

# U C R O S S

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40TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN



ABOUT

## UCROSS

Ucross fosters the creative spirit by providing uninterrupted time, studio space, living accommodations, and the experience of the majestic High Plains to working artists, all while serving as a responsible steward of our historic 20,000-acre ranch in northern Wyoming.

Ucross supports writers, visual artists, performers, composers, choreographers, and multidisciplinary artists, as well as interdisciplinary groups and unique collaborations.

Each year, 100 artists receive a residency at Ucross. Each artist receives either two, four, or six weeks of self-directed time to develop new work, experiment, reflect, and/or explore the landscape and extraordinary setting around them. Typically, 10 artists are in residence at one time. Since 1983, we have hosted nearly 2,600 artists. These individuals traveled to Ucross from every corner of the United States, as well as 28 other countries.

Ucross's residency program plays a vital and meaningful role in the nation's arts and letters. Our location in the foothills of the Bighorn Mountains, the working ranch, and the vast Wyoming sky merge with the program to deliver a powerful, often transformative experience for our artists in residence. Work that has been inspired by, nurtured by, or otherwise supported by Ucross has gone on to be read, viewed, or heard by hundreds of millions of people around the world.

*"The gifts of time, quiet, and a space would be plenty, but added to that is the supportive atmosphere created by the staff and the intense ever-changing beauty of the earth and sky. I have done some of my best work here."*

—LAURIE LEWIS, three-time Ucross Fellow







In addition to supporting artists, Ucross also serves as a cultural resource for the community through special events and programming in the Ucross Art Gallery, the Raymond Plank Center, and through local and regional partners. Our mission also involves land stewardship and conservation activities, connecting the working ranch and the natural setting to the artist experience.

Lastly, Ucross participates in more than a dozen creative partnerships with national organizations that enhance our ability to support outstanding artists with residencies. National partners include the Sundance Institute, the PEN/Hemingway Award, the Ford Family Foundation, the Herb Alpert Award in the Arts, the Alley Theatre, UCLA's Center for the Art of Performance, the University of Houston, Yale University, the Shepherd School of Music at Rice University, and Cave Canem.

# NOTABLE ALUMNI & SELECTED HONORS

## PULITZER PRIZES

Ayad Akhtar, playwright  
Annie Baker, playwright  
Nilo Cruz, playwright  
Michael R. Jackson, playwright  
Bruce Norris, playwright  
Annie Proulx, fiction  
Paula Vogel, playwright  
Colson Whitehead, fiction (2x)  
Doug Wright, playwright  
Charles Wuorinen, composer (2x)  
Du Yun, composer

## MACARTHUR "GENIUS" GRANTS

Annie Baker, playwright  
Brandon Jacobs-Jenkins, playwright  
Josh Kun, writer and curator  
Jason Moran, composer  
Claudia Rankine, poet and essayist  
Sarah Ruhl, playwright  
Karen Russell, fiction  
Colson Whitehead, fiction  
Charles Wuorinen, composer

## NATIONAL BOOK AWARDS

Sarah M. Broom, nonfiction  
Susan Choi, fiction  
Ha Jin, fiction  
Sigrid Nunez, fiction  
Annie Proulx, fiction  
Bob Shacochis, fiction  
Andrew Solomon, nonfiction  
Jean Valentine, poetry  
Colson Whitehead, fiction

## TONY AWARDS

William Finn, writer and composer  
Robert Freedman, writer  
Adam Guettel, writer and composer  
Bruce Norris, writer  
Billy Porter, actor  
Ruben Santiago-Hudson, actor/playwright  
Jeanine Tesori, composer  
Doug Wright, playwright

## ACADEMY AWARDS

Benj Pasek and Justin Paul, co-lyricists ("City of Stars," *La La Land*)

## EMMY AWARDS

Billy Porter, actor

## GOLDEN GLOBE AWARDS

Benj Pasek and Justin Paul, co-lyricists, twice  
(for songs in *La La Land* and *The Greatest Showman*)

## SAMPLE MOVIES BASED ON WORKS BY UCROSS ARTISTS

*Eat Pray Love* (Elizabeth Gilbert)  
*Brokeback Mountain* and *The Shipping News*  
(Annie Proulx)  
*The Son* (Philipp Meyer)  
*Billy Lynn's Long Half-Time Walk* (Ben Fountain)  
*Mudbound* (Hillary Jordan)  
*Wild* (Cheryl Strayed)

## UNITED STATES POET LAUREATE

Joy Harjo, 2019 -

Plus 86+ John Simon Guggenheim Fellowships, 20+ Whiting Foundation Writers Awards, 15+ PEN/Hemingway Award for Debut Fiction winners, and many, many more.



