FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 15, 2022

DAVIS MUSEUM AT WELLESLEY COLLEGE ANNOUNCES CALL FOR ARTISTS
FOR PRILLA SMITH BRACKETT AWARD

WELLESLEY, Mass. – The Davis Museum at Wellesley College is proud to announce the return of the biennial Prilla Smith Brackett Award. The inaugural award was bestowed in September 2019, and due to the global pandemic, the second iteration was postponed until 2022. The award honors an outstanding female-identified visual artist based in the Greater Boston area.

The second Prilla Smith Brackett Award winner will be announced in September 2022, and will be featured in a virtual exhibition on the Davis Museum’s website and honored in a virtual award ceremony in October 2022. The $15,000 cash award may be used at the artist’s discretion, such as to assist in career advancement through support for travel, research, early project development, project completion, studio costs, childcare costs, catalogue production, and other related expenses.

Eligibility and Award Application
To be eligible, applicants must: live in the Greater Boston area (all towns east of Interstate 495); identify as female (including cis women, trans women, femme/feminine-identifying genderqueer, and non-binary folks); work in the mediums of painting, sculpture, drawing, printmaking, mixed media, photography, film, video, and/or new media arts. Artists at any career stage beyond the first five years...
of professional practice and of all ages, sexual orientations, and racial, ethnic, national, and religious identities are encouraged to apply. The review process will identify three finalists for a studio visit by the jury members, a crucial step in determining the ultimate award recipient.

Application guidelines for the Prilla Smith Brackett Award will be available on Friday, April 15, 2022 via the Davis Museum website at www.wellesley.edu/davismuseum/news. The application portal goes live on Sunday, May 1, 2022. The deadline for submissions is Wednesday, June 1, 2022. Any interested parties may email psb_award@wellesley.edu for additional information.

About Prilla Smith Brackett

Prilla Smith Brackett is an artist known for working with landscape conceptually, depicting more than a description of a place.


Brackett’s honors include a finalist award in painting from the Massachusetts Cultural Council, residencies at the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts and the Ragdale Foundation, an award and residency at the Ucross Foundation, an Earthwatch Artist award in Madagascar, and a fellowship in painting at the Bunting Institute of Radcliffe College.

Born in New Orleans, Brackett has social science degrees from Sarah Lawrence College and the University of California/Berkeley following two years at Wellesley College. She earned her MFA in drawing and painting from the University of Nebraska/Lincoln. She added printmaking to her practice in 2003. Brackett lives and works in Boston, MA.

ABOUT THE DAVIS MUSEUM

One of the oldest and most acclaimed academic fine arts museums in the United States, the Davis Museum is a vital force in the intellectual, pedagogical, and social life of Wellesley College. It seeks to create an environment that encourages visual literacy, inspires new ideas, and fosters involvement with the arts both within the College and the larger community.

ABOUT WELLESLEY COLLEGE AND THE ARTS

The Wellesley College arts curriculum and the highly acclaimed Davis Museum are integral components of the College’s liberal arts education. Departments and programs from across the campus enliven the community with world-class programming—classical and popular music, visual arts, theatre, dance, author readings, symposia, and lectures by some of today’s leading artists and creative thinkers—most of which are free and open to the public.

Since 1875, Wellesley College has been the preeminent liberal arts college for women. Known for its intellectual rigor and its remarkable track record for the cultivation of women leaders in every arena,
Wellesley—only 12 miles from Boston—is home to some 2,400 undergraduates from 49 states and 58 countries.

###

Image credits:
Yu-Wen Wu, *Leavings/Belongings*, 2019, Fabric, thread, string, and fiberfill. Installation view of the culminating exhibition as the 2019 Artist in Residence at the Pao Arts Center, Boston, MA.

Prilla Smith Brackett in her studio, Courtesy Prilla Smith Brackett

Media Contact: Mary Agnew
617-512-7489, Magnew@wellesley.edu

*High-resolution images and interviews available upon request.*