

Neelab “Neela” Mahmoud, AIA
Architect + Visual Artist
Baltimore, MD

EDUCATION

Master of Architecture (M.Arch), University of Oregon
BS in Biology / Minor in Studio Art, Virginia Tech

STUDIO PRACTICE

Independent Visual Practice | Ongoing | Baltimore, MD

Over two decades of practice, primarily through painting and spatial studies that investigate perception, energy, materiality, and form, with emphasis on color, contrast, and edge conditions.

- Practice unfolds through exploration, experimentation, and refinement, rather than exhibition-driven production
- Architectural training informs spatial logic and hierarchy, while studio work allows for intuition and discovery. The Baker Award would support concentrated studio time to advance this work through deeper material exploration and expanded scale

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

Senior Associate / Ayers Saint Gross Architects | 2021-Present | Baltimore, MD

- Design development for cultural and institutional projects emphasizing spatial experience and collections care
- Production and presentation of sketches, diagrams, renderings, and visual narratives to communicate program, scale, sequence, and experience
- Iterative design process from early visioning through execution
- Design work parallels, informs, and extends independent visual work

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Adjunct Instructor, Morgan State University | 2009-2017 | Baltimore, MD

- Worked with students (freshman-seniors) to advance drawing, visual media, conceptual and design thinking skills, while guiding them to express ideas through iterative, process-driven studio work, and visual problem-solving
- Integration of spatial understanding, composition, and experimentation with materials into curriculum, so students became empowered to translate and communicate ideas into powerful design narratives and visual forms