

For Immediate Release

LOS ANGELES PUBLIC LIBRARY PARTNERS WITH THE LIBRARY FOUNDATION OF LOS ANGELES TO ESTABLISH NEW CREATIVE RESIDENCY PROGRAM



Kwasi Boyd-Bouldin (L) and River Tikwi Garza (R)

Los Angeles (CA) -- January 26, 2022 – The Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL), in partnership with the Library Foundation of Los Angeles (LFLA), has established a residency program, Los Angeles Public Library Creators in Residence, designed to engage creative Angelenos from a multitude of disciplines. This new program is created in collaboration with, and funded by, the Library Foundation of Los Angeles with an endowment provided by the Lenore S. and Bernard A. Greenberg Fund.

The program is being launched to support local interdisciplinary creators and inspire new work informed or enhanced by the LAPL’s collections and services, while also highlighting the impact of the library as a creative haven.

“The Los Angeles Public Library is excited to support creative Angelenos as they develop projects that not only will be inspired by our libraries, but also will result in creations that reflect LAPL’s mission to enrich, educate and empower every individual in our city’s diverse communities,” says City Librarian John F. Szabo.

The program’s two inaugural residents are photographer Kwasi Boyd-Bouldin and interdisciplinary visual artist River Garza. They are both creating work deeply rooted in exploring ideas of community and identity, with intentionally broad guidelines to promote

dialogue and maximize impact. As their projects take shape, there will be opportunity for library patrons to interact with the artists' work in multiple forms, from public programming to exhibitions. Both will receive a \$25,000 honorarium and final projects from each resident are expected by fall 2022. For more information, please visit lapl.org/residency.

[Kwasi Boyd-Bouldin](#) is a photographer known primarily for his photo essays of urban environments and the changing landscapes of the places that hold meaning for him and his community. In the last few years, he was honored as one of *Time Magazine's* top 12 African American photographers to follow, and by the *New York Times* as one of their lists of the top 5 essential artists to follow, where they described his photography as a kind of archaeology. Some recent projects document [Black Space in LA](#), the changes in his [home neighborhood of Hollywood](#), and the [effects of the pandemic on Los Angeles'](#) landscape.

[River Tikwi Garza](#) is an interdisciplinary visual artist of Native American (Tongva) and Mexican descent. He is a member of the Ti'at Society -- a group dedicated to traditional Indigenous maritime culture, and his work draws inspiration from this cultural background as well as graffiti, Mexican and low-rider culture, and low-rider culture. Through painting, muralism, and mixed-media works, his artwork often deals with issues around identity, memory, tradition, and a quest for what he describes as visual sovereignty (in response to his tribe's lack of federal recognition). His work has recently been shown at the [Fowler Museum at UCLA](#), the [Fullerton Museum Center](#), [Descanso Gardens](#), and the [Soul Center for the Arts](#) in Genoa, Italy.

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About the Library Foundation of Los Angeles

The Library Foundation of Los Angeles provides critical support to the Los Angeles Public Library resulting in free programs, resources, and services available to the millions of adults, children, and youth of Los Angeles. Through fundraising, advocacy, and innovative programs, the Library Foundation strengthens the Los Angeles Public Library and promotes greater awareness of its valuable resources. For more information, please visit lfla.org.

About the Los Angeles Public Library

A recipient of the nation's highest honor for library service—the National Medal from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the Los Angeles Public Library serves the largest and most diverse urban population of any library in the nation. Its Central Library, 72 branch libraries, collection of more than 6 million books, state-of-the-art technology accessible at lapl.org, and more than 18,000 public programs a year provide everyone with free and easy access to information and the opportunity for lifelong learning.

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