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## LETTER OF PROPOSAL

Include all the following: Personal Information, About Your Work, Attachments.

### Personal Information

- Name: Samantha Russell
- Contact Information: samantharussellfineart@gmail.com, 810-643-6009
- Note Residency: David Barr Residency at Michigan Legacy Art Park
- Lodging preference: Parsons Center

Answer at least three of the following questions that most resonate with you and your work. (250 words maximum)

- How will your work further the mission of Michigan Legacy Art Park?

My family's lived in Michigan for generations, spanning hundreds of years, and has artists and makers throughout. My work deals with the human experience, bodily and emotionally, all through my perspective, which is steeped in Michigan culture. By experiencing the environments created by David Barr, and the natural environments that surround the art and buildings, I will be able to share my experiences at the Art Park and my culture as a multigenerational Michigander with the visitors of the park, while I'm there and through my work I leave as a part of the residency agreement.

- How do you see your work developing through research and the creative process?

I create with spaces in mind, including generalized spaces of white cube galleries, to specific spaces based on their architecture or history. I have primarily lived and worked in urban and suburban spaces with few chances to consider landscapes to be the site of presentation. Through exploring the art park and its landscape I'm excited to see the shifts in my work. Knowing I experience cities and state parks differently the residency will undoubtedly have an affect on my art since my creative time will be moved to a more natural environment.

- How will you involve the public in your residency?

So much of artists making process is caught up in myth and mystery I would like to invite the public to observe my making and have the opportunity to ask questions, similar to studio visits I've participated in. I also see that lodging are located on Eastern's Campus so I'd like to offer studio visits to students of art and art history.

### Attachments

- Artist's statement

Presenting the relics of time, space, and potential, I have an insatiable need to create, a yearning for processes and materials that demand my hand to work as much as my mind to represent the body and mind in all of its forms of completion. My objects and concepts are representations of the body's physical and emotional experience of life as lived in all of its potential. My practice, as much as my lived life, lies at the crossroads of a multitude of seemingly disparate paths that I weave together to fill in a sense of conflicting emptiness. I reject the vapid, planned obsolescence of commercialism, digital reproduction, and artificial intelligence as I lean into the preciousness of the legacy materials and objects can bring to my created works. Turning away from the learned artistic hierarchies I move towards that which exists between, to share my more authentic truth and belief in a more universally relatable created relics of time, space, and potential. My creative process and the works I produce aspire to persuade the viewer to take respite from our superficial reality to grasp the allure of the human condition and the vast expanse of time.

- CV or Resumé

### **Exhibition Record:**

#### **Solo Shows**

09/2016 Finding my Feelings, Sculpting Experiences, Minneapolis MN

#### **Group Shows**

08/2025 (tentative) Annual Group Exhibition, Westland, MI  
 01/2025 Michigan Annual LII, Mount Clemens, MI  
 11/2024 Presencia: A One Year Anniversary, Detroit, MI  
 08/2024 Unveiled, Jackson, MI  
 05/2023 (tentative) Group Exhibition, Detroit, MI  
 10/2023 Biennial Staff Exhibition, Detroit, MI  
 04/2022 Hatchback 16, Hamtramck, MI  
 10/2021 La Gatita Amable, Detroit, MI  
 05/2021 Broken (America) An Art Pop-up, Detroit, MI  
 05/2021 Macomb County Art Teacher Show 2021, Mount Clemens, MI  
 04/2021 Hatchback 15, Hamtramck, MI  
 01/2021 Michigan Annual XLVIII, Mount Clemens, MI  
 11/2020 Worldwide Juried Online Art Show, online  
 02/2019 Ojos Rojos, Detroit, MI  
 12/2019 Macomb Faculty and Staff, Warren, MI  
 12/2019 Cariño, Detroit, MI  
 03/2018 Traditional/Contemporary, Inver Hills, MN  
 10/2017 Sculpture X, Detroit, MI  
 05/2017 8-Bit, Hamtramck, MI  
 05/2017 Thesis Exhibition, Minneapolis, MN  
 03/2017 Women, Detroit, MI  
 02/2017 Trump: Backward-Forward, Minneapolis, MN  
 01/2017 Disruption: 2017 Volunteer Biennial, Minneapolis, MN  
 10/2016 littleSCULPTURE, Pittsburgh, PA  
 09/2016 AP-OP-TO-SIS, Minneapolis, MN  
 09/2016 CONfluence, Regis Center for the Art, Minneapolis, MN  
 03/2016 MCAD MFA at SOOVAC, Minneapolis, MN  
 01/2016 Minnesota Mean: The Students Take Measure, Minneapolis, MN  
 08/2015 Meeting Waters, Minneapolis, MN  
 06/2015 Emerging Artists, Anton Art Center, Mt. Clemons, MI  
 05/2015 MEGA, Grand Rapids, MI  
 04/2015 Undergraduates, James Pearson Duffy Gallery, Detroit, MI  
 03/07/2015 Women, Detroit, MI  
 03/2015 Virtual Insanity, Detroit, MI  
 01/2015 Graduating Seniors Exhibition, Detroit, MI  
 01/2015 Michigan Annual XLII, Mount Clemens, MI

