

# Olivia Kim

## Artist

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Since 2004, Olivia Kim has been working as a professional artist, making public and private commissioned figurative realist art for over 20 years. Her extensive education covers traditional and modern art techniques, including the Ceramics program at the SUNY School of Art and Design at Alfred University, French atelier style Realist education at the world-renowned Florence Academy of Art, glass casting at Corning Museum of Glass School and independent studies in physics & biomechanics of body movement. Her art education also includes visits to world museums in Central, Latin, North America, Southeast Asia, Europe and Russia to study the particulars of human expression. She is best known for her public statues (almost 20 so far) of Frederick Douglass, wherein she expresses absolute service to the common source of our existence.

### EDUCATION

- 2013- 2019 Workshop in Glass Enamel with Jeff Zimmer, Oatka School of Glass: *Oatka, NY*  
Workshops in Glass Casting with Heike Brachlow and Dan Clayman, Corning Museum of Glass: *Corning, NY*
- 2014 – 2017 Adult Fagan Technique Class\*, Garth Fagan Dance School: *Rochester, NY*  
Social Dance lessons in samba de gafieira, kizomba, bachata, salsa and Argentine tango\*,  
Tango Café: *Rochester, NY* \*Part of decade-long study of Physics & Biomechanics of Human Body Movement
- 2015 Realist Portrait Painting Workshops with Jeffrey Hein and Brian O'Neill, Rochester Art Club: *Rochester, NY*  
TIG Welding Night Course, Arc and Flame Center: *Rochester, NY*
- 2009 Realist Painting program at Atelier The Florence Academy of Art: *Florence, Italy*
- 2005- 2010 Made bronzes alongside artisans at Mariani Foundry: *Pietrasanta, Italy*
- 2005- 2008 Private lessons in stone hand carving with traditional stone sculptor Dario Tazzioli: *Carrara and Frassinoro, Italy* \*Designed and carved public stone projects with Tazzioli
- 2001- 2005 Realist Sculpture, Drawing & Painting Certificate Programs with fourth year of Specialization: The Florence Academy of Art, *Florence, Italy*
- 1997- 2001 Bachelor's Degree in Fine Art, Alfred University: New York State College of Ceramics School of Art and Design, *Alfred, NY*  
Cum Laude with Divisional Honors: Ceramic Sculpture

### HONORS, GRANTS & AWARDS

- 2024 National Public Works Association: National Best Structural Project of the year \$5 Million- \$25 Million West Riverwall at North Star Commons
- 2023 National Public Works Association: State of New York Best Structural Project of the year \$5 Million- \$25 Million West Riverwall at North Star Commons
- National Public Works Association: Genesee Valley Branch, New York Chapter Best Structural Project of the year \$5 Million- \$25 Million West Riverwall at North Star Commons
- 2021 National Endowment for the Arts Grant and Award: Federal Chairman's Extraordinary Action Award to create bronze of Frederick Douglass for the Frederick Douglass Rochester International Airport in Rochester, NY

National Endowment for the Humanities Grant: Federal  
Grant Monies for creation of bronze of Frederick Douglass for the Frederick Douglass  
Rochester International Airport in Rochester, NY

2018 Rochester Community Television: Rochester, NY  
Re-Energizing the Legacy of Frederick Douglass Award for Outstanding Partnership

2004 The Florence Academy of Art: Florence, Italy  
Prize for Best Sculpture

1997- 2001 Alfred University: School of Art and Design: Alfred, NY  
Portfolio Scholarship

1999 Alfred University: School of Art and Design: Alfred, NY  
Clare Katherine Nelson Prize for Printmaking and Painting

#### SELECTED PUBLIC AND PRIVATE COMMISSIONS

2026 Public- Village of Pittsford: Pittsford, NY  
Bicentennial Frederick Douglass Statue for 250th Anniversary of American Independence

2025 Public- City of Rochester: Rochester, NY  
Restoration of 10 Bicentennial Frederick Douglass Statues

2024 Public- SUNY Brockport College: Brockport, NY  
Bronze Portrait Bust of Fannie Barrier Williams for Fannie Barrier Williams Liberal Arts Building

2023 Public- City of Rochester: Rochester, NY  
Bronze Douglass & Lincoln Statue for the North Star Commons of the Phase I Riverwall  
Improvements Project

2022 Private- Greater Rochester Association for Women Attorneys: Rochester, NY  
Bronze Goddess of Justice Award for First African American President

2021 Public- Rochester Community Television (director Carvin Eison): Rochester, NY  
Bronze Frederick Douglass statue for Frederick Douglass Rochester International Airport

2020 Public- Rochester Institute of Technology: Rochester, NY  
Bicentennial Frederick Douglass statue in Fiberglass, no. 17

