



Plexus No. 33, Dallas artist Gabriel Dawe's temporary installation at the Amarillo Museum of Art, will open to the public on July 15 and be on view through October 16. The medium: common household thread! Scroll down for another amazing view of this piece. Thanks to the Amarillo Museum of Art for sharing these photos, taken by Caitie Quezada. Gabriel Dawe will return to Amarillo for a conversation with Amarillo Museum of Art curator Alex Gregory.

TCA Hits the Road!

Summer brings site visit season to the Texas Commission on the Arts, which means that TCA staff will be visiting a number of grantees to review the financial records kept for TCA grants. The grant report forms submitted to TCA are the basis for the review, and the grantee must show copies of checks, bank statements, and/or other financial documentation that support the expenditure line items on the report form.

TCA conducts these visits to ensure that State dollars are being used appropriately and that best practices in grants management and organization governance are being followed, and to help grantees maintain the fiscal health of their organizations. Not all TCA grantees will host a site visit each year, but those that have gone through a recent leadership transition are more likely, since it gives a TCA staff member a chance to touch base in person.

Information on managing grants is included in grantees' online accounts as an aid to help an organization set up its grant files and maintain records that will facilitate this visit. Following those guidelines at the start of the grant will help all grant recipients stay organized throughout the grant period.

Working as a Community-Based Artist: a Free Professional Development Webinar



Vicki Meek

TCA's next free professional development webinar is **Wednesday, August 17 at 2 PM**. Artist **Vicki Meek** will discuss working as an artist in communities. The traditional idea of artists' work is often limited to making art in a studio setting, alone or in a formal institutional setting. However, focusing solely on this method can lock an artist out of the residency world, especially if the residency requires a community engagement component. This webinar is designed to help artists determine whether their practice lends itself to a

community engagement model. Watch for a specific email that gives information about registering for the webinar as the date approaches.

Presenter **Vicki Meek** is a nationally-recognized artist who has exhibited widely. Meek is in the permanent collections of the African American Museum of Dallas; the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; and Norwalk Community College in Norwalk, Connecticut. She was awarded three public arts commissions with the Dallas Area Rapid Transit Art Program and was co-artist on the largest public art project in Dallas, the Dallas Convention Center Public Art Project. Meek was selected as one of ten national artists to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Nasher Sculpture Center with the commissioning of a site-specific installation. With over 40 years of arts administrative experience that includes working as a senior program administrator for a state arts agency, a local arts agency, and running a nonprofit visual arts center, Vicki Meek retired in March 2016 as the manager of the South Dallas Cultural Center, a full-service African-centered center that is a division of the City of Dallas Office of Cultural Affairs. Meek is currently a fulltime artist who splits her time between Dallas and Costa Rica where she is co-founder of USEKRA: Center for Creative Investigation, a nonprofit retreat for creatives in a wide range of disciplines.

If you missed the **Building a Fundraising Board & Fundraising Basics** webinar we offered with **Cookie Ruiz** on June 15, good news! All of our new professional development webinars are recorded and available at [our Vimeo page](#) for free.

TCA Grant Opportunities and Updates

TCA has two grant programs with upcoming deadlines. As always, the TCA staff is happy to discuss your organization's goals and eligibility to determine which programs are right for you. You may also request that a TCA staff member review your application and provide feedback. Ideally, these requests would be made at least two weeks before the application deadline.

Arts Respond Project

These grants provide project assistance grants to nonprofit arts organizations on a short-term

basis and may include administrative costs directly related to the project. Projects must address one of the following priority areas: **economic development, education, health & human services, public safety & criminal justice, or natural resources & agriculture.**

Activity dates must begin: Between September 1, 2016 and March 31, 2017

Application deadline: Midnight on July 15, 2016

Application form: [online](#)

Resources: [grant guidelines](#), [contact TCA staff](#)

Webinar: Available on [Vimeo](#)

Arts Respond Performance Support

This program provides professional artist fees to Texas nonprofits, schools, colleges, and units of government for hiring an artist from the [Texas Touring Roster](#) to do a performance. These applications are funded based on a percentage of contracted fees.