#### **Education**

2017 Master of Fine Art Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Minneapolis MN  
 2015 Bachelor of Fine Art Honors Wayne State University, Detroit MI  
 2012 Associate of Art, Macomb Community College, Warren MI  
 2012 Associate of General Studies, Macomb Community College, Warren MI

#### **Awards/Grants/Fellowships**

2024 Honorable Mention, Michigan Annual LII  
 2015 Irving D Reed Honors College Award  
 2015 Jurors Award, MEGA  
 2015 Margaret R. Humberger Scholarship

#### **Professional Experience**

2020 - Freelance Artists, Display Group, Detroit, MI  
 2020 - Freelance Artists, Chef Mike Album Cover, MI

2020 - Adjunct Instructor, Saint Clair County Community College, Port Huron, MI  
2019-2020 - Adjunct Instructor, Macomb Community College, Warren, MI  
2019 - Art Coordinator, Macomb Community College, Warren, MI  
2017 - Intern, Kunstverein Würzburg, Würzburg, Germany  
2016 - Installation Intern; Soap Factory, Minneapolis, MN  
2016 - Exhibition Installer; Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Minneapolis, MN  
2015-17 - 3D Shop assistant; Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Minneapolis, MN  
2015 - MFA Studio Monitor assistant; Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Minneapolis, MN

#### **Lectures, Presentations, Workshops**

2025 - PCA/ACA, New Orleans  
2024 - SECAC, Atlanta  
2024 - PCA/ACA, Chicago  
2023 - SECAC, Richmond  
2023 - PCA/ACA, San Antonio  
2022 - PCA ACA, Virtual  
2021 - PCA ACA, Virtual  
2018 - Visiting Artists, University of Wisconsin Stout, Menomonie, WI  
2017 - Sculpture X Symposium, *Demystifying Grad School*, Detroit, MI

#### **Curation**

08/2025 (tentative) Annual Group Exhibition, Westland, MI  
04/2018 - Traditional/Contemporary, Inver Hills, MN

#### **Bibliography**

*Star Tribune*, May 24th 2017, "Artcetera: A Trip to Hades with Minneapolis Artist Samantha Russell",  
Interview by: Alicia Eier  
*Barbed*, Issue #4 (Spring 2016): p.74-75

- Pertinent links (website, video, blog, articles, etc.)  
<https://www.samantharussellfineart.com/>
- Portfolio of 10 to 20 hi-res images, or files of your work  
[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1W0gu6XpAFpyzYBUR-UnKe\\_Istm8-cTYD?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1W0gu6XpAFpyzYBUR-UnKe_Istm8-cTYD?usp=sharing)
- List of three references including name, title, and contact information  
Gretchen Gasterland-Gustafsson, Professor Minneapolis College of Art and Design, ggasterland-gustafsson@mcad.edu, 651-357-3280  
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