2019 Private- Memorial Art Gallery & St. John Fisher College in conjunction with "Lessons of the  
Hour" exhibit by Isaac Julien at the Memorial Art Gallery: Rochester, NY  
Bicentennial Frederick Douglass statue in Fiberglass, no. 16

2018 Public- Rochester Community Television: Rochester, NY  
13 Bicentennial Frederick Douglass sculptures in Fiberglass, no. 1-13

Private- G. Fagan, Director of Garth Fagan Dance Company: Rochester, NY  
Bicentennial Frederick Douglass in Fiberglass for Dance piece "The North Star", no. 15

Private- M. Daniels  
Sculpture: Bicentennial Frederick Douglass in Fiberglass, no.14

Public- National Technical Institute for the Deaf at the Rochester Institute of Technology:  
Rochester, NY  
Bronze Portrait Bust of Former Dean Dr. Robert Davila

figurative and ornamental drawings, paintings, sculptures, awards, antiques and murals

- 2009- 2010 Public Commissions: Sentiero del Rosario: Pietravolta, Italy  
10 bas-reliefs in terracotta based on Bible's Ecclesiastic and Miraculous Mysteries
- 2008 Public- Castle of the Abbey of Frassinoro: Frassinoro, Italy  
Casein painted Ornamental decorations and blown-up reproductions of images from the Illuminated manuscript of the Codice di Frassinoro (commonly named the Codice di Lucca)
- 2007- 2010 Private Commissions: Frassinoro and Sassuolo, Italy  
figurative and ornamental drawings, paintings, sculptures and murals
- 2006 Public- Piazza Tincali: Montefiorino, Italy  
handcarved trani stone War Memorial Plaque collaboration with Dario Tazzioli

#### SELECTED MEDIA

- 2025 Democrat and Chronicle: Rochester, NY  
"Restored Frederick Douglass Statues find New Homes across Rochester"
- 2023 WHAM 13 News: Rochester, NY  
"New Statue depicting Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln Unveiled in Rochester"
- 2022 Rochester First: Rochester, NY  
"Frederick Douglass Statue Unveiled at Rochester Airport"
- 2021 Minority Reporter: Rochester, NY  
"RIT seeks grant that would put public art in historical context"
- 2020 USA TODAY: National  
"New Frederick Douglass erected after vandalism with hopes for a better future for all"
- The New York Times: New York, NY  
"Who Tore Down this Frederick Douglass Statue?"
- BBC: United Kingdom  
"Frederick Douglass: Historic US black activist's statue toppled"
- The Sun: United Kingdom  
"Trump says anarchists have no boundaries as statue of black abolitionist icon Frederick Douglass is torn down"
- 2019 Memorial Art Gallery Press Release: Rochester, NY  
"Press Release Frederick Douglass TOUR"
- Roc City News: Rochester, NY  
"Meeting Douglass"
- 2018 Democrat and Chronicle Newspaper: Rochester, NY  
"Frederick Douglass Statues to be Installed Throughout Rochester"
- WXXI News TV Program "Need to Know": National  
TV interview with Helene Biandudi Hofer
- WHAM 13 TV Program "Good Morning Rochester" : Rochester, NY  
"Re-Energizing the Legacy of Frederick Douglass"
- Rochester City Newspaper: Rochester, NY  
"Douglass Statues coming to Rochester Streets"

FOX News Program: Rochester, NY  
Good Day Rochester "Monuments of Frederick Douglass Placed in Rochester"

RIT News on YouTube.com: <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=7nekvz2ft9o>

Insight into Diversity Magazine: National  
"Frederick Douglass Monumental Legacy"

- 2010- 2016 News features by Democrat and Chronicle, City Newspaper, Rochester Magazine, 585) Magazine, Insight into Diversity Magazine, Talker of the Town News, ALONG Magazine, American Art Collector Magazine, Art House Press Magazine: Rochester, NY based media
- Radio interviews by Conversations with Creatives, The Graphic Ear & Savor Life: Rochester, NY
- 2007 La Gazzetta: Sassuolo, Italy  
"Due Mondi" exhibition press release and article


#### SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

- 2026 Pittsford Fine Art Gallery: Pittsford, NY  
Frederick Douglass America 250 at the PFA Gallery- Guest exhibitor
- Oxford Fine Art: Rochester, NY  
"The Faces and Facets of Freedom"- Group exhibit
- 2020 Rochester Museum and Science Center: Rochester, NY  
"The Changemakers: Rochester Women Who Changed the World"  
Featured Rochester Woman
- Tower Fine Arts Gallery: Brockport, NY  
"Monroe & Vicinity Biennial Exhibition at Brockport College"- Group exhibit
- 2019 Gormley's Fine Art Gallery at Russborough House: Wicklow, Ireland  
"Art at the Garden"- Group exhibit, included largest display of Salvador Dali's sculpture
- Gormley's Fine Art Gallery at Hastings Hotel at the Culloden Estate and Spa: Belfast, Ireland  
"Art at the Garden"- Group exhibit
- 2018 Link Gallery, City Hall: Rochester, NY  
"Creating Our Legacy" curated by the Asian/Pacific Islander American Association
- Rochester Contemporary Art Center: Rochester, NY  
"No Soil Better- The Legacy of Frederick Douglass"- Group exhibit
- Dyer Arts Center, National Technical Institute for the Deaf at the Rochester Institute of Technology: Rochester, NY  
"Cultivating Connections"- Group exhibit
- 2016 Arnot Art Museum: Elmira, NY  
"Juried 75<sup>th</sup> Invitational"- Group exhibit
- Sonnenburg Gardens and Mansion: Canandaigua, NY  
"Art at the Gardens Sculpture Exhibit"- Group Exhibit
- 2015 Burchfield Penney Art Center: Buffalo, NY  
"Body Norms: Selections from the Spong Collection"- Group exhibit

- 2015 Bennington Art Center, Bennington, VT  
"Laumeister Fine Art Competition Exhibition"- Juried Group exhibit
- 2011-2014 Solo and Group art exhibits at Ock Hee's Gallery: Honeoye Falls, NY
- 2014 Gormley's Fine Art Gallery at Russborough House: Blessington, Ireland  
"Garden Sculpture Exhibition"- Group exhibit
- 2011-present Group and Solo Art Exhibits at Oxford Gallery, Spectrum Gallery, Art in June, Memorial Art Gallery, Nazareth College Arts Center, Rochester Contemporary Arts Center, SUNY Geneseo Lederer Gallery, Phelps Art Center: in Rochester, Geneseo and Phelps, NY
- 2008 Gormley's Fine Art Gallery: at Brackenstown House, Swords, Ireland  
"Midsummer Garden Sculpture Exhibition"- Group exhibit
- 2007-2009 Group and solo art exhibits in Frassinoro, Sassuolo, Chianti, Fiorano, Montefiorino, Italy
- 2006- 2010 Corsini Family Stables: Florence, Italy  
"Fifth Alumni Exhibition of The Florence Academy Of Art- Juried Group exhibit
- 1996- 2000 group exhibitions in: Alfred, Hornell and Rochester, New York, USA

SELECTED VISITING ARTIST RESIDENCIES, PRESENTATIONS, LECTURES AND JUDGING

- 2011 - present Judge & Presenter at Local Schools & Art Clubs: Rochester, NY
- 2022 American Association of University Women: Fairport, NY  
Keynote Speaker
- Memorial Art Gallery Council: Rochester, NY  
Keynote Speaker
- 2020 Chatterbox Club: Rochester, NY  
Keynote Speaker
- Roc Girl Gang: Rochester, NY  
"Becoming Boss"- Panel Speaker
- 2019 Rochester Institute of Technology Women's Council: Rochester, NY  
Keynote Speaker
- Trinity Emmanuel Presbyterian Church: Rochester, NY  
Women's Day Keynote Speaker
- Salisbury University: Salisbury, MD  
Visiting Artist
- 2018 Rochester Institute of Technology: Rochester, NY  
"The Significance of Monuments in America" – panelist speaker with Prof.of Communications & Media at SUNY Brockport Carvin Eison, Director of Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives Ken Morris Jr. and Pulitzer Prize winner historian David Blight
- Association of Public Historians of New York State: Monroe County, NY  
Panelist Speaker
- 2016 - 2020 Sonnenberg Mansion & Gardens: Sonnenburg, NY  
"Art at the Gardens" Fine Art Festival- Judge



## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2018- 2021     Rochester Institute of Technology: Rochester, NY  
Figure Sculpture and Anatomical Illustration to Medical Illustrators  
Adjunct Professor, Illustration Dept.
- 2010- 2021     Rochester Art Club: Rochester, NY  
Instructor for Figure Drawing, Anatomical Figure Drawing, Portrait & Figure Sculpture and Glass  
Casting Courses & Private lessons: ages 17-83
- 2010             Summer Music Program: Piandelagotti, Italy  
classes fusing music and art: ages 6-15
- Micronido Nursery school: Sassuolo, Italy  
One-day art workshops: ages: 1-4
- 2007- 2009     Artist's Studio: Frassinoro, Italy  
private art lessons in drawing and sculpture: age 7
- 2003-2004     The Florence Academy of Art: Florence, Italy  
Figure Drawing Instructor for Sculpture Program: ages 17- 65