lillian Fox

A senior at the Manatee School for the Arts, Lillian will attend the University of South Florida. She is a ballet dancer and a gifted visual artist as well. Her keen eye for detail and design can be seen in her visual art work (painting/drawing) as well as her dance technique. One of her professors shared, "Lillian also flourishes as a writer and researcher, revealing a keen and driven author with passionate interests in the Sarasota and Manatee communities."



Pablo Gonzalez

Pablo is a student at Parson's/The New School in New York City and 2022 is the fourth year he has received an Arts Advocates scholarship. Embracing complexity is what sets his work apart. He describes it as vivid, saturated, and colorful. He has developed expertise in graphic design, videography, performance, motion design, and photography. Pablo wants to combine his multiple artistic pursuits into producing experiential work, such as audio-visual installations. He would also like to be a part of an experimental artistic/creative agency, working on projects with other artists or brands. This spring Pablo was a commissioned artist at the First Friday event by the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles.



Azure Heck

A senior at North Port High School, Azure will attend Ringling College of Art and Design majoring in game art. She studied French and Japanese for four years in high school. During college, she hopes to expand her concept art portfolio in order to work as places such as Disney or Pixar. Her dream job is to work for Nintendo in Japan. In addition to being an accomplished artist, Azure excels both in academics and performing arts. She is active in her community and works with the North Port Arts Advisory Board.



Colin Leonard

Colin is a freshman at Oberlin Conservatory of Music. This is his second year as an Arts Advocates scholarship awardee. He is a saxophone major studying jazz; however, he plays in many different genres on various instruments, including flute, clarinet, voice, piano, guitar and percussion. His goal is to create a sense of community and activism through music performance, composition, and teaching. Colin is a part of the Oberlin Jazz Ensemble and was the sole saxophonist and flutist for the jazz combo Amenity Project. Colin plans to obtain a minor in environmental studies to promote conservation through music.



Emma Pritchett

Emma is a student at the University of South Florida and is working toward earning a dual degree in architecture and urban design. She was an Arts Advocates scholarship awardee in 2020. Emma's interests include painting, design, architecture and photography. Emma believes architecture is a unique combination of an individual's experience blended with their understanding of art, history, culture, and design. She states that as the world continues to evolve and transform, there will be continued demand for new architectural design. Emma serves as treasurer of The American Institute of Architects Student Organization at USF helping to organize events and fundraising.



John Quigley

John is a first-year student at Ringling College of Art and Design who is majoring in illustration with a goal of a career as a storyboard artist. He is a "non-traditional" college student. John served in the U.S. Army for eight years with two deployments and an honorable discharge. He continued to work overseas as a private security contractor for the U.S. Department of State for another five years. John shares that it was not until the end of his military career that he realized he could finally consider following his dream of becoming a storyboard artist and concept designer for a major studio.



Luca Stine

Luca is currently a junior at the University of Miami Frost School of Music where he is majoring in jazz trumpet performance and minoring in classical composition. This is his third Arts Advocates scholarship. After obtaining his degree he plans to pursue both masters and doctoral degrees in jazz trumpet performance. Luca was named a National Young Arts winner in jazz composition and has performed at the Newport Jazz Festival. He participated in many other programs including The Jazz Band of America and Jazz at Lincoln Center's Summer Jazz Academy. Luca's current work is writing a jazz-classical crossover album with unique instrumentation: trumpet, string quartet, piano, bass, and drums. He hopes to record this project in the near future.



Katherina Zdravkov

Katherina will be a fifth-year student at the University of Notre Dame School of Architecture. She spent the summers of 2021 and 2022 with her class studying architecture in Rome. She believes the design of a building and the design of the community are inextricably linked. Upon graduation, she would like to design with a firm in an older American city like Boston. She then plans to return to Sarasota County to design in a way that expresses the character of her hometown and communicates its traditions and rich history. She wants "to add more to our neighborhoods and streets that at every turn reveal to us and our visitors the many traits that set us apart as Sarasota."