



## **UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY SUPPORTS LOCAL ARTISTS THROUGH ARTISTIC RESIDENCY PROGRAM NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS THROUGH JUNE 17, 2016**

ANN ARBOR, MI (May 19, 2016) —The **University Musical Society (UMS)** announces the third consecutive season of the **UMS Artists in “Residence” Program**, whereby five artists (including visual, literary, and performing artists) will be selected to take “residence” at UMS performances, using these experiences as a resource to support the creation of new work or to fuel an artistic journey.

Residents will receive complimentary tickets to select UMS performances; a \$500 stipend; gatherings with fellow residents and visiting artists; and behind-the-scenes access to UMS staff and artists, when available. In return, UMS asks that artists share their artistic journeys via residency entrance and exit interviews and participate in select UMS Education & Community Engagement events for the university and the community at large. When possible, UMS Artists in Residence will also have opportunities to share artistic work generated during the residency with UMS audiences. Rights to all artistic work produced as a result of the residency will remain entirely with the artists.

“While UMS brings incredible performing artists from around the globe to Ann Arbor, we’re also deeply committed to the creative community right here in Michigan,” said Kenneth C. Fischer, UMS President. “UMS Artists in ‘Residence’ ensures that artists creating work right here in our own backyard have access to everything they need to inspire, fuel, and inform their projects. Artists play a vital role in our communities — they inspire us, they challenge us, they provide alternate perspectives. We want to ensure that Ann Arbor and Southeast Michigan continues to be a place where artists are supported and can happily call home.”

The previous two seasons of UMS Artists in “Residence” have benefited from the program’s ability to connect them with other area art-makers and with UMS artists working on an international scale. As

novelist and 2014-15 resident Robert James Russell stated, “The UMS Artists in Residence program has changed the way I approach and view outside influences, and has helped me create some of my most vivid, affecting work yet.” To learn more about the previous Artists in Residence and how the program impacted their work, visit [ums.org/blog](http://ums.org/blog).

### **APPLICATION DETAILS**

Applicants should be at least 18 years of age and should be local enough to attend 3-4 performances of their choosing from the 2016-17 UMS Renegade Series, plus two “required” performances for all Artists in Residence to attend together: the UMS season opening event (September 11, 2016) and Igor and Moreno’s *Idiot-Syncrasy* (performance date to be determined: January 13 or January 14, 2017). Artists in Residence will also be required to attend 3-4 related gatherings from October 2016 – April 2017.

Applicants will be asked to provide a statement of intent, a 1-2 page CV, and a portfolio using the UMS Artists in Residence application form and guidelines at [ums.org/blog](http://ums.org/blog).

**Application period:** Thursday, May 19 – Friday, June 17

**Application form at:** <http://bit.ly/umsAIR>

### **ABOUT UMS**

One of the oldest performing arts presenters in the country, UMS (also known as the University Musical Society) contributes to a vibrant cultural community by connecting audiences with performing artists from around the world in uncommon and engaging experiences. UMS is an independent non-profit organization affiliated with the University of Michigan, presenting over 70 music, theater, and dance performances by professional touring artists each season, along with over 100 free educational activities. UMS is part of the University of Michigan’s “Victors for Michigan” campaign, reinforcing its commitment to bold artistic leadership, engaged learning through the arts, and access and inclusiveness. UMS was awarded the 2014 National Medal of Arts by President Obama.

### **Media Contact**

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