### HERB ALPERT AWARD IN THE ARTS

Emily Jacir  
Byron Kim  
Bill Morrison

### ROME PRIZE

Polly Apfelbaum  
Emily Jacir  
Cynthia Madansky  
Karen Yasinsky

### CREATIVE CAPITAL AWARDS

Polly Apfelbaum  
Laura Carton  
Theaster Gates  
Vanalynne Green  
Barbara Hammer  
Wendy Jacobs  
Bill Morrison  
Paul Rucker  
Gregory Sale  
Lee Anne Schmitt  
Stacey Steers  
Stephen Vitiello  
Deke Weaver  
Quintan Ana Wikswo

### USA FELLOWS (UNITED STATES ARTISTS)

Laylah Ali  
JJJerome Ellis  
Theaster Gates  
Anthony Hernandez  
Lars Jan  
Emmy Pérez  
Tip Toland  
Anne Wilson

### POLLACK-KRASNER FOUNDATION GRANTS

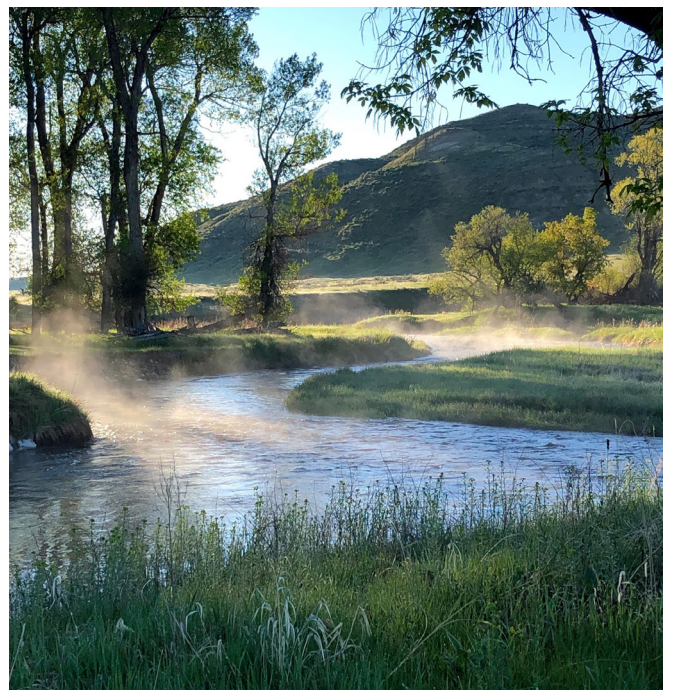
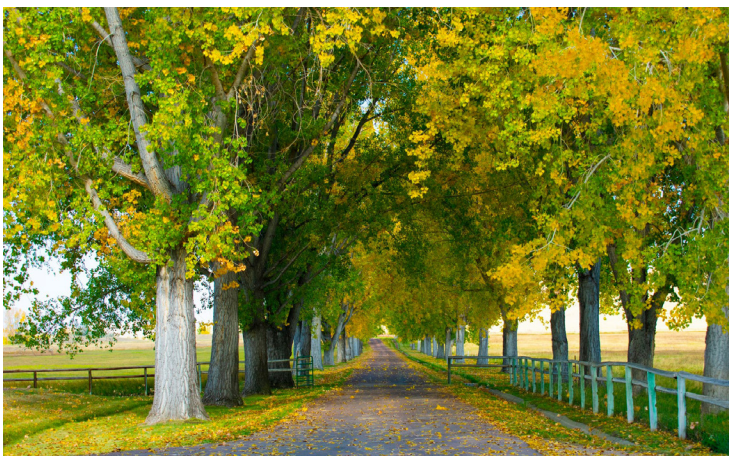
Golnar Adili  
Polly Apfelbaum  
Olive Ayhens  
Rhona Bitner  
Kellyann Burns  
Benjamin Butler  
Elisabeth Condon  
Morgan Craig  
Janet Culbertson  
Elizabeth Duffy  
Jessica Dunne  
Nina Elder  
Julie Gross  
Kara Hammond  
Munson Hunt  
Ron Johnson  
Darina Karpov  
Tatana Kellner  
Michelle Kong  
Katie Merz  
Samuel Nigro  
Timothy Nolan  
Elizabeth O'Reilly  
Joseph Pearson  
Gillian Pederson-Krag  
Heidi Pollard  
Yvonne Puffer  
Carolee Schneemann  
Tanja Softic  
Al Souza  
Rachel Stevens  
Josette Urso  
Mel Watkin  
Katerina Wong  
Brenda Zlamany

