

Janani Balasubramanian | artist, director, founder

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Education

Stanford University BS Engineering (Atmosphere/Energy) & BA Feminist Studies <i>Phi Beta Kappa</i> and <i>Tau Beta Pi</i>	2012
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Present

Stanford University School of Medicine Founding Executive & Artistic Director of Forever Lab	2025-present
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Awards, Fellowships, and Residencies (abridged list)

Loghaven Residency Resident Artist	2025 (forthcoming)
Lenore Tawney Foundation / John Michael Kohler Arts Center Lenore Tawney fellow	2025
Macdowell/Herb Alpert Fellow, Interdisciplinary	2025
Getty Foundation Pacific Standard Time presenting grant, via The Music Center	2024
Greenbox Arts Resident Artist	2024
OPERA America Discovery Grant	2024
Sloan Foundation Book grant, for <i>Art-Science Undisciplined</i>	2024
Stanford University Office of the Arts VPA Visiting Artist	2024
Peter Michael Foundation Project grant	2024
Artist Trust Award in Performing Arts	2024
Herb Alpert Foundation Finalist	2024
Stanford University Office of the Arts Denning Visiting Artist, co-hosted by Physics and Electrical Engineering	2023-2024
HERE Arts Center Resident Artist, for the project 'Rogue Objects'	2023-2026

Virginia Center for the Creative Arts Resident Artist, 50th Anniversary Fellow	2023
Leonardo @Djerassi Resident Artist Program Resident Artist	2023
La Baldi Residency in Montegiovi, Italy Resident Artist	2023
Camargo Foundation Resident Artist	2023
University of Colorado — Colorado Springs Resident Artist, Heller Center for Arts and Humanities	2023
Amherst College Visiting Artist, physics department	2023
Bard Graduate Center Visiting Artist	2022
Sundance/UCross Foundation Resident Artist	2022
Sundance/MacArthur Foundation Grantee	2022
Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts Collider Fellow	2020-2022
Stanford Ethics, Society, and Technology Hub Seed Grant Awardee	2021-2022
Sundance Institute Interdisciplinary Art of Practice Fellow	2021-2022
Pew Center for Arts & Heritage/Academy of Natural Sciences Grantee	2021-2022
Center for Art, Science, and Technology at MIT Grantee and Resident Artist	2021-2022
New York Foundation for the Arts Fiction Fellow	2021
Stanford Institute for Diversity in the Arts Visiting Artist	2021
Pioneer Works Narrative Arts Fellow	2021
Harvard University Critical Media Practice Grantee	2021
Guild of Future Architects Shared Future Incubator Grantee	2020
MAP Fund Grantee	2020

Sundance Institute Theater Lab Fellow	2020
Bard Fischer Center for the Performing Arts Resident Artist	2020
NYU Hemispheric Institute for Performance and Politics Artist-in-Residence	2020
Jerome Foundation Jerome Hill Artist Fellow	2019-2020
MIT Theater & Performing Arts Resident Artist	2019
Brooklyn College/Tow Foundation Artist-in-Residence	2019
Creativity and Innovation at Colorado College Innovator-in-Residence	2019
Heller Center for Arts & Humanities Resident Artist	2018
Public Theater Van Lier Fellow	2018-2019
Mount Tremper Arts/NEA + Abrons Arts Center Watershed Resident	2016-2017
Ace Hotel Artist-in-Residence	2016
Public Theater Devised Theater Working Group	2015

Board Affiliations

Djerassi Resident Artist Program Board Member	2025-present
<i>Journal on Perspectives in Arts in Health</i> Advisory Board Member	2025-present

Research Affiliations

Stanford University Artist-in-Residence, Compression Forum	2020-2022
Guild of Future Architects Guild Member	2020-present
American Museum of Natural History Artist-in-Residence, Brown Dwarf Astrophysics Group	2017-present

Consulting and Advising

MAP Fund SPA Program Artist Coach	2023-present
Cinereach Advisor	2022
Poetry Project Creative tech consultant	2022
John Giorno Foundation Creative tech consultant	2021-present
Stanford Office of the Vice President of the Arts Committee member	2021
San Francisco Symphony Strategic consultant	2021
The Public Theater/Gob Squad Consultant, art and physics	2021
Doris Duke Charitable Foundation Advisor, Building Bridges program cohort	2021
Pioneer Works Digital experience advisor, school partnership program	2021
Rockefeller Foundation Food Systems Prize Panelist and storytelling consultant	2020
HBO Art Prize Panelist	2020
Intermedia Arts Fellowship Panelist	2017

Teaching & Workshops (abridged list)

