NEW YORK, NEW YORK TUESDAY MARCH 19, 2019 — Following the success of last year’s launch in the US, the AXA Art Prize returns in 2019. With a First Prize of $10,000, and a selection juries comprising world class talent, the AXA Art Prize has quickly become the premier student art competitions in the nation.

Developed in partnership with the New York Academy of Art, the AXA Art Prize, previously known as the XL Catlin Art Prize, is open to figurative paintings, drawings and prints created by undergraduate and graduate art students. The Prize’s focus reflects the reemergence of figurative art in the contemporary art world.

Last year the Prize received over 700 submissions and first place was ultimately awarded to an undergraduate student from the Maryland Institute College of Art, Monica Ikegwu, by 2018 Prize Jurors Nicole Eisenman, Eric Fischl and Amy Sherald. The 2018 AXA Art Prize Exhibition was visited by thousands of art lovers across the nation and the shortlisted artists, ranging in age from 19 to 27, hailed from four different countries and 19 states across the US.

Jennifer Schipf, Global Practice Leader – Art, said “In the first year of the Prize in North America, the hundreds of submissions we received demonstrated the incredible depth of talent among art students in the United States. AXA XL is proud to continue our tradition of supporting emerging artists.”

Submissions for the Prize are first reviewed by regional jurors from the Prize’s Strategic Advisory Board of 34 major art schools and programs in the US, including the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD), Columbia University School of Arts, California Institute of the Arts (CalArts), the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Pratt Institute and Bard College. An Exhibition Jury comprised of Ian Alteveer, Curator at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Massimiliano Gioni, Artistic Director of the New Museum, Jennie Goldstein, Assistant Curator at the Whitney Museum, and Cara Manes, Associate Curator at the Museum of Modern Art, will choose 40 artworks from the regional selections.
These 40-shortlisted works, the AXA Art Prize Exhibition, will go on tour in Fall 2019

- The San Francisco Art Institute (September 6 – October 6)
- Gray Art Galleries in Chicago (October 24 – 30)
- The New York Academy of Art (November 18 – 22)

In New York, a Prize Jury of artists Sanford Biggers, Will Cotton, John Currin and Tschabalala Self will select the winner and runner up, who are awarded $10,000 and $5,000, respectively. The touring exhibition will be accompanied by an illustrated catalogue.

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