



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Jonathan Harwell-Dye

Director of Programs

Arts & Business Council of Greater Nashville

615-460-8274 | jharwelldye@abcnashville.org

--

Arts & Business Council of Greater Nashville Announces the 2025 Class of *Periscope: Artist Entrepreneur Training*

24 talented artist entrepreneurs selected for the program's twelfth cohort

NASHVILLE, TENN. – March 20, 2025 -- The Arts & Business Council of Greater Nashville proudly announces the selection of the 2025 class of *Periscope: Artist Entrepreneur Training (Periscope Nashville)*, an annual business development intensive that empowers working artists to see their creative practice through an entrepreneurial lens. This year's class consists of 24 artists working in an array of disciplines including music, literary arts, visual arts, film/television, jewelry, theater and more.

Artists are chosen for *Periscope Nashville* through a competitive application process and scored by a panel of community reviewers that includes leading artists, curators, musicians, and creative entrepreneurs in Nashville's arts, culture and business sectors. Selected artists participate in nine weeks of entrepreneurial training followed by six months of individualized mentorship with high-caliber business mentors. The program culminates at the Periscope Pitch + Artist Entrepreneur Showcase in September where artist entrepreneurs unveil their creative businesses to the community.

"Each year, I'm astounded by the incredible wealth of creative talent in Nashville and this year is no exception! The 24 artist entrepreneurs selected for the Periscope Class of 2025 represent a diverse cross-section of our artistic community," said Jonathan Harwell-Dye, Director of Programs at the Arts & Business Council. "Over the next several months, they will have the chance to develop their creative business plans and pitch their businesses to garner the resources and partnerships essential for future growth."

The 2025 Class of *Periscope Nashville* is:

- **Amanda A. Blount** (she/her) - Film/Television, Multi-Disciplinary, Visual Art, Photography
- **Amanda McCadams** (she/her) - Culinary Art
- **Amanda Woods** (she/her) - Visual Art
- **Anna Wise** (she/her) - Visual Art
- **Blaine Steiner** (she/her) - Visual Art

- **Brian Myers** (he/him) - Film/Television
- **Clif Koufman** (he/him) - Film/Television, Music
- **Cresa Lenox** (she/they) - Literary Arts, Multi-Disciplinary
- **Dee Hammonds** (she/her) - Drama/Theatre/Performance Art, Music
- **Haniyfa Muhammad Branka** (she/her) - Visual Art
- **Jen Vogus** (she/her) - Visual Art, Photography
- **Jim Willis** (he/him) - Visual Art
- **Joshua Jackson** (he/him) - Drama/Theatre/Performance Art, Dance, Film/Television
- **Joshua Lewis** (he/him) - Visual Art
- **Katharine Poole** (she/her) - Drama/Theatre/Performance Art, Literary Arts, Music
- **Lexa Herron** (she/her) - Residential Design
- **Lyn Stevens** (she/her) - Visual Art, Photography
- **Nicole Wilson** (she/her) - Public Art/Creative Placemaking, Visual Art
- **Rebecca Stone** (she/her) - Visual Art
- **Shaparak Malek-Morvai** (she/her) - Culinary Art, Music
- **ShenShen210** (she/her) - Visual Art
- **Susie Champion** (she/her) - Visual Art
- **Todd Herzberg** (he/him) - Visual Art
- **Valerie M Wilhite R** (she/her) - Silversmith, Jewelry Design

Periscope: Artist Entrepreneur Training is supported in part by Amazon, Piedmont Natural Gas, Fifth Third Bank, Backstage Strategies, Southwest Airlines, Tennessee Arts Commission, Ingram Charities, Robert K and Anne H Zelle Fund for Fine & Performing Arts of the Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee, HCA Healthcare Foundation, NWI Nashville, Tennessee Entertainment Commission, the Mike Curb Foundation, and Core Development, The Core Fund of The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee.

About the Arts & Business Council

The Arts & Business Council of Greater Nashville leverages and unites the unique resources of the arts and Since 2006, the Arts & Business Council (ABC) has been the region's hub for building more sustainable creative businesses. A 501(c)3 nonprofit, ABC leverages and unites the unique resources of the arts and business communities to create a thriving, sustainable creative culture in Nashville. Through six main programs: Education for the Creative Community, Volunteer Lawyers & Professionals for the Arts, Periscope: Artist Entrepreneur Training, Arts Board Matching, Fiscal Sponsorship, and Creative Advantage, and several other unique resources and opportunities, ABC provides entrepreneurial education and capacity-building resources to more than 8,000 individual artists, arts nonprofits, creative businesses, and arts enthusiasts annually.

For more information, visit abcnashville.org/periscope or contact 615-460-8274.

###

Headshots and bios for cohort members are available upon request.