Stanford d.school 'Accessibility, Neurodiversity and Immersive Experience Design' Lecturer	2025
Yale School of Public Health Guest Lecture on Immersive Experiences and Health	2025
Yale School of Drama Guest Lecture on Art and Health	2025
Stanford Kavli Institute for Particle Astrophysics and Cosmology Guest Lecture on metaphor in astrophysics	2024
Stanford Institute for Diversity in the Arts Guest Lecture & Guest Workshop	2024

Colorado College 'Rogue Objects: Creative Research & Art-Astrophysics Practice' Visiting Faculty in Theater and Performing Arts + Visual Arts	2023
Amherst College Guest Lecturer in Data Visualization in Astronomy	2023
Princeton University Guest Lecture on creative research	2023, 2022, 2021, 2020
Theater Mitu Guest Lecture on hybrid process for artist cohort	2022
Bard Graduate Center Lab for Teen Thinkers 'Creative Writing with Objects' Workshop Leader	2022
Mozilla Festival 'Found Text and Astrophysics' Session Leader	2022
Stanford Arts Institute Guest Lecturer on research-based art creation	2022
Stanford University, STEM to SHTM 'Celestial Representation' Research Mentor	2022
CUNY Macaulay Honors College Guest Lecture on art-physics co-creation	2022
Pioneer Works 'Good Questions' Guest Instructor on creative research	2021
Stanford University 'Peering into Darkness: Critical Research Methods in Contemp. Art & Astrophysics' Visiting Lecturer in Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity	2021
Massachusetts Institute of Technology Guest Artist	2021
EMERGE NYC Guest Lecture on creative research for emerging artists of color	2021
Asian American Writer's Workshop 'Astrophysics and Found Poetry' Guest Instructor	2021
Bard Fisher Center for the Performing Arts 'The Future is Present' A collaborative process between youth activists and guest artists	2021
Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts Workshop Leader on discovering new metaphors	2021
Harvard University Guest Lecture on research-based creation in Art Department	2021

Stanford University, STEM to SHTeM 'Ways of Seeing in Art and Astrophysics' Research Mentor	2020
Yale School of Drama Guest Artist	2020
Colorado College Leading 2-week student laboratory on art-science co-creation	2019
Parson's New School for Design Guest Lecture on art-science co-creation	2019
University of Washington Guest Lecture on audio augmented reality work	2019
Brooklyn College Master Class on art-science co-creation	2019
University of Colorado Practicum on devised theater and augmented reality work	2019
Asian American Writer's Workshop 'Getting to Work: an Open Genre Workshop' Workshop Leader	2018, 2017

Major Publications

<i>Art-Science Undisciplined: A Playbook for Transformative Collaboration</i> University of California Press	2026 (forthcoming)
<i>Encounters</i> Podcast, produced by Stanford Arts	2024

Presentations of Work (abridged list)

Yale University Schwarzmann Center <i>'The Gift' (immersive experience)</i>	2025
The Music Center in Los Angeles <i>'The Gift' (immersive experience), talk with LeVar Burton</i>	2025
Stanford Hospital <i>'The Gift' (immersive experience)</i>	2024
Stanford Hospital <i>'The Gift' (immersive experience)</i>	2024
Mt. Wilson Observatory <i>'The Gift' (immersive experience)</i>	2024
Stanford Medicine Palliative Care Grand Rounds <i>'The Gift' (immersive experience)</i>	2024

Kavli Institute for Particle Astrophysics and Cosmology <i>'The Gift' (immersive experience)</i>	2024
Djerassi Resident Artists Program <i>'The Gift' (immersive experience) + Artist Talk</i>	2024
Worlds in Play Conference <i>'Heisenberg' (audio augmented reality experience)</i>	2024
Fine Arts Center of Colorado Springs <i>Artist Talk</i>	2023
Colorado College, FemSTEM <i>Artist Talk</i>	2023
Public Theater/American Museum of Natural History <i>Artist Talk</i>	2023
Fine Arts Center of Colorado Springs <i>'The Gift' (immersive experience)</i>	2023
New York Public Library / Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts <i>'The Gift' (immersive experience), premiere</i>	2022
Bard Graduate Center Gallery <i>'Tracing Lace' (audio artwork), premiere</i>	2022
Academy of Natural Sciences <i>'How to Get to the River' (outdoor public art), premiere</i>	2022
Mozilla Festival <i>'Peering into Darkness' (software-based installation), prototype presentation</i>	2022
Sundance Institute <i>Artist talk</i>	2022
Guild of Future Architects <i>Artist talk with Dr. Natalie Gosnell</i>	2022
Princeton University <i>'Peering into Darkness' (software-based installation), prototype presentation</i>	2022
Stanford University STEM to SHTeM program <i>'Peering into Darkness' (software-based installation), prototype presentation</i>	2022
CUNY Macaulay Honors College <i>'The Gift' (immersive experience), prototype presentation</i>	2022
Theater Communications Group <i>Panelist on field ideation, Emerging from the Cave conference</i>	2021
Stanford Compression Forum <i>Artist talk</i>	2021
Harvard University <i>Artist talk & 'The Gift' (immersive experience), prototype presentation</i>	2021
Pioneer Works <i>'Dial-a-Poem 2.0.2.0' (telephonic artwork), premiere</i>	2021

