



NEWS

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2025 COPLAND HOUSE RESIDENCY AWARDS ANNOUNCED

Ten Composers from Six States Selected for “The Biggest Gift”



Cortlandt Manor, NY, September 8, 2025 – Recipients were announced today for the 2025 [Copland House Residency Awards](#), one of the flagship programs of the acclaimed creative center for American music and the arts based at **Aaron Copland’s** National Historic Landmark home near New York City and its vast, recently-acquired satellite venue at Bluestone Farm on the New York-Connecticut border. Selected composers will receive all-expenses-paid, three- to eight-week stays to live and work at Rock Hill, Copland’s beloved longtime home; they will also become eligible for various post-residency performance, recording, commissioning, and other career development opportunities and awards.

The ten composers from six states chosen this year are (*clockwise, from top left*): **Jeremy Beck**, 65 (Louisville, KY); **James Díaz**, 36 (New York, NY); **Jeremy Gill**, 50 (New York, NY); **Leilehua Lanzilotti**, 41 (Honolulu, HI); **Žibuoklė Martinaitytė**, 52 (New York, NY); **Sofia Ouyang**, 23 (New York, NY); **Greg Reitan**, 51 (South Pasadena, CA); **Cole Reyes**, 27 (Ann Arbor, Michigan); **Stephen Andrew Taylor**, 60 (Urbana, IL); and **Wang Xi**, 47 (Dallas, TX). Gill, Martinaitytė, Reitan, and Taylor are returning Residents. All were selected from nearly 150 applicants from 30 states, the District of Columbia and one Canadian province, by this year’s distinguished jury, which included **Miguel del Aguila**, **Vivian Fung**, **Fang Man**, **David Sanford**, **Trevor Weston**, and **Scott Wheeler**.

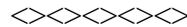
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“While these composers reflect different creative approaches, backgrounds, cultures, idioms, and generations, they share an unshakable determination to make vivid art that is inspired by, and resonates with, the human spirit,” said Artistic and Executive Director **Michael Boriskin**. “The projects they are planning during their Residencies here are enriching, innovative, and often provocative, and we eagerly look forward to the new works they will create within the walls of this special place.”

Martinaitytė, who will return for her third Residency, exclaimed “I can't wait to be back at the magical Copland House. It is the biggest gift and honor imaginable ... like a ray of light that brightens the future.”

Since it began in 1998, Copland House has championed and collaborated with musical explorers, dreamers, and game-changing innovators of all backgrounds and identities. The only composer's home in the U.S. devoted to nurturing and renewing America's rich, complex musical legacy through a broad range of activities, Copland House programs uniquely embrace the entire artistic process, from creation and development to study, performance, and preservation. Praised by *The New York Times* for “all the richness of its offerings,” Copland House's activities resonate far beyond its walls, and are built upon multi-faceted composer support, live and recorded performances (featuring its internationally-acclaimed Copland House Ensemble), and educational and community engagement. Core support for Copland House's Residency Awards and other composer programs comes from the Amphion Foundation, ArtsWestchester, ASCAP Foundation, BMI Foundation, Aaron Copland Fund for Music, Alice M. Ditson Fund of Columbia University, Friends of Copland House, David and Elzbieta Grove Foundation, Jandon Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, NewMusicUSA, and the New York State Council on the Arts.

For more information, visit www.coplandhouse.org or call (914) 788-4659. For media inquiries, contact Elizabeth Dworkin at Dworkin & Company, (914) 244-3803 or elizabeth@dworkincompany.com.



2025 Copland House Residency Awards – Composer Bios

Louisville-based **JEREMY BECK** won The King's Singers New Music Prize (2021) for his choral work *Invitation to Love*, which received its World Premiere at the Washington National Cathedral. His music has been presented by the New York City Opera, ETHEL, San Francisco Ballet Orchestra, Apollo Chorus of Chicago, American Composers Orchestra, Center for Contemporary Opera, and Louisville Orchestra, among others. Recordings of his orchestral, chamber, and vocal music are available on the neuma, Acis, innova, and Ablaze labels. “I compose music that is direct,” he has explained, “that unfolds in a fresh tonal dialect and propelled by a contemporary rhythmic profile, while still derived from historical Western practice. It is music where mystery and design are equally embraced.”