# UCROSS

## THE UCROSS EXPERIENCE

Ucross is set on a working ranch at the confluence of three creeks, at the intersection of highways 14 and 16, where the High Plains meet the Bighorn Mountains. The location — and the vastness of the Wyoming landscape — has a powerful effect on the creative process. The time, space, and experience Ucross provides is energizing, profound, and rare. Our artists in residence have described it as “life-changing.”

Ucross also exists at a nexus of art, ranching, conservation, rural culture, tourism, and Native American history. It is a prime example of what makes the contemporary American West so vibrant and unique. As a cultural resource for the community, we provide exhibitions, events, and educational programs at the Raymond Plank Center and the Ucross Art Gallery, and we reach thousands online through our Ucross Uninterrupted events, social media, and website. The confluence of people, ideas, programs, and nature is what makes Ucross special; it is what sets us apart.







That experience extends beyond the residency period itself, as Ucross supports its alumni artists throughout their creative careers, not just while they are in residency. This includes, but is not limited to, social media efforts, alumni news, publications, and event design (virtual and in-person), as well as exhibitions in the Ucross Art Gallery,

The property remains a working cattle ranch, which is managed holistically with a focus on responsible land stewardship practices. In 1999, a conservation easement was placed on more than half the ranch, held by the Wyoming Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. In 2015, the ranch was designated an Important Bird Area by the Bighorn Audubon Society.

*“Folks come here and take home a little piece of the magic that is Wyoming. I’ve heard it over and over again from artists whose masterpieces were inspired by their time at the Ucross Foundation, a historic Wyoming ranch that has become the premier artist-in-residence program in the country.”*

**—WYOMING GOVERNOR MARK GORDON, Inauguration Address (Jan. 7, 2019)**

# U C R O S S

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## 40TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

### CASE FOR SUPPORT

As we approach our 40th anniversary (2023), Ucross is at a pivotal moment in our history. The gift of uninterrupted time, free from distraction, in a supportive, artist-centric environment, is increasingly rare. Our artist residency program is poised for further growth, recognition, and success.

With the next 40 years in mind, our board of trustees has identified key areas for investment, including facilities upgrades and program enhancements that will preserve the Ucross experience, deepen our connection to the community, and enable us to remain a relevant, meaningful resource for artists.

**As such, Ucross is launching a \$5 million campaign, led by a \$1.175 million gift by Deborah and Edward Koehler of the Raymond Plank Philanthropy Fund. The 40TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN includes capital projects such as the renovation of the Ucross Art Gallery and construction of a new dance studio and performance space, as well as investments in our program and community engagement activities.**

During the quiet phase of the campaign, Ucross has raised \$2.8 million, which includes the \$1.175 million lead gift and 100 percent participation by our board of trustees. To meet our \$5 million goal by the end of 2023, we need to raise an additional \$2.2 million. We are asking individuals and grant-makers to join us in celebrating Ucross's 40th anniversary by contributing to the campaign.





**CAMPAIGN GOAL: \$5,000,000**  
**RAISED IN QUIET PHASE: \$2,804,690**  
***NEED: \$2,195,310***

Funding secured during the **40TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN** supports facilities upgrades; program enhancements, including investment in artist stipends and fellowship support; and community engagement initiatives. Together, the \$5 million will:

- Preserve the Ucross experience.
- Complete a major renovation of the Ucross Art Gallery, which will serve as a cultural resource for the community and visitors to the region.
- Construct a dance studio and performance space that will strengthen our support for dancers, choreographers, and performers.
- Help Ucross remain a relevant, meaningful resource for artists of all backgrounds.
- Help us serve as a cultural resource for our community, connecting our extraordinary alumni artists to the Sheridan County area, throughout Wyoming, and across the Mountain West region.
- Build organizational capacity and position Ucross for long-term success.

