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**Creative Sonoma Announces Recipients of 2023 Arts and Cultural Equity Fellowship Grants**  
*Funding Provided by County of Sonoma and the California Arts Council*

Creative Sonoma, in collaboration with [Kimzin Creative](#), a local arts and equity consulting group, is happy to announce 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Arts and Cultural Equity Fellowship Grant recipients. These eight fellows are emerging to mid-career artists and culture workers who work within, on behalf of, or to support Sonoma County's communities of color.

The Arts and Cultural Equity Fellowship Program ([www.creativesonoma.org/ace-fellows/](http://www.creativesonoma.org/ace-fellows/)) is designed to uplift and promote the artistic and economic advancement of up to eight emerging or mid-career arts and culture workers with funding, training, mentorship, and increased connection to the local arts and business communities.

“This fellowship recognizes the remarkable diversity of practitioners in our creative and cultural communities, and to address the challenges that they have historically had in accessing funds for their work,” said Supervisor Chris Coursey, Chair of the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors. “Providing a pathway of resources to up-and-coming arts and cultural leaders will provide great benefits to Sonoma County.”

Each fellow receives \$5,000 in grant funding and an additional \$1,250 training stipend to support cultural art works, activities, events, and professional development opportunities that promote and celebrate the diverse racial and ethnic individuals and communities within Sonoma County. Fellows were selected through a peer-reviewed process.

The recipients demonstrated the potential impact of this fellowship on their already-established creative careers and how that might advance their work by, in support of, or within BIPOC communities. The cohort of fellows will meet and with outside advisors who will provide training customized to their specific needs over the course of the next six months as they develop their fellowship projects.

Ramesu Amen, Performing Arts (Forestville)  
Hadassah GreenSky, Multidisciplinary Arts (Forestville)  
Jen Hyde, Literary Arts (Sonoma)  
Tyehimba Kokayi, Traditional and Folk Arts (Sonoma)  
Hannah Mayree, Multidisciplinary Arts (Sonoma)  
Farrah McAdam, Performing Arts (Santa Rosa)  
Nick Robles, Visual Arts (Petaluma)  
Eki Shola, Performing Arts (Santa Rosa)

Additionally, four semi-finalists were named to highlight their excellent applications, as well as to serve as alternates should any of the Fellows not be able to accept their award. They include: Erica Ambrin, Performing Arts (Sebastopol); Emma Diaz, Visual Arts (Sonoma); Ras K'dee, Performing Arts (Forestville); and Irma Rodriguez, Traditional and Folk Arts (Cotati).

The Arts and Cultural Equity Fellowship Grant program is part of a menu of services and activities provided by Creative Sonoma to support and advance the creative community of Sonoma County. For more information, please contact Samantha Kimpel, [Samantha.kimpel@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Samantha.kimpel@sonoma-county.org).

*Creative Sonoma is a division of the Sonoma County Economic Development Board. Please visit [www.CreativeSonoma.org](http://www.CreativeSonoma.org) for more.*