





# ARTIST IN RESIDENCE PEDOR



#### Introduction

# At Artes de México en Utah, we are committed to creating opportunities for Latino and Hispanic artists to share their work ...

Connect with the community, and celebrate cultural heritage through art. In partnership with The Leonardo Museum, the Artist-in-Residence Program was established to highlight the creativity of local Latino artists, offering them a space to exhibit their work, engage with visitors, and develop artistic projects in a museum setting.

Since its inception in 2022, this program has served as a bridge between artists and the public, fostering dialogue, education, and appreciation for contemporary Latinx art. Through exhibitions, workshops, and interactive experiences, participating artists have been able to share their perspectives, histories, and creative processes with a broader audience.

This report provides an overview of the Artist-in-Residence Program, its purpose, and the collaborative efforts behind it. By documenting its impact, we aim to reinforce the importance of representation in cultural institutions and continue strengthening opportunities for Latino artists in Utah.

# **PROJECT NARRATIVE**

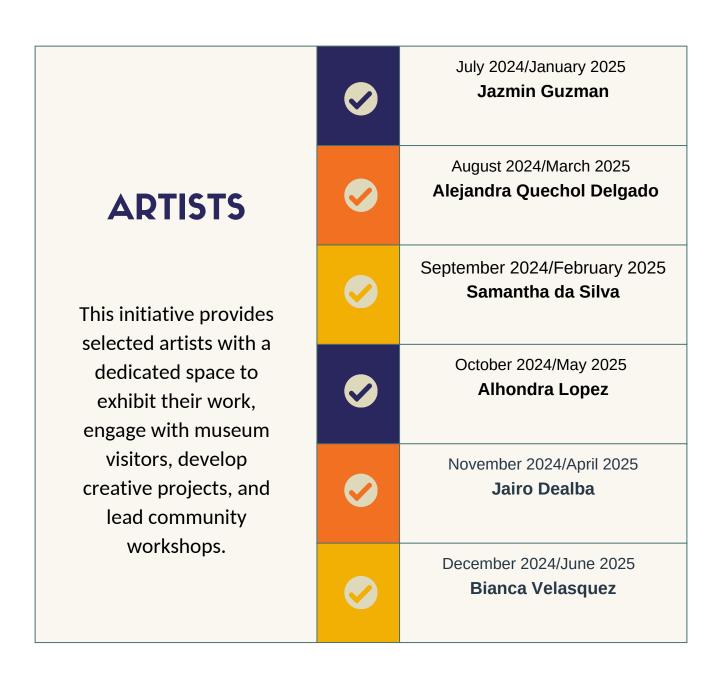
#### Residencies include opportunities for artists to:

- Exhibit their artwork in a prominent space within The Leonardo Museum.
- Engage with museum visitors through live art demonstrations, conversations, and interactive sessions.
- Teach workshops that connect the community with the artist's cultural heritage and creative process.
- Develop and showcase projects that reflect the history, experiences, and perspectives of the Latinx community in Utah.



# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The program's core mission is to promote cross-cultural dialogue, support artistic expression, and increase visibility for Latinx artists within museum spaces. By offering a platform where artists can showcase their work and interact directly with the public, the residency fosters deeper appreciation and understanding of Latinx and contemporary art.



# ARTIST IN RESIDENCE 2024 - 2025

#### Jazmin Guzman

#### July 2024/January 2025

Jazmin Guzman is an image based artist who focuses on the intricacies of interpersonal relationships. Her exploration of alternative processes pushes the boundaries of traditional photography to create evocative pieces that engage and resonate with viewers. By experimenting with these alternative photographic techniques, she creates art that not only captures the essence of human connections but also invites viewers to engage with her work on a profound and interactive level.





#### Alejandra Quechol Delgado

#### August 2024/March 2025

Alejandra was born and raised in Mexico, developing a deep connection to cultural heritage and artistic traditions. Her work draws inspiration from the rich history, vibrant colors, and symbolism of Mexican art, blending traditional techniques with contemporary perspectives.

With a strong focus on community engagement, she has contributed to various cultural initiatives dedicated to preserving and promoting Latin American art. Her creative projects aim to highlight the stories, identities, and experiences of diverse communities, fostering a greater appreciation for cultural diversity.

Her artistic journey includes collaborations with organizations that support emerging artists and provide platforms for cultural expression. Through her work, she continues to explore ways to merge art, history, and social narratives, ensuring that underrepresented voices are recognized and celebrated.



#### Samantha da Silva

#### September 2024/February 2025

Samantha creates large-scale, painting-like relief sculptures that feature peaks and valleys, cracks, rough and smooth surfaces, and a mix of brilliant and opaque elements. Her work evokes eroded landscapes, time-weathered walls, and topographical maps, serving as a personal map-making and grounding process that examines the physical properties of her immediate surroundings.