Activity dates must start: Between September 1, 2016 and December 14, 2016

Application deadline: Midnight on August 1, 2016

Application form: [online](#)

Resources: [grant guidelines](#), [contact TCA staff](#)

Decisions on applications for Arts Respond Performance Support, Arts Respond Project Support, [Cultural Districts Designation](#), and [Cultural District Project Support](#) applications will be made at the September 7, 2016 TCA Commissioners' meeting.

Call for Photos

TCA is looking to update the photos we use to represent our work on our website, in this newsletter, and on our social media platforms. Our goal is to show off the work that we've recently supported around the state. If you have high-quality photos, please [send](#) a few to us along with a description of the program and photographic credits. For now, here's another view of [Gabriel Dawe's Plexus No. 33](#) at the [Amarillo Museum of Art](#).

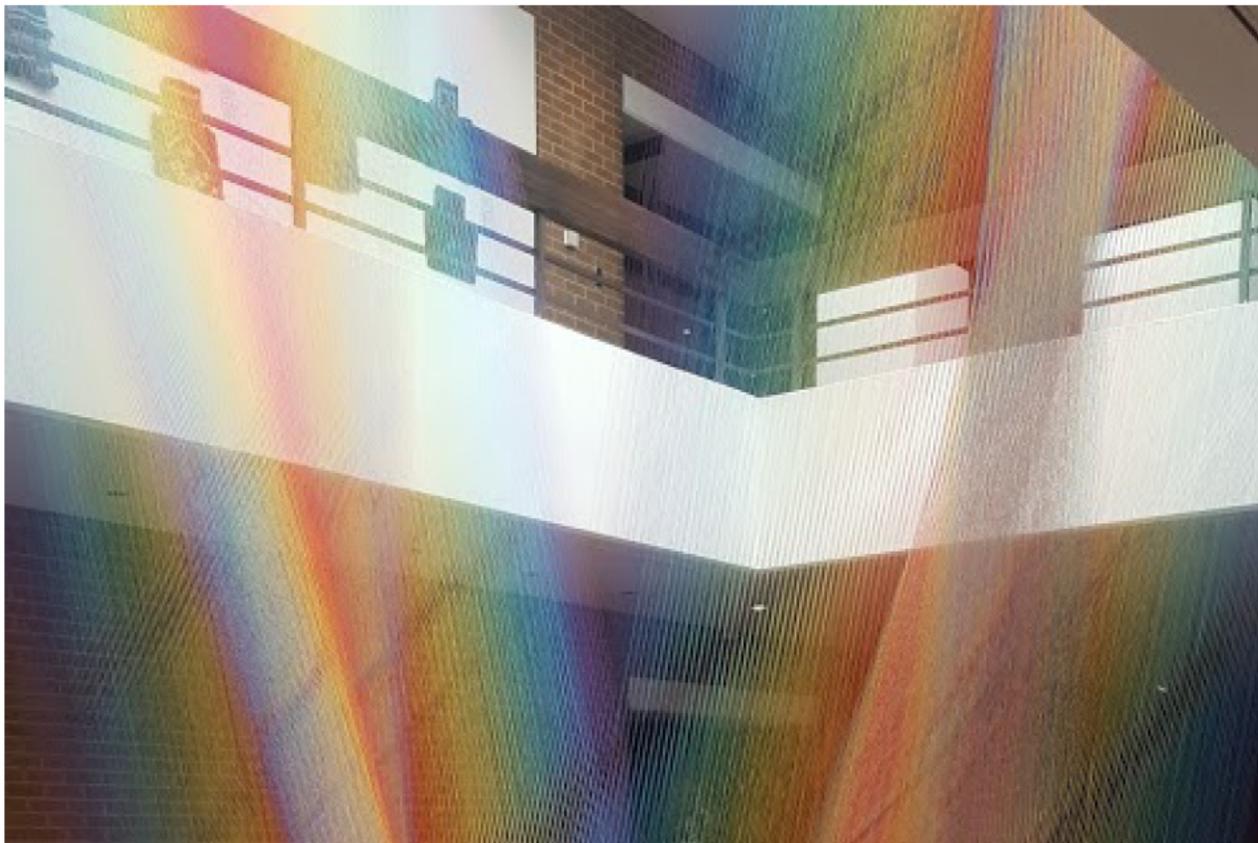




Photo by Caitie Quezada



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