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Kresge Foundation Awards 18 Detroit-Area Artists \$25,000 Each

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Eighteen Detroit-area artists have won twenty-five thousand dollars each, the first awards of an unprecedented no-strings-attached annual fellowship program designed to keep the area's top visual artists from leaving the state in search of greener pastures, according to the *Detroit News*.

The awards were created and funded by the Kresge Foundation, born of the old Kresge five-and-dime empire—the predecessor to Kmart.

The 2009 Kresge Artist Fellows in the Visual Arts are: Shiva Ahmadi, Abigail Anne Newbold, Hartmut Austen, Gordon Newton, Lynne Avadenka, Russ Orlando, Kristin Beaver, Senghor Reid, Ed Fraga, Michael Edward Smith, Susan Goethel Campbell, Gilda Snowden, Tyree Guyton, Cedric Tai, Chido Johnson, Sioux Trujillo, Rod Klingelhofer, and Corine Vermeulen-Smith.

The 2009 Kresge Artist Fellowship Panel that selected the fellows includes: Susan Bandes, director of Kresge Art Museum at Michigan State University, Lansing, Michigan; Aaron Betsky, director of the Cincinnati Art Museum, Cincinnati, Ohio; Dick Goody, director of the Oakland University Art Gallery, Rochester, MI; Lorna Simpson, artist, Brooklyn, NY; and Richard Tuttle, artist, New York, NY and Abiquiu, New Mexico.

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