

# FORGE

## Forge Project Announces 2023 Fellowship Open Call



*2022 Forge Project Fellow Laura Ortman (White Mountain Apache) performing at Basilica Hudson May 26 as part of its Jupiter Nights series. Photograph courtesy Thatcher Keats.*

(Mahicannituck River Valley, NY - January 5., 2022) — Forge Project, a Native-led arts and decolonial education initiative on the unceded homelands of the Muh-he-con-ne-ok in Upstate New York, is pleased to announce its open call for applications for its 2023 funded fellowship program for Indigenous artists, scholars, organizers, cultural workers, researchers, and educators. The application will be live starting Friday, January 6, 2023 and applications are due Wednesday, February 15, 2023, by 11:59 PM EST.

### About the Fellowship

Forge Project is seeking a 2023 cohort of six Indigenous individuals that represent a broad diversity of cultural practices, participatory research and organizing models, and geographical contexts that honor Indigenous pasts as well as build Native futures. Two of these Fellowships will be awarded to members of the Stockbridge-Munsee Band of Mohican Indians in honor of the peoples whose homelands Forge Project is situated on and to develop projects. Each Forge Project Fellow will receive a total of \$25,000 toward their practice and will have full access to the Forge Project site, libraries, and lending collection of living Indigenous artists during a residency stay of up to three weeks,

The Forge Project space consists of two structures designed by Ai Weiwei in collaboration with HHF Architects. The larger of the two buildings consists of four equal-sized boxes, where Forge Project hosts its public programming, including special-topic talks with Fellows. Parallel to the main building is a Y-shaped building; the upper floor features a circular skylight that illuminates a central art gallery, and houses a fluid living and studio space for Fellows.

2023 Fellows will have the opportunity to present their work to the local Forge Project audience on site as well as a wider international audience via social media. Fellows will work one-on-one with Curator of Indigenous Programs & Community Engagement Sarah Biscarra Dilley (Northern Chumash) to develop public programming, to make connections and build contacts, and for mentorship during their stay.



*Jamie Sanin of Celebrate845 (far left), moderating a conversation between Tania Willard (middle, Secwépemc and settler), 2022 Forge Project Fellow and co-founder of BUSH gallery, and Audra Simpson (right, Kahnawà:ke Mohawk), political anthropologist at Columbia University, for “Anti-Institutions and Indigenous Liberation” at Forge Project Saturday, November 5. Photo by Alekz Pacheco.*

### About the Jury

The Forge Project Fellowship 2023 applications will be reviewed by a juried panel of six distinguished Native scholars, artists, writers, and former Fellows. The two Fellows from the Stockbridge Munsee Community will be selected in a parallel process by a separate juried panel of three Native experts in their fields including a former Fellow.

### Application & Eligibility

Interested individuals can learn more about the application and how to apply via Forge Project’s [Submittable page](#). Applicants must be registered members of federally or state-recognized tribe

to apply for the 2023 Forge Project Fellowship. The Stockbridge Munsee Community Fellows will have the additional requirement of applying with a specific project that furthers the initiatives of the Cultural Services Division. For full details, selection criteria, key dates and the link to apply, visit [forgeproject.com/fellowship](https://forgeproject.com/fellowship).

- Informational webinar, Friday, January 20, 2023 at 6:30 PM EST
- Applications are due Wednesday, February 15, 2023 by 11:59 PM EST
- The 6 individuals will be announced in Spring 2023

### Past Fellows

Forge Project's 2022 cohort of six Indigenous individuals represents a broad diversity of cultural practices, participatory research, organizing models, and geographic contexts that honor Indigenous pasts as well as build Native futures. The 2022 Forge Projects Fellows are Catherine Blackburn (Dene); Laura Ortman (White Mountain Apache); Rainer Posselt (Stockbridge Munsee Band of Mohicans); Sara Siestrem (Hanis Coos of The Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians); Tania Willard (Secwepemc Nation); and Ilegvak Williams (Yup'ik).

### **About Forge Project**

Forge Project is a Native-led initiative centered on Indigenous art, decolonial education, and supporting leaders in culture, food security, and land justice. Located on the unceded homelands of the Muh-he-con-ne-ok in New York, Forge Project works to upend political and social systems formed through generations of settler colonialism.

Launched in 2021, Forge Project serves the social and cultural landscape of shared communities through a funded fellowship program for Indigenous culture workers, including those working in food and land justice, law and decolonial governance, and art. Forge hosts Native-led public education and events, a lending art collection focused on contemporary art by Indigenous artists, and art-, land-, and food-based educational programming at the Community Learning Kitchen developed in partnership with Sky High Farm.

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