



# CALI CATALYST

**2025 GRANTEES**

[www.cciarts.org](http://www.cciarts.org)

# ABOUT CCI

Center for Cultural Innovation (CCI) was founded in 2001 as a California 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation. Its mission is to support individuals in the arts—artists, culture bearers, and creative entrepreneurs—to realize greater self-determination so as to unfetter their productivity, free expression, and social impact, which contributes to shaping our collective national identity in ways that reflect the diversity of society.

In addition, by acting as a cross-sector incubator with an informed point of view, CCI advances efforts to improve conditions for artists and all those who share artists' conditions of low wages, high debt, and too-few assets.

For more information about CCI, visit [cciarts.org](http://cciarts.org).



# ABOUT CALI CATALYST

The California Art Leadership Investments (CALI) Catalyst program provides unrestricted grants of up to \$7,500 to California changemakers who are creating tangible impact within the arts and culture sector by shifting power and influence to underrepresented voices.

CALI Catalyst launched in 2021 to provide financial support and validation to individuals whose frontline work to upend the status quo in the arts and culture sector is creating tangible change and moving the needle towards greater equity and inclusion. To help ensure that the momentum for field-wide change continues undeterred, CALI Catalyst supports artists and arts workers who are on the frontlines of making the field more accessible, welcoming, and representative of the communities they serve.

Since 2021, CCI has had the honor to support 64 individuals and teams whose bold and inspiring actions are creating tangible change in the arts and culture sector we want and need.

The CALI Catalyst grant program is made possible with support from:

**THE WILLIAM AND FLORA  
HEWLETT FOUNDATION**



# CALI CATALYST GRANTEES (ROUND 1)

CCI is excited to announce the first round of funding to the 2025 CALI Catalyst grant recipients.

Five grants of \$7,500 were awarded to the following California changemakers who are creating tangible impact within the arts and culture sector by shifting power and influence to underrepresented voices.

# INDIVIDUAL GRANTEES

## **Jay Carlon (Los Angeles County)**

In recognition of Jay Carlon's changemaking effort to organize dancers performing Joan Jonas' Mirror Piece I & II at the Getty in 2024, addressing wage inequities and labor justice within the dance community, transforming a performance into a platform for institutional accountability and systemic change.

## **Kristine Schomaker (Los Angeles County)**

In recognition of Kristine Schomaker's changemaking work in founding Shoebox Arts and stewarding programs like Call and Response, a free global artist collaboration program that democratizes artistic exchange and increases visibility and strengthens professional networks previously inaccessible through conventional art world structures.

## **Thanh Tran (Alameda County)**

In recognition of Thanh Tran's changemaking efforts to build an artist-led platform that disrupts extractive music and film industries by empowering formerly incarcerated and historically underrepresented creators to own their stories, generate income, and shift cultural narratives.

## **Sabra Williams (Los Angeles County)**

In recognition of Sabra Williams's changemaking work using transformative and ground-breaking ways in the prison system and the social justice movement to reimagine the arts beyond entertainment or solely for artists, but rather as a resource for justice-impacted people in radically reimagining their lives.



# TEAM GRANTEES

## **March Open Studio (Los Angeles County)**

*Team Members: Somi Jun, Bhavani Srinivas, Maj Roshandel*

In recognition of the team's changemaking efforts in co-founding and directing March April Studio, a worker cooperative and art space focused on strengthening locally rooted and artist-led mutual aid and coalition-building efforts.



For any inquiries, email [grants@cciarts.org](mailto:grants@cciarts.org)