

Monica Ikegwu (b.1998, Maryland)

Painter

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Education:

2020 - 2022	New York Academy of Art. MFA. Painting
2016 - 2020	Maryland Institute College of Art. BFA, Painting.

Solo Exhibitions:

2026	Band of Vices "Read in Red" (Los Angeles, CA)
2026	Columbus Museum of Art "Through the Veil" (Columbus, GA)
2025	Band of Vices Art Gallery "New Growth" (Los Angeles, CA)
2024	Galerie Myrtis "Extensions" (Baltimore, MD)
2023	Band of Vices Art Gallery "Duo" (Los Angeles, CA)
2019	Band of Vices Art Gallery "We've Always Been Here" (Los Angeles, CA)

Two person Exhibitions:

2021	Band of Vices Art Gallery "GAZE" (w/ Thomas Mitchell) (Los Angeles, CA)
2018	Ida B's Table "Sunflower Seeds" (w/ Katelyn Brown) (Baltimore, MD)

Group Exhibitions:

2026	Galerie Myrtis "Stars and Stripes" (Baltimore, MD)
2026	MICA "Making America Again: So Strong, So Brave, So True" (Baltimore, MD)
2026	Galerie Myrtis "Holding Space to Bloom" (Virtual Exhibition)
2026	Butter Art Fair (Los Angeles, CA)
2025	Ruby Projects "The Gospel in Brief" (Houston, TX)
2025	1-54 Art Fair (New York, New York)
2024	African American Museum in Philadelphia "Shared Vision" (Philadelphia, PA)
2024	Chicago EXPO (Chicago, IL)
2023	High Line Nine Galleries "Easy Like Sunday Morning" (New York, NY)
2023	Context Art Fair Miami (Miami, FL)
2023	Wright Home Exhibition "It Is True... I was Created in You" (Mechanicsburg, PA)

2023 Galerie Myrtis “There Within Lies the Gospel Truth” (Baltimore, MD)

2023 “The Culture: Hip Hop & Contemporary Art in the 21st Century” Traveling Show

- Baltimore Museum of Art (Baltimore, MD)
- Saint Louis Art Museum (St. Louis, MO)
- Schirn Kunsthalle Frankfurt (Frankfurt, DE)
- Cincinnati Art Museum (Cincinnati, OH)
- Art Gallery of Toronto (Toronto, CA)

2023 “Rising Voices 3 - The Bennett Prize” Traveling Exhibition

- Muskegon Museum of Art (Muskegon, MI)
- Arnot Art Museum (Elmira, NY)
- Customs House: Museum and Cultural Center (Clarksville, TN)
- Pittsburgh Cultural Trust (Pittsburgh, PA)
- Bo Bartlett Center, Columbus State University (Columbus, GA)
- Studio Incamminati (Philadelphia, PA)