**CAMPAIGN CO-CHAIRS**

Steve Farris  
Susan Miller

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

William Belcher, President  
Jesse Marion  
Jim Nelson

**UCROSS FOUNDATION**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Jim Nelson, Chair  
Kim Cannon  
Chad Deaton  
Steve Farris  
Charlie Hart  
Lisa Hatchadoorian  
Jesse Marion  
Susan Miller  
Kate Schutt  
Scott Manning Stephens

**A gift to Ucross's 40TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN is an investment in working artists, an investment in the creation of new work, an investment in the role that Ucross plays in the nation's arts and letters, and an investment in our goal to deepen our relationship with our community.**



# UCROSS

40TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

## UCROSS ART GALLERY

The Ucross Art Gallery, which is housed in the Big Red Barn in the center of Ucross's campus, is dedicated to enhancing, supporting, and amplifying the creative work of Ucross's visual and collaborative artists. The renovation of the Ucross Art Gallery is a centerpiece of the **40TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN**.

Once complete, the renovated interior will offer a two-story central room to allow for large-scale works of art, such as sculptures and installations. The reconfigured space will also include a digital media room; a program office; a kitchen for event support; art receiving and storage space; and a collaborative meeting room for artists, staff, and trustees.

An important public extension of the organization's mission, the Ucross Art Gallery will present two to three exhibitions each year focused on alumni, including the recipients of the Ucross Fellowships for Native American Visual Artists. Each exhibition offers new opportunities for educational programming, artist talks, public workshops, and exhibition brochures. Entry will be free and open to the public.







Interior renderings of the Ucross Art Gallery provided by Arete Design Group, Sheridan, WY.

## UPCOMING EXHIBITIONS

*Time, Mark, Memory: Ucross at 40 (Alumni Series 1 of 3)*

Guest Curator: Leah Ollman

*Field Companions: Teresa Baker, Anthony Hudson, Eliza Naranjo Morse, and Jessica Mehta (2020-2021 Recipients of the Ucross Fellowship for Native American Visual Artists)*

Guest Curator: Andrea Hanley

*The Shape of Time: 18 Photographers (Alumni Series 2 of 3)*

Guest Curator: Keith Davis

# UCROSS

40TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

## DANCE STUDIO & PERFORMANCE SPACE

To enhance our program offerings for dancers, choreographers, and performers, Ucross is constructing a state-of-the-art dance studio and multi-purpose performance space. This building will connect to the Ucross Art Gallery through a glass vestibule.

The exterior of the new building is designed to reflect the iconic profile of the Big Red Barn, but it will offer several unique features. In addition to the vestibule, a set of large accordion-style glass doors will open onto a concrete patio, allowing artists to cross between the studio and the open air. The patio, which provides a stunning view of the Bighorn Mountains to the west, will also double as an outdoor viewing area for public performances.

The space will be primarily used as a state-of-the-art studio for dancers, performers, and groups, but it will also serve as a flexible performance space that connects the indoor and outdoor, providing a whole new set of opportunities for our artists in residence, as well as the public.

Ucross is known for its writing studios, its visual arts studios, and its composer studios. The addition of a stunning new dance studio will further set Ucross apart and attract more world-class dancers, choreographers, and groups to Ucross, Wyoming.



The Big Red Barn and Ucross Art Gallery connected to the dance studio. Rendering by Arete Design Group, Sheridan, WY





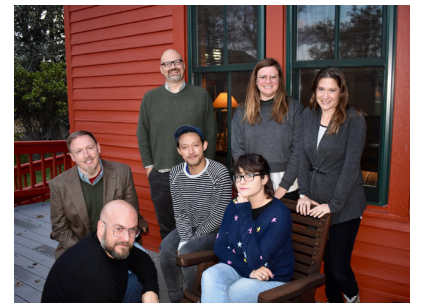
Renderings of the dance studio provided by Arete Design Group, Sheridan, WY.

# UCROSS

40TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

## PROGRAM ENHANCEMENTS

Gifts to the **40TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN** will preserve the Ucross experience and help us remain a relevant, meaningful resource for artists of all backgrounds.



