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## **All Classical Portland Announces Inaugural Recording Inclusivity Initiative Awardees**

*First-of-its-kind initiative addresses the lack of classical music recordings on America's airwaves from underrepresented composers.*

**PORTLAND, Ore. (May 19, 2021)**—[All Classical Portland](#), Portland's 24-hour classical music radio station, today announced the five awardees of its inaugural [Recording Inclusivity Initiative](#) (RII). RII, a collaboration with the N M Bodecker Foundation and Naxos Records, will expand the recorded classical music canon by inviting the selected contemporary composers to spend a week-long residency with All Classical Portland and the N M Bodecker Foundation. During in-studio creative sessions, their compositions will be recorded by regional musicians, and the new recordings will be distributed worldwide.

"If we're honest with ourselves, we know that classical music as a genre hasn't always welcomed diverse perspectives or communities, and we see it in the lack of broadcast-ready recordings," said Suzanne Nance, President & CEO of All Classical Portland. "As an independent public radio station with a global reach and a mission to reflect and serve all communities, we're uniquely positioned to address this deficit. The Recording Inclusivity Initiative will elevate and amplify underrepresented composers and their music through the new recordings we produce and distribute together."

After receiving nearly 100 nominations, 12 finalists from around the country were selected, including six contemporary composers and six posthumous works. A selection committee then narrowed the list to five awardees—three contemporary composers and two posthumous works:

- [Jasmine Barnes](#) ("Taking Names"): Barnes is a multifaceted Dallas-based composer who specializes in writing music for the voice using various instrumentation. Originally from Baltimore, Barnes' composition "Taking Names" honors women who fought for emancipation, civil rights and the #SayHerName movement.
- [Lauren McCall](#) ("A Spark and a Glimmer"): McCall is a composer and educator from Atlanta who is currently pursuing a master's degree in music technology at Georgia Tech. "A Spark and a Glimmer" is inspired by visual artist Alison Saar's sculpture installation "Feallan and Fallow," which is based on the Greek myth of Persephone and represents fertility in summer.
- [Keyla Orozco](#) ("Souvenirs"): Orozco is a Cuban composer and educator with an established international career. Now based in Maryland, Orozco's lived experiences and extensive travels inspired "Souvenirs," which reflects the music and rhythms of many cities, from Paris and Santiago de Cuba to her "inner city."
- [Mélanie Bonis](#) (1858–1937) ("Femmes de Légende"/ "Women of Legend"): Bonis was a French pianist, organist and composer who was born in Paris. "Women of Legend" is a compilation of seven of Bonis' works for piano that were composed over 15 years. Her catalogue of compositions

includes over 300 works, including solo piano works, chamber music, choral music and orchestral works.

- [Coleridge-Taylor Perkinson](#) (1932-2004) (“Sonata for Flute and Piano”): Perkinson was an African American composer and conductor born in New York City. His conducting career included positions as co-founder and director of New York’s Symphony of the New World, and his catalogue includes ballets, film scores, vocal works and chamber music.

“These recipients offer passionate perspectives that will help broaden classical music and the future of musical education,” said [Adam Eccleston](#), chair of the Recording Inclusivity Initiative selection panel. Eccleston is an internationally renowned flutist and All Classical Portland’s 2020-2021 Artist in Residence. “Together, we can change America’s playlist as their music is recorded, released and played on All Classical Portland and other radio stations throughout the country.”

Tanya Cerda, trustee of the N M Bodecker Foundation, said, “The Recording Inclusivity Initiative is an important project that’s very much aligned with Bodecker’s core values of creativity, belonging and collaboration.”

Nance added, “We are grateful to the N M Bodecker Foundation as well as to Oregon Cultural Trust and the Regional Arts & Culture Council (RACC) for their investment in this initiative. We hope that the work we do through RII has a ripple effect that inspires others to act.”

The three Composers in Residence will each receive a \$2,500 award and enjoy access to the N M Bodecker Foundation’s state-of-the-art recording facilities and its artistic director, Chris Funk of the Grammy-nominated band The Decemberists. The individualized, week-long residencies will feature recording sessions of their work, youth outreach opportunities, panel discussions and interviews that highlight the uniqueness of each composer’s artistic excellence.

With in-studio recordings expected to conclude in September 2021, RII will transition next year into a national challenge posed to peer radio stations, encouraging them to adopt future regional inclusivity initiatives. All Classical Portland will provide stations with a free how-to playbook complete with a step-by-step guide designed to help them replicate RII in their communities.

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**About All Classical Portland:** All Classical Portland is Portland, Oregon’s classical radio station. Established in 1983, our mission is to advance knowledge of and appreciation for classical music; to build and sustain culturally vibrant local and global communities around this art form; to reflect the spirit of the Pacific Northwest; and to foster integrity, quality and innovation in all that we do. For more information, visit [www.allclassical.org](http://www.allclassical.org).

**The N M Bodecker Foundation** provides creative communities with an extraordinary and energetic gathering place for workshops, mentoring and collaboration. Working with professional artists, musicians, writers and educators, the Foundation’s FREE, multi-disciplinary workshops are designed to empower creative youth, including those from traditionally underserved communities, to imagine and achieve their artistic, educational and professional dreams. Learn more at [www.bodeckerfound.org](http://www.bodeckerfound.org) or follow us on Instagram @bodeckerfound.