Born in the coastal city of Santos, Brazil, Samantha immigrated to Canada with her family at the age of ten. Since then, she has moved a total of forty times, an experience that has deeply influenced her artistic practice. The constant transitions, adaptation, and assimilation have shaped her approach to art, as she establishes connections with new places through her creative process. From soaking canvases in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of Hawaii to exposing artworks to subzero temperatures in Canada, she explores the effects of natural elements on her materials.



#### Alhondra Lopez

#### October 2024/May 2025

Alhondra's work is deeply focused on the themes of wildlife conservation, environmental degradation, women's rights, and the intersections between these issues. Driven by a belief that the planet is not ours to destroy but to respect and nurture, she uses her art to advocate for a sustainable and respectful future.

Her creative expression spans across various mediums, including film, photography, sculpture, and painting, each allowing her to convey her ideologies in unique ways. Figures, both human and non-human, are central to her work. She is fascinated by the dynamic nature of the body and uses this fascination to experiment with structure and movement, creating pieces that act as a call to action. The works she creates invite dialogue and reflection, encouraging viewers to think critically about the world we live in.

At the heart of Alhondra's art is a message about the importance of earth stewardship and the responsibility we have to protect our home. She hopes her art tells a story of consequence, shining a light on the power of coexistence and the urgent need for respect between all living beings. Her vision is one of a better way to live, where the planet is treated with care and consideration, and where all individuals work together for a sustainable future.



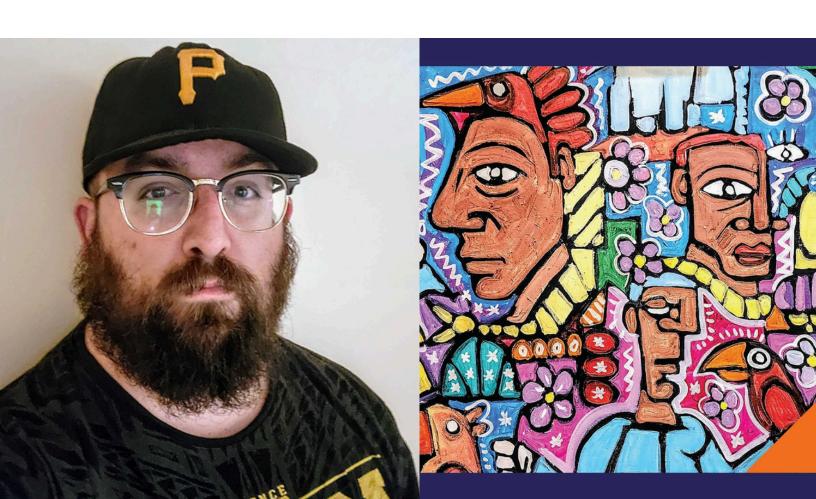




#### Jairo Dealba

#### November 2024/April 2025

Jairo's art is a vibrant and dynamic exploration of the human experience, expressed through color, shape, and emotion. Using fluid brushstrokes and bold compositions, he aims to capture the beauty and complexity of life, inviting viewers to engage with his work on a deeper level. Each piece offers layers of meaning and interpretation, encouraging a journey through the emotions and stories that define the human condition. Through his work, Jairo creates a space for reflection and connection, where the intricacies of life are distilled into a visual language that speaks directly to the viewer's heart and mind.



#### Bianca Velasquez

#### December 2024/June 2025

Bianca Velasquez (she/her) is a Salt Lake City-based artist and writer with over a decade of involvement in the arts and music community. She is a freelance writer for notable publications such as Southwest Contemporary, Hyperallergic, and SLUG Magazine. As an artist, Velasquez works with various mediums including acrylics, digital art, and beadwork, each of which allows her to explore her personal relationships with family, identity, and the act of documenting life.

After serving as the Managing Editor of SLUG Magazine at the age of 25, Velasquez shifted her focus to visual art, using her practice to delve into the process of self-realization. Her beadwork, in particular, reflects the delicate process of negotiating physical and emotional space, as she carves out time and space within herself for introspection and growth.

In addition to her artistic endeavors, Velasquez holds the Vice-Chair position at the local non-profit Mestizo Arts and serves as a curator and event organizer for the Mestizo Gallery, further cementing her commitment to supporting the arts and cultural community in Salt Lake City.



### Project Impact Assessment



The Artist-in-Residence program has had a very positive impact on both the participating artists and the local community. Artists highlighted the continuous support from the museum staff and Artes de México en Utah, noting the flexibility and consideration provided throughout the process. This atmosphere of support and accessibility allowed the artists to feel a strong connection to the community and provided them with the opportunity to share their work and creative process directly with the public.

Additionally, the program facilitated greater visibility for the artists through promotion on social media and other platforms, helping to increase recognition of their work. Artists mentioned the satisfaction of engaging with a diverse audience, which enriched the local cultural landscape and allowed them to strengthen their bond with the community. The collaboration with the museum also created a safe and respectful space for artistic creation without barriers, contributing to the overall success of the program.

