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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## The Sculpture Center Welcomes Three 2017 Summer Interns for Community Outreach and Ohio Outdoor Sculpture Inventory (OOSI) Curation

**CLEVELAND**— The Sculpture Center, an arts institution dedicated to advancing the careers of emerging sculptors of Ohio and its greater region and the preservation of Ohio outdoor public sculpture for artists, Cleveland, and the greater community, is excited to welcome three **2017 Summer Interns**:

**Megan McCollum**, Marketing and Community Outreach Intern

**Nafis Watson**, Marketing and Community Outreach Intern

**John Paul Peralta**, OOSI (Ohio Outdoor Sculpture Inventory) Development Intern

“We can't wait to see what our 2017 summer intern team will accomplish over the next few weeks, thanks to funding from the ARTS Intern Program of the Studio Institute of New York,” says Ann Albano, executive director + chief curator. **“Our summer interns will be encouraging Cleveland’s underserved minority communities to take advantage of The Sculpture Center’s free arts programming, and enhancing and expanding The Sculpture Center’s unique Ohio Outdoor Sculpture Inventory (OOSI) for free public cultural education.”**

The Sculpture Center’s 2017 Summer Interns answered a formal call placed in the spring of 2017. **Megan McCollum**, Marketing and Community Outreach Intern, is a B.A. Candidate (2018) in Illustration with an emphasis in Graphic Design at the Cleveland Institute of Art. **Nafis Watson** is a B.F.A. Candidate (2019) in Sculpture and Expanded Media at the Cleveland Institute of Art. **John Paul Peralta** is a B.A. Candidate in Art History, French, and Theatre (2019) at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland.

\*High Resolution Image Available



From L to R: Megan McCollum, Ann Albano (executive director + chief curator), John Paul Peralta, and Nafis Watson

Interning at The Sculpture Center gives an in depth exposure to the complexities and rewards of managing a small arts institution. The Sculpture Center’s 2017 Summer Interns were graciously funded by the **ARTS Intern Program of the Studio Institute of New York**, which places undergraduates from diverse cultural backgrounds with high financial need in paid summer internships at museums and cultural institutions. ARTS Intern was offered for the first time this year to Cleveland students. **Learn more at [www.artsintern.org](http://www.artsintern.org).**

The Sculpture Center is an arts institution dedicated to **advancing the careers** of emerging sculptors of **Ohio and its greater region** and the **preservation of Ohio outdoor public sculpture**, as a means to provide support for artists and to effect the enrichment, education, enjoyment and visual enhancement of the Cleveland community and beyond. It is **unique in the nation** for its role as an **incubator** for early career sculptors in a defined region.

The Sculpture Center is a **risk-taking** organization that encourages the creation of **new artwork** for all its exhibitions. We broadly define **“sculptors”** as *artists of sculpture and other three dimensional work in all media, installation, social practice, expanded media, and performance*. The artists often expand into **new directions** when provided the opportunity to exhibit here.

Our annual keystone exhibitions in support of our mission are the **Window to Sculpture Emerging Artist Series (W2S)**, founded in 1990. Through an ever expanding **inventory of Ohio outdoor public sculpture (OOSI)** at [oosi.sculpturecenter.org](http://oosi.sculpturecenter.org), Ohioans can discover the riches of their artistic surroundings.

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### **About the Ohio Outdoor Sculpture Inventory (OOSI)**

*There are over 1,000 publicly accessible outdoor sculptures in Ohio listed in the free OOSI with images, historical data and condition information provided. OOSI is maintained by The Sculpture Center as both a reference tool and a means to encourage communities to preserve their outdoor public sculpture. **Learn More at [oosi.sculpturecenter.org](http://oosi.sculpturecenter.org).***

### **About The Sculpture Center**

*Founded by Cleveland artist David E. Davis in 1989, The Sculpture Center is a not-for-profit arts organization with a mission unique to this country of supporting the careers of emerging sculptors of Ohio and our greater region and encouraging the preservation of Ohio public outdoor sculpture. The Sculpture Center exhibits the highest quality contemporary sculpture by rapidly rising, mid-career, and established artists with a focus on sculpture of our region. We value risk taking and an exploration of new avenues of creativity by each artist. New artwork is created especially for all our curated exhibitions. Admission is always free. There is ample free parking and handicap accessibility to our galleries.*

*The Sculpture Center receives generous support from The Callahan Foundation, The John P. Murphy Foundation, the Bernice and David E. Davis Art Foundation, the Davis Sculpture Foundation, The George Gund Foundation, The Char and Chuck Fowler Family Foundation, studioTECHNE|architects, Sculpture Center board members, and many individual donors to Friends of The Sculpture Center. The 2016 W2S series and catalog was directly supported by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Elizabeth Firestone Graham Foundation. The Sculpture Center is supported in part by the residents of Cuyahoga County through a public grant from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture. It is also supported by grants from the Ohio Arts Council which receives federal monies through the National Endowment for the Arts. **Learn More at [sculpturecenter.org](http://sculpturecenter.org).***

