

Alfred University alumna earns Biennial Grant from Tiffany Foundation

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Sondra Perry, a media artist and alumna of Alfred University's School of Art and Design, has been named a recipient of a 2017 Biennial Grant from the Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation.

The Tiffany Foundation announced its 2017 Biennial Grant winners Thursday, Feb. 15. The unrestricted grants, given every two years, are for \$20,000 each and are awarded to just 30 artists nationwide, working in painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, video, craft and new media.

Awardees are chosen from a pool of 156 nominees proposed by national nominators artists, critics, museum professionals and Tiffany Foundation trustees with a seven-member jury selecting the winners based on their talent and individual artistic strength.

Established in 1918 by Louis Comfort Tiffany, son of Tiffany & Company founder Charles Louis Tiffany, the Tiffany Foundation is one of the earliest artist-endowed foundations in the United States, and remains one of the largest single sources of unrestricted monetary grants to artists working in America today. Since 1980, the biennial competition has distributed nearly \$10,000,000 in awards to 500 artists nationwide, extending the commitment of its founder "to help young artists of our country...and to assist them in establishing themselves in the art world."

A resident of Perth Amboy, NJ, Perry earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, with concentration in expanded media and three dimensional studies, from Alfred University's School of Art and Design in 2012. She received her MFA from Columbia University in 2015.

Perry was featured in a recent issue of Flash Art, a bi-monthly magazine dedicated to contemporary art. She was the subject of an article by Nora Khan, titled "No Safe Mode," that appeared in the September/October issue of Flash Art. She is one of eight artists featured in the issue, which focuses on artificial intelligence.

Khan's piece on Perry is the cover story, with an image from Perry's featured artwork, Graft and Ash for a Three Monitor Workstation (2016), gracing the magazine's cover. Graft and Ash for a Three Monitor Workstation was part of Perry's solo exhibition titled "Resident Evil," which appeared at the Kitchen, in New York City. In 2017, the Seattle Art Museum awarded Perry its Gwendolyn Knight and Jacob Lawrence Prize, which is given biennially to an emerging black artist.