



January 8, 2024  
For immediate release

**Contacts:**  
Rachel Esses | [resses@mpt.org](mailto:resses@mpt.org) | 410-581-4381  
Emily Greco | [egreco@nevinspr.com](mailto:egreco@nevinspr.com) | 443-686-1331

## 2023 Baker Artist Awards winners to be highlighted during January 19 MPT *Artworks* special

*Six Maryland artists earn prestigious award as part of annual program*

OWINGS MILLS, MD – [Maryland Public Television](http://MarylandPublicTelevision.org) (MPT) will profile the six winners of the 2023 Baker Artist Awards competition during a special *Artworks* episode airing on Friday, January 19 at 7:30 p.m. on MPT-HD and online at [mpt.org/livestream](http://mpt.org/livestream). The program will also be available to watch on the free [PBS App](#) and MPT's [online video player](#).

A preview of *Artwork's* 2023 Baker Artist Awards special and individual artist profiles can be found at [mpt.org/programs/baker-artist-awards](http://mpt.org/programs/baker-artist-awards).

Now in its 15<sup>th</sup> year, the [Baker Artist Awards](#) celebrates the Baltimore region's creative vitality and recognizes individuals with outstanding talent. Artists who create an online Baker Artist Portfolio and reside in Anne Arundel County, Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Carroll County, Harford County, or Howard County are eligible for awards. The 2023 winners were [announced by the Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance and the William G. Baker Jr. Memorial Fund](#) in June, 2023.

Prizes are awarded to artists who exemplify a mastery of craft, commitment to excellence, and a unique and compelling vision across six creative disciplines: visual arts, inter- and multi-disciplinary work, music, performance, film/video, and literary arts.

The Baker Artist Awards has distributed \$1.3 million in annual prize money since its launch in 2009. In 2023, one artist from each of the six artistic disciplines received a \$10,000 Mary Sawyers Baker Prize. One of the six selected artists was also honored with the additional \$30,000 Mary Sawyers Imboden Prize, taking home a total of \$40,000.

### 2023 Baker Artist Award winners:

**Elizabeth Evitts Dickinson (literary arts; Baltimore City – Mary Sawyers Imboden Prize winner)** – Dickinson's writings span multiple genres, including narrative nonfiction, journalism, short fiction, and memoir. Her work has been featured in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, *Harper's*, *The Washington Post Magazine*, and *The Southern Review*, among other publications. Dickinson has earned numerous

awards and accolades for her work, and was named a 2018 National Endowment for the Arts Creative Writing Fellow.

**Abdu Ali (music; Baltimore City)** – Ali is a musician, producer, poet, and multidisciplinary artist who works in sound, video, and live performance. Ali has performed at MoMa Ps1, The Andy Warhol Museum, The Carnegie Museum of Art, and The Kennedy Center, and has had work featured in The New York Times, The Fader, and Elephant Magazine.

**Oletha DeVane (inter- and multi-disciplinary work; Howard County)** – DeVane’s multi-disciplinary work includes sculpture, mixed-media visual art, and video installations. Her work is on display in permanent collections of the Corcoran Gallery of Art, Baltimore Museum of Art, Museum of the Bible, and Museum of the Americas, and has been featured in publications including B’more Art Magazine, The Baltimore Sun, and The Washington Post.

**Colette Krogol (performing arts; Baltimore City)** – Krogol is a choreographer, director, performer, and filmmaker. She is co-artistic director and co-founder of Orange Grove Dance, whose dance and film works have been produced and presented by The Finlandia Foundation, The Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance, Lönnström Taidemuseo, Museum of Zhang Zhidong, Raumars AIR, Officina Creativa, CerCCa, and Klaustrid at Skriduklaustir.

**Margaret Rorison (film/video; Baltimore City)** – Rorison’s work has shown at festivals including The Ann Arbor Film Festival, Edinburgh International Film Festival, Images Festival, SF CROSSROADS, Open City Documentary Film Festival, and Mono No Aware Cinema Arts Festival. Her experimental short films have earned her the ORWO Award for Best Cinematography at the Ann Arbor Film Festival and a special jury prize at the New Orleans Film Festival.

**Jordan Tierney (visual arts; Baltimore City)** – Tierney’s experiential found-objects art is made mostly from trash collected from Maryland’s natural spaces. Her work has been featured in exhibitions at the Smithsonian Institution, Baltimore Museum of Art, and American Visionary Art Museum.

An encore broadcast of the *2023 Baker Artist Awards Special* will air Saturday, January 20 at 8 p.m. on [MP2/Create](#) and online at [mpt.org/anywhere/live-stream-mpt2](http://mpt.org/anywhere/live-stream-mpt2).

The [Baker Artist Portfolio website](#) and associated awards were established by the William G. Baker, Jr. Memorial Fund and are a program of the [Greater Baltimore Cultural Alliance](#). Artists wishing to be considered for the 2024 Baker Artist Awards must have an active [portfolio](#) on the Baker website by Friday, January 26 at 5 p.m.

###

### **About Maryland Public Television**

Maryland Public Television (MPT) is a statewide, public-supported TV network and Public Broadcasting Service member offering entertaining, educational, and inspiring content delivered by traditional broadcasting and streaming on TVs, computers, and mobile devices. A state agency, it operates under the auspices of the Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission. MPT creates local, regional, and national content and is a frequent winner of regional Emmy® awards. MPT’s commitment to educators, parents, caregivers, and learners of all ages is delivered through instructional events and [Thinkport.org](http://Thinkport.org). MPT’s year-round community engagement activities connect viewers with resources on a wide range of topics. For more information visit [mpt.org](http://mpt.org).