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Contact: Véronique Côté, Executive Director
CEPA • Center for Exploratory & Perceptual Arts • cepagallery.org
617 Main Street, Suite 201, Buffalo, NY 14203

Phone: 215.779.4371 (cell)
Email: veronique@cepagallery.org
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Nicole Chochrek to Work in Partnership with The Center for Exploratory & Perceptual Arts as Recipients of Creatives Rebuild New York's Artist Employment Program

Buffalo, NY— Nicole Chochrek and the Center for Exploratory & Perceptual Arts (CEPA) have announced that they received an Artist Employment Program (AEP) grant from Creatives Rebuild New York (CRNY). Designed to support employment opportunities for artists, the program is funding 98 collaborations involving a dynamic group of 300 artists employed by community-based organizations, municipalities, and tribal governments across New York State.

Nicole Chochrek will work with CEPA on *Reading Landscapes*, an interdisciplinary art initiative focused on environmental stewardship and neurodiversity while also fostering awareness of plastic pollution. CEPA and Chochrek will create art education workshops, public art, and community programming.

"This partnership is an exciting step for CEPA, allowing us to strengthen our vision of paid opportunities for creatives and the diversification of perspectives in the art world," Véronique Côté, CEPA's Executive Director says. "We are thrilled to be doing this work with a talented neurodivergent artist and look forward to what the next two years of collaboration hold."

CEPA and Chochrek's partnership will add to CEPA's current successes in their *Alternative Perspectives* programming, which welcomes neurodivergent and differently-abled voices into the art world through arts education programming and exhibitions.

Says Chochrek, "I feel immense gratitude for the opportunity for artists like myself to be funded and supported by the mentorship of an organization. I'm excited to expand our reach and impact and bring the scope of my work into the broader public sphere."

Artist Employment Program recipients were selected through a two-stage process by a group of twenty external peer reviewers alongside CRNY staff. From an initial pool of over 2,700

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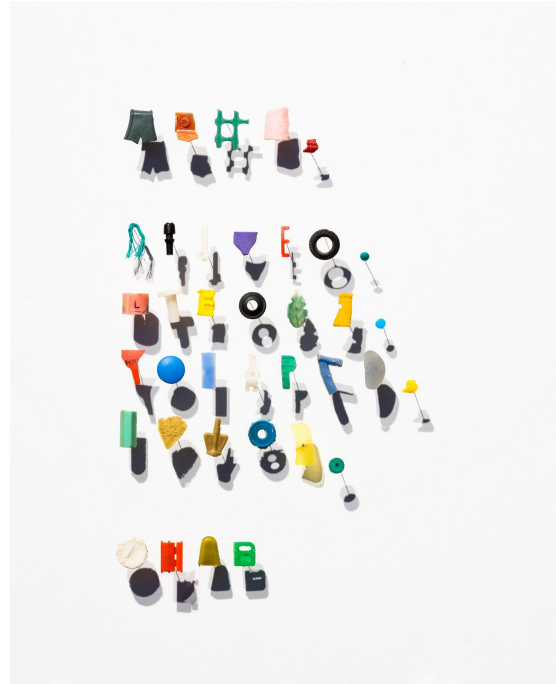
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written applications, 167 were shortlisted for interviews with reviewers. To view the list of 98 Artist Employment Program participants, visit <https://www.creativesrebuildny.org/participants/>.

You can learn more about CEPA at cepagallery.org, Nicole Chochrek at nicolechochrek.com, and CRNY's Artist employment program at creativesrebuildny.org.



Nicole Chochrek, CEPA's Artist-In-Residence



CORRESPONDENCE WITH DETRITUS
Nicole Chochrek, 2021