

Statistical and Narrative Report

Program: Portuguese Fine Arts Students

Grant: Fulbright / Fundação Carmona e Costa Master of Fine Arts Grant– Drawing

AY: 2022/2023

FY: 2022

Officer in charge: Sofia Wahnnon

Date of report: July 29th, 2022

Contents

1. Brief description of the Program

The objective of this award is to support and place a master's seeking project in Fine Arts – Drawing in an American University or Art Institute, for the academic year of 2022/2023. In partnership with Fundação Carmona e Costa, this grant endorses the value of Contemporary Art and its role in shaping and enriching today's societies.

Eligible applicants must have a *licenciatura* degree; good knowledge of the English language; and preferably be under 35 years old.

Competition for this grant takes place every two years and selects one grantee.

2. Brief analysis of how the promotion, competition and selection process took place (planning, outreach, media, calendars, pool of evaluators, etc)

This competition took place during the months of February and March 2021.

The information about the award was highlighted in our website and Newsletter and shared on the Fulbright social media: Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Instagram. It was also spread through our partner Fundação Carmona e Costa's communication channels, and customized flyers.

Due to the pandemic, an outreach session with former Fulbrighters' testimonials was carried out via Zoom, and it was attended by approximately 10 people. This session was recorded and then made available at our [YouTube channel](#), having had then 59 views.

During the application process, we replied to inquiries from approximately **10** students.

Finally, Fulbright Commission Portugal's statement "[Towards Diversity and Inclusion](#)" was actively included in these outreach efforts and shared with potential candidates.

7 applications and correspondent portfolios were fully submitted within the time frame. After undergoing close review, the Committee of Board and Selection Members selected 2 candidates for the next phase of the evaluation process – a visit to the artists' studio.

Again, due to the pandemic, this year, the studio visit was virtual, taking place in the beginning of May. After that, both applicants were recommended by the Committee to move on to the next phase of this competition – the interview.

Both interviews were conducted remotely via Zoom and one (1) candidate was then nominated.

It is important to underline that the Committee of Board and Selection Members considered the students' academic records and objectives; portfolio; personal statement; interview presentation; as well as their potential to, reflecting the diversity of Portuguese society, being cultural ambassadors for Portugal and for the Fulbright Program during their stay in the U.S. .

As for the placement, this process occurred between June and December 2021 for the academic year 2022/2023. Together with the [IIE](#), the selected grantee went through 4 phases to secure admission to one American institution: 1) **Preparation Phase**, the student gathered all supporting academic and professional documents; 2) **Research Phase**, IIE placement specialists worked with the student and the Commission to create a well-balanced plan of schools to which to apply; 3) **Application Phase**, IIE submitted applications on behalf of the student, and followed-up with institutions to acquire admissions and financial help; 4) **Final Placement Phase**, considering the best fit and estimated costs, the student accepted the admission offer.

Our selected grantee was placed at and has accepted the admission to RISD – Rhode Island School of Design, RI.

3. Committee of Board and Selection Members

The Committee of Board and Selection Members was composed by the following:

- **Ana Anacleto**, Portuguese Curator and Art Critic
- **Mariana Abrantes**, American Board member
- **Fernanda Fragateiro**, Portuguese Plastic Artist

4. Statistics

	2021
Applicants	7
Grantee	1
Success Rate	14%

- Home institution

Applicants

Home Institution	Number	%
University of Lisbon	3	43%
University of Porto	4	57%
Total	7	100%

Grantee

Home Institution	Number	%
University of Lisbon	1	100%
Total	1	100%

- Geographical area of residence

Applicants

Geographical area of residence	Number	%
Coimbra	1	14%
Évora	1	14%
Lisbon	3	43%
Porto	2	29%
Total	7	100%

Grantee

Geographical area of residence	Number	%
Lisbon	1	100%
Total	1	100%

- Gender

Applicants

Gender	Number	%
Female	6	86%
Male	1	14%
Total	7	100%

Grantee

Gender	Number	%
Male	1	100%
Total	1	100%

- Age

Applicants

Age	Number	%
20-24	4	57%
25-29	0	0%
30-34	3	43%
Total	7	100%

Grantee

Age	Number	%
30-34	1	100%
Total	1	100%

- Current Position

Applicants

Career Position	Number	%
Public Relations	1	14%
Self-employed Artist	4	58%
Student	1	14%
Trainee	1	14%
Total	7	100%

Grantee

Career Position	Number	%
Self-employed Artist	1	100%
Total	1	100%

5. Interpretation of the findings

In two years, it was noticed a significant increase in the number of submitted applications for this grant: from **2** in 2019 to **7** in 2021.

Concerning geographical area, applications came mainly from Lisbon (43%) and Porto (29%), which confirms a fact: it is in the two largest cities of Portugal where the artistic scene – the presence of art shows, galleries, and schools – mostly are based and take place.

It is also worth noting that most of the candidates were female (6 out of 7), which follows the trend from the last competition in 2019, in which 2 out of 2 were women.