Colombian-born composer and producer **JAMES DÍAZ** is a Latin Grammy nominee and multi-award-winning artist whose work spans electronic music, orchestral compositions, amplified solos, and interactive chamber pieces. His music seeks to evoke distinctive sonic textures, assemble resonant sound masses, and create psychedelic, immersive environments. His compositions have been performed by the New York Philharmonic, Basel Sinfonietta, Cologne Radio Orchestra, Nashville Symphony, Sinfónica Nacional de Colombia, and Orchestra of St. Luke's, as well as The New York New Music Ensemble, Longleash, Yarn/Wire, and HUB New Music. His works have also be heard at Time:Spans (New York), ACHT BRÜCKEN and SinusTon (Germany), Culturescapes (Switzerland), and Brazil's Campos do Jordao Festival. He is currently developing his second studio album in collaboration with cellist John Popham, and is working on commissions for the American Composers Orchestra and The Grossman Ensemble. “I have always written music for specific performers ... seeking out their unique voices. Composing,” he has said, “is both an expression of friendship and curiosity, while presenting challenges that invite performers into new dimensions of sound.”

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The music of composer, conductor, and pianist **JEREMY GILL**, a 2015 Copland House Resident, is celebrated for its emotional breadth and expressive diversity. He has written major works in most genres, and his musical and literary influences range from Ancient Greece through contemporary creators. He has had long collaborations with the Dallas Symphony, Dolce Suono Ensemble, New York Classical Players, and the Parker Quartet. His recent premieres include *Four Legends from the Silmarillion*, an hour-long tone poem cycle commissioned by the Boston Modern Orchestra Project; *Epiphanies*, orchestral songs premiered by Robin Johannsen and the Harrisburg Symphony; and *Ida by Lamplight*, a chamber opera commissioned by Boston's Chautauqua Opera Company on a libretto by Jerre Dye. He spent part of the 2024–25 season living and working in Berlin, where he gave the German Premiere of his song cycle *Helian* with baritone Johannes Held at the celebrated Piano Salon Christophori.

The music of Honolulu-based composer, multimedia artist, and curator **LEILEHUA LANZILOTTI** explores dramatic expanses of color and timbre. By world-building through multimedia installation works and nontraditional concert experiences and musical interventions, her works activate imagination around new paths forward in language sovereignty, water sovereignty, land stewardship, and respect. She was a Pulitzer Prize Finalist in 2022 for her string orchestra piece *with eyes the color of time*, and a 2025 USA Fellow, and has won a Creative Capital Award, the Native Arts & Cultures Foundation's SHIFT – Transformative Change and Indigenous Arts Award. She has also had fellowships and residencies through The Rockefeller Foundation at Bellagio Center, Casa Wabi, Merwin Conservancy, McKnight Visiting Composer Residency Program, and University of Melbourne (MacGeorge Fellowship). Her works have been presented at Ars Electronica (Austria), the Thailand International Composition Festival, and Dots+Loops (Australia), and at the Philharmonie de Paris and Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre. She is a member of the network of musicians and artists in the Wandelweiser collective.

Among the many honors of New York-based Lithuanian composer and 2009 and 2018 Copland House Resident **ŽIBUOKLĖ MARTINAITYTĖ** are the Lithuanian National Prize in Arts and Culture, Guggenheim Fellowship, and Goddard Lieberon Fellowship by the American Academy of Arts and Letters. CDs of her music have received wide critical acclaim in *The New York Times*, *Gramophone*, and *BBC Music Magazine*, and her orchestral CD *Saudade* and choral album *ALETHEIA* were named among NPR's "Top 10 Classical Albums of the Year." Writing orchestral and chamber music with intricately woven layers of sound, her works have been performed throughout Europe, the United States, and Asia by the New York and Helsinki Philharmonics, Bruckner Orchester Linz (Austria), Weimar Staatskapelle (Germany), Esprit Orchestra (Canada), Volti (USA), Latvian Radio Choir, Ostrobothnian Chamber Orchestra, Lithuanian Chamber Orchestra, and Lithuanian National Symphony. She has had residencies at the MacDowell Colony, Millay Colony, Djerassi Artists Residency, Yaddo, Cité des Arts in Paris, and Bogliasco Center in Italy.

