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ARTTABLE ANNOUNCES HONOREES FOR BI-COASTAL BENEFIT & AWARD CEREMONIES

The events will take place in Los Angeles in February and New York City in April, honoring Shirley Pooler Kinsey and Deana Haggag.

New York, NY [November 9, 2022] - ArtTable is pleased to announce the 2023 Benefit & Award Ceremonies, taking place for the first time in two locations. Held in Los Angeles and New York this spring, this inaugural two-part benefit will welcome members and supporters from across the country to celebrate this year's pioneering honorees.

The 2023 Distinguished Service to the Visual Arts Award will be awarded to Los Angeles-based philanthropist, art collector, and former school teacher **Shirley Pooler Kinsey**. Along with her husband Bernard and son Khalil, Shirley has developed one of the largest and most comprehensive private collections of African-American history and art in the world, which includes more than 700 pieces of art and artifacts that tell the story of African Americans' historical struggles from 1632 to present. The Kinsey Collection has been featured in more than 30 exhibitions in over 30 states and is an unparalleled archive and celebration of the achievements and contributions of black Americans from before the formation of the United States to the present times.

ArtTable is also honored to present the 2023 New Leadership Award to **Deana Haggag**, an arts administrator, cultural worker, and program officer in Arts and Culture at The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. As former president and CEO of United States Artists, Deana developed a wide range of programs to support artists across the country including Artist Relief, a \$25 million emergency initiative to support artists facing dire financial circumstances due to COVID-19, and Disability Futures, an initiative aimed at increasing the visibility of disabled creative practitioners across disciplines and geography and elevating their voices individually and collectively. Her innovative approaches to cultivating support for artists have enriched our national cultural landscape, and her leadership has changed the lives of hundreds of artists across the country.

Both events will be ticketed and open to the public. Tickets will go on sale next Wednesday, November 16, 2022. Attendance at this event supports ArtTable's mission of advancing the leadership of women in the visual arts and fostering a stronger future for the next generation of female leaders.

Continue on to the next page to read more about this year's honorees.

2023 Distinguished Service to the Visual Arts Award

Shirley Pooler Kinsey grew up in St. Augustine, FL. The major influence in her life was her paternal grandmother, Mrs. Susie Plummer Pooler, who raised her and lived her life doing whatever she could to be in service to others. Although she didn't have much materially, she willingly shared what she had, her wisdom, her heart, and her time. This was passed on to Shirley, as well as the desire to excel in education as a way of doing well by doing good. Other important influences in Shirley's life were her sister and role model Barbara Richardson Johnson, her uncle Mr. James A. Webster (also principal of her elementary school), as well as her mentor and high school counselor, Mrs. Rosalie R. Gordon-Mills.

Growing up, Shirley developed an early interest in books, art, travel, and focused on academic excellence. She was valedictorian of her graduating high school class, leading to a scholarship to Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, Florida. Attending FAMU during the height of the civil rights movement of the 1960s, Shirley participated in student protests and demonstrations, and was arrested during a sit-in at the local movie theater. Upon her release, she met Bernard Kinsey, an upperclassman who was on the support committee assisting students through the experience. She pledged Delta Sigma Theta and received her BA in English. Shirley and Bernard were wed in 1967 and moved to California with \$26 and a job after graduation. In the early 1970s, Shirley was an elementary school teacher in Compton, California which led her to pursue and receive a master's degree in Multicultural Education from Pepperdine University. She has enjoyed accomplished careers in education, Corporate America and the Arts, but considers her most important roles in life to be wife, mother, sister, cousin, aunt and friend.

Shirley and Bernard's 56-year marriage and partnership represents an alliance based on love, respect and the importance of family and friends. They strive to live their lives on two simple principles: "To whom much is given, much is required" and "A life of no regrets". Together they have helped raise over 30 million dollars for charitable and educational institutions, including Florida A&M University. Through their philanthropy they have assisted in sending over 150 students to college. They believe in the idea of "social capital" that utilizes their broad network of friends and associates around the country to expand the notion of giving. It has been said that "Together they have formed an outstanding partnership in their cultural, business, and educational endeavors. They represent the best of our community, a willingness to give and to share."

The couple have become known for their collection of art, books, artifacts, and ephemeral objects that document the remarkable achievements and contributions of African Americans from 1595 to the present, considered to be one of the largest of its kind. Since 2006, The Kinsey African American Art & History Collection – Where Art and History Intersect", has been on national tour and seen by over 15 million visitors to date. The collection has exhibited in nearly 40 venues, including the Smithsonian National Museum of

American History, Epcot at Walt Disney World, Hong Kong University and now SoFi Stadium in Inglewood, California where it debuted during Super Bowl LVI and is on view through February 2023. In 2008, Shirley co-founded the Kinsey Foundation for the Arts and Education to promote broader awareness and understanding of African American history and culture. The foundation has educational partnerships around the country and abroad, assisting with the development and implementation of curriculums and public programs.

The Kinseys have traveled extensively and reside in Pacific Palisades, California. They are the proud parents of their son Khalil who is the COO and Chief Curator of the Kinsey African American Art & History Collection.