Emory University <i>Keynote lecture, conference on Asian American Studies</i>	2021
Yale University <i>Artist talk & 'Mushroom Death Suit' (Performance Lecture)</i>	2021
Guild of Future Architects <i>'The Gift' (immersive experience), prototype presentation</i>	2021
New York Live Arts <i>Panelist, Bill Chats</i>	2021
North American Research Professionals Development Conference <i>Artist talk + 'The Gift' (immersive experience), prototype presentation</i>	2021
UCLA Center for the Art of Performance <i>'She is Called' (digital artwork), created and presented in collaboration with the Brooklyn Youth Chorus</i>	2021
The Chocolate Factory <i>Artist talk</i>	2021
Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum <i>Artist panelist, with Terrance Nance and Skawennati</i>	2020
Sundance Institute Theatre Lab <i>'The Gift' (immersive experience), prototype presentation</i>	2020
Under the Radar Festival <i>'The Gift' (immersive experience), prototype presentation</i>	2020
Brooklyn Academy of Music <i>Featured artist, Toni Morrison's birthday celebration</i>	2020
La Mama Repertory Theatre <i>'Casting the Vote' (immersive theatre)</i>	2020
Stanford University Institute for Diversity in the Arts <i>Artist Talk</i>	2020
Stanford University Arts Incubator Convening <i>Artist panelist with Mark Gonzales and Anna-Tabor Smith</i>	2020
Brown Dwarf/Exoplanet Conference <i>Artist talk</i>	2019
Association of Theater in Higher Education Conference <i>'The Gift' (immersive experience), prototype presentation</i>	2019
University of Washington Meany Center for the Performing Arts <i>'Heisenberg' (audio augmented reality work)</i>	2019
Freeway Park, Seattle <i>'Heisenberg' (audio augmented reality work)</i>	2019
Princeton University <i>'Heisenberg' (audio augmented reality work)</i>	2019
San Francisco Exploratorium <i>'Heisenberg' (audio augmented reality work)</i>	2019

Massachusetts Institute of Technology <i>'Casting the Vote' (immersive theatre), premiere</i>	2019
The Shed <i>Artist respondent, Agnes Denes retrospective</i>	2019
Brooklyn College <i>'Heisenberg' (audio augmented reality work)</i>	2019
Colorado College <i>'The Gift' (immersive experience), prototype presentation</i>	2019
Knockdown Center <i>'Janani Balasubramanian presents' (curatorial art-physics program)</i>	2018
Stanford University Cantor Arts Center <i>'Heisenberg' (audio augmented reality work)</i>	2018
University of Colorado — Colorado Springs <i>'Mushroom Death Suit' (performance lecture)</i>	2018
New York High Line <i>'Heisenberg' (audio augmented reality work), premiere</i>	2017
New York Live Arts <i>'Mushroom Death Suit' (performance lecture), premiere</i>	2017
Red Bull Arts <i>'iOS-a-Poem' (audio augmented reality work), premiere</i>	2017
Creative Time Summit <i>Artist talk</i>	2016
Metropolitan Museum of Art <i>Prose reading</i>	2016
Museum of Modern Art <i>Poetry reading</i>	2016
IFC Film Center <i>Artist/curatorial talk</i>	2016
Ace Hotel <i>Special presentation, New York Fashion Week</i>	2016
Jefferson Market Library <i>Prose reading</i>	2016
<i>note — because 'It Gets Bitter' was shown at over 120 venues globally, I have included only select presentations of the work below.</i>	
Andy Warhol Museum <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2016
Under the Radar Festival <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2016

Colorado College <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2016
Illif School of Theology <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2016
Buntport Theater <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2016
American University <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2016
University of Calgary <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2016
LPIRG in Lethbridge, Alberta <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2016
Georgetown University <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2016
Lewis and Clark College <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2016
In Other Words Bookstore <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2016
Smith College <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2016
Harvard University <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2016
Yale University <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2016
Wellesley College <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2016
Stanford University <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2016
London School of Economics <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2016
Vienna University <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2016
Kampnagel in Hamburg, Germany <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2016
Abrons Arts Center <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2016
Mount Tremper Arts Center <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2016
The Poetry Project <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2015

Chicago Public Library <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2015
Invisible Dog Arts Center <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2015
Evergreen State College <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2015
Brooklyn Museum <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2015
University of Amsterdam <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2015
Public Library in Malmö, Sweden <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2015
Lincoln Center La Casita Festival <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2015
Seattle Public Library <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2015
Mercury Lounge <i>'It Gets Bitter' (performance art)</i>	2015