



EXHIBITION ADVISORY

Exhibition: *Fractured Foundations: 250 Years of American History*

On View: June 27–November 29, 2026

Reception: June 27, 2026, 4:00–6:00 pm • Opening Remarks @ 4:30 pm

Location: American Museum of Ceramic Art, Pomona, CA



(Pomona, California–June 17, 2026) Opening June 27, 2026, the exhibition *Fractured Foundations* coincides with the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States. For this occasion, AMOCA invited ceramic artists to reconsider a historical event through the lens of contemporary art, challenging historical narratives and offering a more accurate perspective on our country.

The work selected for this exhibition demonstrates resilience, injustice, triumph, and the impact of federal, state, and/or local policies, while also reflecting upon or referencing an event in US history. Artists included are: Natalia Arbaelez, Lisa Cecere, Nuala Creed, Connor Czora, Chotsani Elaine Dean, Reniel Del Rosario, Morel Doucet, Marianna Haniger, Irving Huang, Salvador Jiménez-Flores, Akinsanya Kambon, Cathy Lu, Roberto Lugo, Michele Martinez, Bianca MacPherson, Kristy Moreno, Mercy Neumark, Janet Neuwalder, Peter Olson, Alexis Oltmer-Bergmann, Vick Quezada, Jenny Rosen, Jos Sances, Nathan Stanfield, Kukuli Velarde, and Patti Warashina.

Remembering historical events is a form of resistance. Several artists choose to highlight those who refused erasure—the freedom fighters, poets, organizers, and community builders whose stories have been systematically marginalized. Others document struggles unfolding now: the rollback of reproductive rights, the targeting of LGBTQ+ people, the dismantling of equity programs, the expansion of immigration enforcement, and the erosion of constitutional norms.

As the United States marks the 250th anniversary of its founding, this exhibition asks what it means to celebrate a nation whose history is inseparable from contradiction. Art may not pass legislation or overturn court decisions, but it does make injustices visible. By naming what has been suppressed, honoring those who have resisted, and placing present-day threats within their historical context, these works call on viewers to move from witness to participant by engaging, advocating, and holding American democracy to account for all its people.

Executive Director Beth Ann Gerstein explains, “This exhibition refuses to let the past stay past. It addresses the distance between America's founding promises and its lived realities, a gap that is not incidental but structural, not historical but ongoing. The work in this exhibition explores government actions across centuries and communities. The incidents explored here are not isolated episodes; they are a pattern of who is counted, who is protected, and who is expendable.”

Fractured Foundations: 250 Years of American History will be on view in Gallery B at AMOCA June 27–November 29, 2026.

Exhibition Overview

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Complementing the in-person exhibition experience, numerous public and educational programs will be mounted, including lectures, conversations, college-level tours, and tours for Title 1 schools serving grades K-12.

Exhibition Credits

Fractured Foundations: 250 Years of American History is presented by the American Museum of Ceramic Art.

This exhibition is part of Craft in America's *Handwork: Celebrating American Craft 2026*, a nationwide Semiquincentennial initiative to showcase the importance of the handmade, both throughout our history and in contemporary life.

AMOCA thanks our exhibition sponsors: Meredith Brunswick and Brad Shapiro. This exhibition is funded, in part, by grants from the Dew Foundation, the Pasadena Art Alliance, the Helen Frankenthaler Foundation, the Ralph M. Parsons Foundation, Ruth and Joseph C. Reed Foundation for the Arts, the Windgate Foundation, and by support from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors through the Department of Arts and Culture.

CALENDAR LISTING

Fractured Foundations: 250 Years of American History opens at the American Museum of Ceramic Art, 399 N Garey Ave, Pomona, CA 91767 on June 27, 2026, with an opening reception on Saturday, June 27 from 4-6 pm. The exhibition runs through November 29, 2026. The museum is open Friday-Sunday, 11 am to 4 pm.

For more information: https://www.amoca.org/future-exhibitions/fractured_foundations/ or (909) 865-3146 or communications@amoca.org.

Credit

This exhibition is organized by the American Museum of Ceramic Art.

About AMOCA

The American Museum of Ceramic Art was founded in 2003 in Pomona, California. The mission of the museum is to champion the art, history, creation, and technology of ceramics through exhibitions, collections, outreach, and studio programming.

Museum Hours

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, 11 am – 4 pm

Admission

General \$14, Senior \$9, Student/Pomona Resident \$7, Members & under 12 Free
Pay-what-you-can First Fridays are the first Friday of each month.

Location

American Museum of Ceramic Art
399 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, CA 91767
(909) 865-3146 • www.amoca.org

Contact

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