2023 Rhimes Performing Arts Center “You’ve Got a Friend” (Los Angeles, CA)

2023 Harlem Fine Arts Show (New York, NY)

2023 Reginald F. Lewis Museum “The Afro Futurist Manifesto: Blackness Reimagined” (Baltimore, MD)

2022 Context Art Fair Miami (Miami, FL)

2022 Band of Vices “They Might Be Giants” (Los Angeles, CA)

2022 Banneker Douglass Museum “The Radical Voice of Blackness Speaks of Resistance and Joy” (Annapolis, MD)

2022 Galerie Myrtis “The Beautiful and the Damned” (Baltimore, MD)

2022 LeeAhn Gallery “Color of the Times” (Daegu, SK)

2022 Phillips Auction House “Arrangements in Black” (New York, NY)

2022 Venice Biennale “Afro Futurist Manifesto: Blackness Reimagined” (Venice, IT)

2022 Urban Zen “To Each, Her Own” (New York, NY)

2022 Museum of Science and Industry “Black Creativity” (Chicago, IL)

2022 New York Academy of Art “Eye to Eye” (New York, NY)

2021 LED Baltimore Art Board (Baltimore, MD)

2021 UTA Artist Space “Literary Muse” (Beverly Hills, CA)

2021 Urban Zen “Truth About Me” (New York, NY)

2021 New York Academy of Art “Parallels and Peripheries” (New York, NY)

2020 Prizm Art Fair “Noir, Noir: Meditations in African Cinema and its influence on Visual Art” (Virtual Exhibition)

2020 Bethesda Painting Award Exhibition (Bethesda, MD)

2020 Alternate ROOTS “In the Hallway” (Virtual Salon Exhibition)

2020 Maryland Institute College of Art “Thesis Exhibition” (Virtual Exhibition)

2020 Band of Vices Art Gallery “Masterpiece” (Los Angeles, CA)

2020	UTA Artist Space “Renaissance: Noir” (Beverly Hills, CA)
2020	CFHILL “Black Voices - Black Microcosm” (Stockholm, SE)
2020	Baltimore City Hall “1 Corinthians 12:14” (Baltimore, MD)
2020	Goucher College “Anatomy of Living Color” (Baltimore, MD)
2020	Foley Gallery “Our Earthly Figures” (New York, NY)
2020	Revival Hotel “BHM” (Baltimore, MD)
2019	The Creative Alliance “We Are One” (Baltimore, MD)
2019	Pennsylvania Academy of the Arts “Crosscurrents” (Philadelphia, PA)
2019	ItsLiquid Group “Anima Mundi - Visions” (Venice, IT)
2019	Baltimore City Hall “B_19” (Baltimore, MD)
2019	Open Space Gallery “All the Feels” (Baltimore, MD)
2018	Ida B’s Table “The Full Gamut” (Baltimore, MD)
2018	XL Catlin Art Prize Traveling Exhibition - Linda Warren Projects Art Gallery (Chicago, IL) - New York Academy of Art (New York, NY) - San Francisco Art Institute (San Francisco, CA)
2018	Band of Vices Art Gallery “& Introducing” (Los Angeles, CA)
2018	Baltimore Polytechnic Institute “BPI Gallery” (Baltimore, MD)
2018	Reginald F. Lewis Museum “Reflections of Baltimore: Painting” (Baltimore, MD)

Awards:

2026	Bethesda Painting Awards, Finalist
2025	Baker Artist Award Winner, Mary Sawyers Baker Prize
2022	Bennett Art Prize, Finalist
2022	Portrait Society of America: Future Generation Competition, Honorable Mention
2020	Bethesda Painting Awards, Young Artist Award winner
2020	Elizabeth Greenshields Foundation Grant recipient
2018	AXA Art Prize (Formerly known as XL Catlin Art Prize), 1st place winner
2017	YoungArts, Visual Arts National winner
2016	YoungArts, Visual Arts Merit winner
2016	Scholastics, National Portfolio Silver key winner
2016	NAACP ACT-SO, National Painting Gold medalist
2015	NAACP ACT-SO, National Painting Bronze medalist

Publications:

2025	<i>Beautiful Bizarre Magazine</i> , Page 24-25, Issue 48, March 2025
2025	<i>Arts to Hearts Magazine</i> , Issue 8

- 2024 *New American Paintings*, Pages 79-82, Volume 29, Issue 3
- 2024 *Kolo Magazine*, Pages 86-91, July 2024 Issue
- 2024 *New Visionary*, page 33, 44-45, Issue 12, Autumn 2024
- 2024 *Studio Visit*, page 40, Volume 52
- 2023 *Friend of the Artist*, Page 168-171, Volume 17
- 2023 *Beautiful Bizarre Magazine*, Page 34-35, Issue 42
- 2023 *Baltimore Magazine*, Page 141, August 2023 Issue
- 2023 *The Culture: Hip Hop and Contemporary art in the 21st Century* catalog, page 138
- 2023 *American Art Collector*, Page 43, Issue 208, February
- 2022 *Shifting Time*, iv and pages 130-131
- 2022 *Voyage Baltimore*. Jan. 10, 2022, Rising Stars: Meet Monica Ikegwu,
<https://voyagebaltimore.com/interview/rising-stars-meet-monica-ikegwu-of-baltimore/>
- 2021 *Tomorrow's Talent* (Booooooom), Page 82-83, Volume II
- 2021 *Voice of Artists* (Artit), Page 48, Issue 14
- 2021 *New American Paintings*, Page 80-83, Volume 25, Issue 3
- 2021 *Fine Art Connoisseur*, Page 55, April 2021 Issue
- 2020 *Bmore Art*, Kopf, Suzy. Jan. 6, 2020, Art AND: Monica Ikegwu,
<https://bmoreart.com/2020/01/art-and-monica-ikegwu.html>
- 2020 *Artpremium Magazine*, Page 132, Winter 2020 issue
- 2019 *Spotlight Magazine*, Page 35, Issue 17, December
- 2019 *Create! Magazine*, Pages 152-153, Issue 14, March/April
- 2018 *XL Catlin Art Prize Catalogue*, 2 page spread, November
- 2017 *The Adroit Journal*, Cover, Issue 19, January

Collections:

Saint Louis Art Museum (St. Louis, MO)
 Baltimore Museum of Art (Baltimore, MD)
 Columbus Museum of Art (Columbus, GA)
 Pertrucci Foundation
 Muskegon Museum of Art (Muskegon, MI)