ArtTable's Distinguished Service to the Visual Arts Award acknowledges and celebrates remarkable leadership in the arts. Its recipients exemplify ArtTable's dedication to the lasting impact of the visual arts on our shared cultural life. Past recipients include Barbara Tober, Susan Unterberg, Estrellita Brodsky, Marian Goodman, Lowery Stokes Sims, Marieluise Hessel, Raymond Learsy and Melva Bucksbaum, Marguerite Steed Hoffman, Patricia Phelps de Cisneros, Patricia E. Harris, Marieluise Hessel Artzt, Kathan Brown, Mary Schmidt Campbell, Anita Contini, Alice Denney, Helen W. Drutt English, Elizabeth Easton, Sharon Helgason Gallagher, RoseLee Goldberg, Thelma Golden, Marian Goodman, Kathy Halbreich, Lila Harnett, Ann Sutherland Harris, Alana Heiss, Mary Jane Jacob, Leslie King-Hammond, Ruby Lerner, Susana Torruella Leval, Barbara Luderowski, Margo Machida, Ann Philbin, Lisa Phillips, Joan Rosenbaum, Linda Shearer, Roberta Smith, Susan Sollins, Susan Fisher Sterling, Marion Boulton Stroud, Paula Wallace, Yoko Ono, Toby Devan Lewis, Vishakha N. Desai, Elizabeth A. Sackler, Elizabeth C. Baker, Linda Nochlin, Iris Cantor, Paula Cooper, Marcia Tucker, Lucy Lippard, Stephanie French, Joan Mondale, Dianne H. Pilgrim, Emily Rauh Pulitzer, Agnes Gund, and Kitty Carlisle Hart.

In 2003, as a special gesture to ArtTable and the leading women it honors, Louise Bourgeois created an unnumbered, cast bronze edition to represent the award for Distinguished Service to the Visual Arts. EYE (cast bronze and silver nitrate with a polished patina) is cast each year in commendation to our awardee.

2023 New Leadership Award



Deana Haggag (she/her) is an arts administrator, cultural worker, executive leader, and strategic advisor. She is currently a Program Officer in Arts and Culture at The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Prior to joining the foundation in May 2021, she was the President & CEO of United States Artists, a national arts funding organization based in Chicago, IL. During her tenure, USA saw unprecedented growth, expanding its Fellowship award program, launching the Berresford Prize, and developing coalition efforts to advance support for individual artists most notably including Artist Relief, a \$25 million COVID-19 emergency fund, and Disability Futures, a multi-disciplinary

initiative supporting disabled creative practitioners. Before joining USA in February 2017, she was the Executive Director of The Contemporary, a nomadic and non-collecting art museum in Baltimore, MD, for four years.

In addition to her leadership roles, Deana is a strategic advisor to cultural foundations and philanthropic initiatives including the Ruth Foundation for the Arts and Chanel Next Prize. She also lectures extensively, consults on various art initiatives, contributes to cultural publications, and has taught at institutions such as Johns Hopkins University and Towson University. She is on the Boards of The Underground Museum and Pillars Fund, Artistic Director's Council of Prospect.5 and Advisory Council of Recess, and Editorial Advisory of Hope & Dread: Tectonic Shifts In Power In Art, a documentary series examining recent clashes of power in culture.

She has completed the National Arts Strategies Chief Executive Program in 2020, Stanford Impact Program for Arts Leaders in 2018, and was a Salzburg Global Fellow for Young Cultural Innovators in 2015. Among other honors, she was most recently named a 2020 YBCA 100 Honoree. She has been profiled or featured in Artnet News, CNN, Cultured Magazine, The Cut, Departures, Elle Decor, New York Times, The Observer, Vogue, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, and more. She received her MFA in Curatorial Practice from the Maryland Institute College of Art and a BA from Rutgers University in Art History and Philosophy.

ArtTable's New Leadership Award recognizes an emerging professional who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and made considerable contributions to the visual art field in the earlier stages of their careers. This award was first introduced as part of ArtTable's 25th anniversary celebration in 2005. Past awardees include La Tanya S. Autry, Wassan Al-Khudhairi, Erin Christovale, Lauren Haynes, Jami Powell, Alexandra Chang, Naima J. Keith, Lauren Cornell, Sara Raza, Naomi Beckwith, Amy Sadao, Sarah Douglas, Cecilia Alemani, Shamim Momin and Christine Y. Kim, Sarah Elizabeth Lewis, Andrea Barnwell, Melissa Chiu, Fairfax Dorn and Virginia Lebermann, Ellen Haddigan, Bronwyn Keenan, Sheri L. Pasquarella, Maura Reilly, Natasha Schlesinger, Laura Hoptman, Marysol Nieves, Jeanne Greenberg Rohatyn, and Olga Viso. This year's award is Seven Square Inches of Water, a limited-edition artwork by Maya Lin created to benefit the "What Is Missing?" project.

About ArtTable

ArtTable is the foremost professional organization dedicated to advancing the leadership of women in the visual arts. Through our membership network and community initiatives, we expand professional opportunities for women from diverse backgrounds and at all stages of their careers, supporting and fostering a stronger future for all women in the arts.

For more information, visit arttable.org.

MEDIA CONTACTS

Haley Carloni | National Programs & Chapters Manager | hcarloni@arttable.org

Lucy Lydon | Benefit Producer | benefit@arttable.org

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