SOFIA JEN OUYANG's music explores the poetic and philosophical dimensions of sound as a site of entanglement, identity, and being. She has been recognized by two BMI Composer Awards, the John Eaton Memorial Competition, Fontainebleau Opus One International Composition Prize, and Columbia University's Douglas Moore Prize. Her works have been performed by Ensemble Modern, Orchestra of St. Luke's, Juilliard Orchestra, New York Virtuoso Singers, JACK Quartet, Wet Ink and Riot Ensembles, and presented at the Lucerne, MATA, and Mixtur Festivals, Lincoln Center, Frankfurt Opera, and Arvo Pärt Center. She has also collaborated across disciplines with theater director Zhou Ke, choreographer Fran Diaz through the New York Choreographic Institute, and choreographer Kate Sponenburg through the Columbia Ballet Collaborative. She has been Artist-in-Residence of Telos Consort, a DeGaetano Composer Institute Fellow, and a Fromm Foundation Fellow at Composer's Conference. A graduate of Columbia University, where is currently a Doctoral candidate, she is Music Director of the Westside Chamber Players, and Performing Arts Curator at The BLANC.

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The work of composer, educator, and arts administrator **COLE REYES** explores the intersection of personal human experience and the larger world, and is shaped by influences from pop, rock, and folk. He has collaborated with the JACK and Bergamot Quartets, San Francisco Contemporary Music Players, BlackBox Ensemble, Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC, and Victory Players, among others. Recent honors include a BMI Student Composer Award and First Prize in the 2024 Marine Corps Heritage Foundation's Call for Scores. Upcoming projects feature a large-scale composition for vocal octet and chamber orchestra inspired by the idea of home, and a 20-minute chamber work influenced by Michigan's Nichols Arboretum. A Doctoral candidate at the University of Michigan, he is also co-founder and artistic director of Telos Consort, a New York City-based professional chamber ensemble.

Composer-pianist **GREG REITAN**, a 2018 Copland House Resident, channels the harmonic sophistication of the jazz tradition with contemporary classical sensibilities, creating music that bridges genres with remarkable fluidity. A Seattle native, he relocated to Los Angeles in 1991 as a Dean's Scholar at the University of Southern California's Thornton School of Music. His artistry has been recognized by the John Coltrane Competition, Great American Jazz Piano Competition, and New York's Hennessy Cognac Jazz Search. He has also received the Harry Warren Prize for Film Scoring and inaugural ASCAP Young Jazz Composer Award, and made his Jazz at Lincoln Center debut in 2017. His six acclaimed albums for Sunnyside Records showcase his ongoing conversation between jazz and classical idioms, and his most recent release, *The Bounding Line*, features compositions written during his previous Copland House Residency.

2008 Copland House Resident **STEPHEN ANDREW TAYLOR**'s music explores boundaries between art and science, including his orchestral *Unapproachable Light*, inspired by images from the Hubble Space Telescope and the New Testament, and his opera *Paradises Lost*, based on an Ursula K. Le Guin novella. His music has won awards from the Guggenheim and Howard Foundations, American Academy of Arts and Letters, Conservatoire américain de Fontainebleau, College Band Directors National Association, New York State Federation of Music Clubs, and ASCAP. He has been commissioned by the Syracuse Society for New Music, Spoleto Festival, American Composers Orchestra, and Jupiter Quartet, among many others. He co-directs the Illinois Modern Ensemble, and has conducted the Sinfonia da Camera and Nouveau Classical Project. A professor at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, he has written and lectured on data sonification, György Ligeti, African rhythm, Björk, and Radiohead. In popular music, he has collaborated with Pink Martini, rock singer Storm Large, The Von Trapps, cabaret/performance artist Meow Meow, and pianist Lang Lang, and his arrangements have been performed by the Chicago, San Francisco, and Oregon Symphonies, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Cleveland Orchestra, and BBC Concert Orchestra.

Chinese-born **WANG XI**'s music explores bold, dramatic storytelling and narrative complexities, and has been showcased by the Philadelphia and Minnesota Orchestras, and Atlanta and Dallas Symphonies, among others. She has received a Guggenheim Fellowship, Charles Ives Fellowship from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and a MacDowell Colony residency. She has also been commissioned by the Fromm Foundation at Harvard University, League of American Orchestras, Shanghai Philharmonic, and World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles, and has collaborated with Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Osmo Vänskä, Fabio Luisi, Mei-Ann Chen, Karen Gomyo, and other prominent artists and ensembles. A graduate of the Shanghai Conservatory, University of Missouri-Kansas City, and Cornell University, she began her musical journey in China at age five. She is currently an award-winning professor of composition at Southern Methodist University.