## Testimonials

"Ha sido una experiencia gratificante, porque me ha permitido compartir con la comunidad y exhibir mi fotografía. El acceso a un espacio en el museo ayudó a que me motivara a crear más consistentemente. Además, todo el equipo ha sido considerado y flexible para facilitar nuestro proceso de residentes"





"Muy buena la atención de Hanna y del museo en general, me hizo sentir muy cómodo y las publicaciones en las redes sociales que hicieron Artes de México en Utah y el Leonardo fueron excelentes."

## **Testimonials**

"Truly incredible! It's rare to find such an accessible point of public teaching and learning while still being given a safe space for art making without borders."

"Yes, it was a great way for me to just focus on my art. It was also a great way to network and talk to people including other artists."





"I would reccomend the program to emerging artists. I found it helpful to show the residency on my cv when approaching other art institutions. I'm not sure what the residency would offer a more established artist."

# FINANCIAL REPORT

#### 1. Artist Stipend Payment:

The LEO Museum is responsible for paying each artist selected for the annual residency program a stipend of \$700 as per the contract agreement.

- Total Amount Paid to Each Artist: \$700 per year
- Number of Artists: 6

#### 2. Launch Event Planning and Budget:

AMU allocates a budget of \$600 for the planning and execution of the opening event, which includes material expenses, food, and invitations.

#### **Event Expenses Include:**

- Materials: Supplies for presentations, programs, and marketing materials.
- Food and Beverages: Light refreshments and drinks for 30–50 attendees, including artists' families, friends, and community members.
- Invitations: Printing and distribution of event invitations.



# FINANCIAL REPORT

#### 3. Payments to Artists:

Payments are issued directly by The Leonardo Museum to each artist as stipulated in their residency contract.

- Payment Method: Direct payment via The Leonardo Museum
- Payment Issued: As per the artist's residency contract

#### 4. Planning, Execution, and Management of the Project:

- Social Media & Communications: Social media posts, A/V interviews, editing, and publishing, as well as graphics, design, and translation. Total: \$3,000, payable to the marketing and communications manager throughout the year.
- Indirect Costs: \$2,500 allocated to cover the time required from the director to execute the project alongside museum directives.

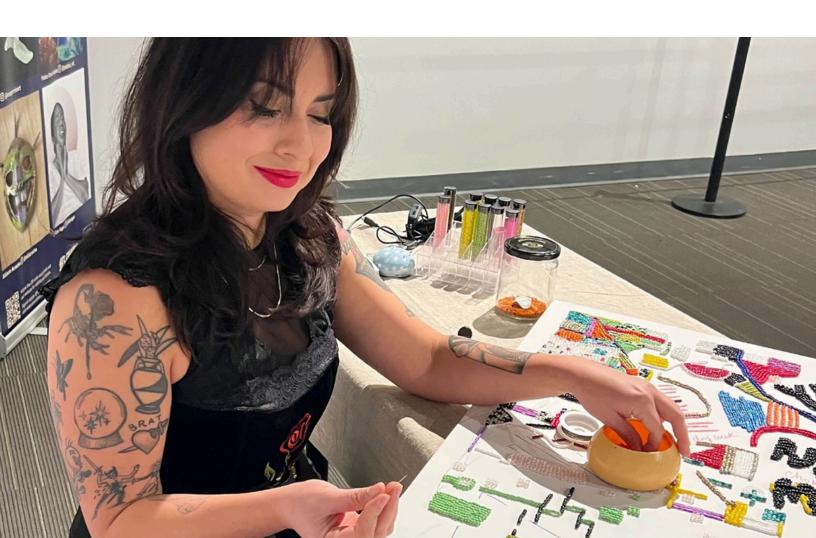


# Program Feedback

The Artist-in-Residence program has received positive feedback from participants and attendees alike. Artists have appreciated the opportunity to showcase their work in a prominent public space, with many highlighting the supportive environment fostered by Artes de México en Utah and The Leonardo Museum. The program has allowed artists to engage directly with the community, create meaningful connections, and gain visibility for their work.

However, some challenges were noted, such as the need for clearer communication and better management of space during exhibitions. A few artists suggested enhancing visibility and promotional efforts for their work to ensure greater community outreach.

Overall, the program has been highly regarded for its ability to provide emerging artists with invaluable exposure and for fostering an inclusive, dynamic cultural exchange.





At Artes de México en Utah, we are committed to celebrating and preserving the vibrant cultures that shape our community. Through our programs and collaborations, we continue to uplift the voices of Mexican and Indigenous artists, fostering deeper understanding appreciation for their contributions.

We invite our partners, donors, and community members to be part of this transformative journey, helping us build a future rooted in inclusivity, creativity, cultural and shared experiences. Together, we can create a lasting legacy that celebrates diversity and empowers future generations.

"By honoring our heritage and embracing new ideas, we create a path for a brighter tomorrow."

#### **Contact**

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# ARTISTSIN RESIDENCE