Ucross continues to invest in its program, which is the core, mission-driven work of the nonprofit organization. Each year, the 100 artists who are selected for a residency at Ucross are provided with a private studio, accommodations, meals by a professional chef, and staff support, as well as the cross-cultural, cross-disciplinary discussion that happens with their peers. In 2021, Ucross began a pilot program to provide each artist with a stipend to offset a portion of their travel and lost income during their two-, four-, or six-week residency. Funds raised during the **40TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN** will allow us to sustain the artist stipends while simultaneously investing in much-needed program enhancements, such as updated studio equipment and furnishings in resident rooms. Campaign funds will also support important programs such as the Ucross Fellowships for Native American Visual Artists and Writers.





# UCROSS

40TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

## ART + COMMUNITY

As Ucross looks to its future, it is also investing in its role as a cultural resource for the community. We see the Ucross Art Gallery, the Koehler Performing Arts Center, the re-furnished Raymond Plank Center, the Park at Ucross, the Ucross Chapel, and the land as part of a dynamic ecosystem that connects our residency program and artist alumni with the public.

In addition, funds raised during the **40th ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN** will allow us to host community events like Founder's Day; the Ucross Arts Festival (music and arts activities in the Park during Celebrate the Arts weekend); the annual Ucross Christmas Community Celebration; workshops and arts education activities with Wyoming Girls School and other student groups; exhibition openings, artists talks, and workshops in the Ucross Art Gallery; and other special events with partners in Sheridan, including "An Evening with Joy Harjo (United States Poet Laureate and Ucross Fellow)" in February 2023.



# U C R O S S

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## *DONOR RECOGNITION OPPORTUNITIES*

Gifts to Ucross's **40TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN** will be allocated to construction and strategic investments. All gifts to the campaign are fully tax deductible and are frequently eligible for corporate match if you or your spouse work for a company with a matching gift program. Any gift made to Ucross between now and the end of 2023 will count toward the \$5 million goal.



There are many ways to give to the **40TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN**. To increase your impact, consider making a multi-year pledge in honor of the 40th anniversary.

- You can give a restricted gift to a particular capital project, area, or program. Naming opportunities are available.
- You can provide a special gift in honor of someone, name a fellowship, or endow a fellowship in perpetuity.
- You can give an unrestricted gift to Ucross.
- You can give a gift of stock to Ucross.
- You can make a monthly, sustaining gift.
- You can join our Cloud Peak Society (legacy program) by including Ucross in your planned giving.

*If you'd like to discuss your giving options or if you have any questions related to the campaign, please contact William (Bill) Belcher, President of Ucross, at [wbelcher@ucross.org](mailto:wbelcher@ucross.org) or 307.737.2291. Thank you.*





# UCROSS

40TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN

## GIFT / PLEDGE AGREEMENT

Thank you for your pledge to Ucross's 40TH ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN. The options for fulfilling your pledge are listed below. You can also give online or by check to the address listed below. If you have any questions, please contact William Belcher, President, at [wbelcher@ucross.org](mailto:wbelcher@ucross.org) or 307.737.2291. Thank you.

### GIFT / PLEDGE

I hereby pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to Ucross's 40th ANNIVERSARY CAMPAIGN.

CONTACT PERSON \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

### TERMS OF PLEDGE

☐ One-time gift

☐ Single payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
on (date) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Multi-year pledge of (amount) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
to be paid over 2 3 4 years (circle one)  
beginning on (date) \_\_\_\_\_

### METHOD OF PAYMENT

☐ Check enclosed (made payable to **UCROSS FOUNDATION**)

☐ Charge the following credit card

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

CARD NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRATION \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_ BILLING ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to: William Belcher, Ucross, 30 Big Red Lane, Clearmont WY 82835

### *DONOR RECOGNITION*

DONOR(S) NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please indicate how you wish your name to will appear in print & digital material.)

#### ANONYMOUS GIFT

☐ Please check this box if you wish your gift to remain anonymous.

### *SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

☐ Would you like to learn more about our Cloud Peak Society (legacy giving program)?

☐ Are you interested in naming or other donor recognition opportunities?

☐ Would you like to give “in honor of” someone? If so, please indicate in the “Special Instructions.”

*Please return to: William Belcher, Ucross, 30 Big Red Lane, Clearmont WY 82835*

U C R O S S

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30 BIG RED LANE  
CLEARMONT, WY 82835  
307.737.2291  
UCROSS.ORG

*Photos courtesy of Martirene Alcantara, Jennifer Garza-Cuen, Bill Megalos.*