

The Community Foundation's Ann McDonald Baker Art Ventures Award



The Community Foundation's Ann McDonald Baker Art Ventures Award is presented to an artist who articulates an artistic vision and radiance in a medium or discipline which brings distinction to Northeast Florida as an inspiring environment that nurtures creativity.

The Award is designed to build momentum for an artist or performer with extraordinary talent whose investigations involve the creation of

new work accessible to the Northeast Florida community. This is not a lifetime achievement award, but does celebrate past achievement while acknowledging a resolute commitment to an artistic discipline/field. The Award also acknowledges the personal investment the artist has made to the work, and empowers him/her further through an unrestricted grant to be used however the artist sees fit.

Individuals from Northeast Florida but who have achieved their primary successes elsewhere will not be considered. No applications are accepted. No posthumous awards will be made, and no one may receive the Award more than once.

Selection: A knowledgeable, anonymous panel of advisors will put forward names of deserving artists in all disciplines throughout the year. The advisory panel will review the nominees and put forward a list of finalists. The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida will assemble a Selection Committee made up of members of the Baker family, past and current Trustees of The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida, and The Community Foundation President. The Selection Committee will review the finalists and name the winner of the Ann M. Baker Art Ventures Award.

Ann McDonald Baker Art Ventures Award Recipients:

- 2015 Terrance L. Patterson, founder Ritz Chamber Players
- 2016 David Engdahl, visual artist
- 2017 Jim Draper, visual artist
- 2018 Louise Freshman Brown, visual artist
- 2019 John Bunker, visual artist
- 2020 Jorge Pena, viola for JSO, and founder of the St. Augustine Music Festival
- 2021 Doug Eng, visual artist
- 2022 Ulysses Owens, jazz musician and founder Don't Miss A Beat
- 2023 Sarah Crooks, visual artist
- 2024 Marsha Hatcher, visual artist
- 2025 Kathy Starke, visual artist

About Ann McDonald Baker



It is most fitting that this award honors the late Ann McDonald Baker, whose many contributions to our community continue to have an impact today. She co-founded The Community Foundation's Art Ventures Fund, which began supporting individual artists and small arts organizations in 1990, and has enabled hundreds of artists and dozens of small arts organizations to grow and thrive. She founded Jacksonville Arts Assembly, which is now known as The Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville. Ann became The Community Foundation's first female Board of Trustees chairman in 2002, and led the Board during the pivotal period prior to the launch of the 10 year Quality Education for All initiative. Ann was also one of founders of the Women's Giving Alliance, an initiative of The Community Foundation that has made grants totaling more than \$10 million to benefit women and girls in Northeast Florida since 2001.