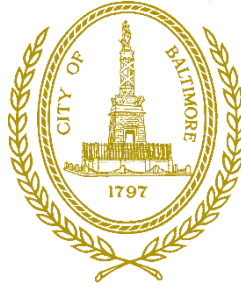


## **Jessica Bell Brown**

**Nominated to:** Public Art Commission

**Current Job:** Curator and Department Head of Contemporary Art, The Baltimore  
Museum of Art



BRANDON M. SCOTT  
MAYOR

*100 Holliday Street, Room 250  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202*

January 31, 2023

Jessica Bell Brown  
801 Newington Ave  
Baltimore, MD 21217

Dear Ms. Bell Brown:

Please accept this letter as formal notice that I am nominating you to serve as a member of the Public Art Commission.

You will be contacted by the Office of City Council President Nicholas J. Mosby with details regarding your upcoming City Council nomination hearing.

If you have any questions regarding the appointment process, please contact Sophia Gebrehiwot at [Sophia.Gebrehiwot@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:Sophia.Gebrehiwot@baltimorecity.gov) or at 410-916-8669.

Your service on the Public Art Commission has my full confidence and support. Thank you for your dedication and commitment to the City of Baltimore.

In Service,

Brandon M. Scott  
*Mayor*  
*City of Baltimore*

Cc: The Honorable Nicholas J. Mosby, President, City Council  
The Honorable Isaac “Yitzy” Schleifer, Chair, Rules & Legislative Oversight Committee  
Richard Krummerich, Council Services  
Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary, Office of Council Services  
Kirk Shannon-Butts, Public Art & Curation Manager, Baltimore Office of Promotion and the Arts  
Nina Themelis, Interim Director, Mayor’s Office of Government Relations  
Sophia Gebrehiwot, Council Liaison, Mayor’s Office of Government Relations



Brandon M. Scott  
Mayor  
City Hall  
Room 250  
Baltimore, MD 21202

## MAYOR'S REQUEST TO CITY COUNCIL FOR CONFIRMATION OF MUNICIPAL OFFICER

Pursuant to Article IV, §§6(a) and (b) of the Baltimore City Charter 1996 Edition, Mayor Brandon M. Scott hereby requests the City Council of Baltimore City to confirm the appointment of **Jessica Bell Brown** to serve as a municipal officer on the **Public Art Commission**. In support of this request, information concerning the mayoral appointee is provided below and in the attached resume.

*The information set forth in both the document and the attached resume have been distributed to authorized persons for use in the City Council confirmation process*

**Name:** **Jessica Bell Brown**

**Appointed to:** **Public Art Commission**

**Succeeds:** **N/A**

**Term Expiration Date:** **December 3, 2024**

**Previous Terms Served (if none, write N/A):** **N/A**

**Party Affiliation:** **Democrat**

**Specific Board Requirements:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Council District:** **7**

**Current Occupation:** **Curator and Department Head of Contemporary Art**

**Current Employer:** **The Baltimore Museum of Art**

**Employer's Address:** **Baltimore, MD**

**Other Relevant Employment:** **Consulting Curator, Gracie Mansion Conservancy**

**Undergraduate Institution:** **Northwestern University**

**Graduate Institution:** **Princeton University**

**Civic and Professional Affiliations:** **Block Museum of Art Advisory Board**

**Date Submitted:** **January 31, 2023**

  
**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Distribution:**

Honorable Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer, Chair  
Ebony Thompson, Acting City Solicitor  
Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary to the City Council  
Richard Krummerich, Office of Council Services  
Nikki Thompson, Office of the City Council President  
Nina Themelis, Interim Director, Mayor's Office of Government Relations  
Sophia Gebrehiwot, Council Liaison, Mayor's Office of Government Relations

## JESSICA BELL BROWN

801 Newington Ave, Baltimore, MD 21217 | phone: (202) 725-7511 | email: jessbellbrown@gmail.com

### EXPERIENCE

**The Baltimore Museum of Art, Baltimore, MD**  
*Curator and Department Head of Contemporary Art*

Since Apr 2022

- Managing team of 2 associate curators, 1 collection manager, and 2 curatorial assistant and fellows
- Leading development of contemporary collection care and displays, programming, departmental finance, and donor and artist cultivation

*Associate Curator of Contemporary Art*

Nov 2019- Apr 2022

- Lead curator for *A Movement in Every Direction*, an exhibition of 12 artist commissions exploring ancestry, self-determination, and migration; co-organized with the Mississippi Museum of Art and touring to venues in New York and Los Angeles through 2024
- Organized *Stephanie Syjuco: Vanishing Point (Overlay)* (2021), *Thaddeus Mosley: Forest* (2021) and a major contemporary collection reinstallation *How Do We Know the World?* (2021)
- Significant acquisitions of women artists and BIPOC artists include Mickalene Thomas, Gisela McDaniel, Rashid Johnson, John Akomfrah, Janiva Ellis, Jadé Fadojutimi, Ming Smith, Shaun Leonardo, Shirley Gorelick, Emma Amos, Kay WalkingStick, and Cassi Namoda

**Gracie Mansion Conservancy, New York, NY**  
*Consulting Curator*

Aug 2018- Feb 2020

- Conceptualized and curated *She Persists: A Century of Women Artists in New York* (2019) and *Catalyst: Art and Social Change* (2020) in collaboration with The NYC Department of Cultural Affairs and First Lady Chirlane McCray
- Facilitated +60 loans across museum institutions, artist estates and private lenders including MoMA, The Met, Felix Gonzalez-Torres Foundation, Rauschenberg Foundation, Frankenthaler Foundation, and the Estate of Alice Neel
- Managed 1 registrar and 2 program assistants; trained docents and led donor and VIP tours

**The Museum of Modern Art, MoMA, New York, NY**  
*Museum Research Consortium Fellow*

Sep 2016 – Aug 2017

- Curatorial team member for the 2017 retrospective *Robert Rauschenberg: Among Friends*; supported all aspects of exhibition development, including publications, design, audio-guide and installation; spearheaded accompanying digital, web, and documentary film projects
- Co-founded [#ArtSpeaks](#), an ongoing series of museum-wide gallery talks on MoMA's permanent collection

**Brooklyn Academy of Music, Brooklyn, NY**  
*BAMart Assistant*

Jan 2013 – May 2013

- Co-organized the 2013 annual BAMart Silent Auction
- Supported exhibitions for BAM project spaces in the Peter Jay Sharp and Fischer buildings, as well as site specific public art commissions in downtown Brooklyn

**CREATIVE TIME, New York, NY**  
*Programming Fellow*

June 2012 – Dec 2012

**Princeton University Art Museum, Princeton, NJ**  
*Graduate Intern*

Aug 2014- May 2015

**Friendship Chamberlain Academy, Washington, DC**  
*8<sup>th</sup> Grade English Educator*

June 2009 – Dec 2011

### EDUCATION

**Princeton University**, Department of Art & Archaeology, *M.A. in Modern and Contemporary Art*, 2016, PhD Candidate in Modern and Contemporary Art (ABD)  
**Northwestern University**, *B.A. in Art History with Honors, Minor: Business Institutions*, 2009