

Stephanie LenWar — Artist Bio

Stephanie LenWar is a Chicago-based visual artist and musician. Her work explores the uncanny spaces between life and death, dreams and waking, and one being and another, where symbolic lexicons create meaning.

Her solo exhibitions include her *As the Dust* music video debut (2026) at the Art Institute of Chicago, *Your Dreams Remember You* (2024), *Between Two Suns* (2022) at The New Mexico Wildlife Center, and *Field Notes* (2016) at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Research Symposium art show. She has participated in group exhibitions and collaborative projects including Stephen Yazzie's *Drawing and Driving* project at the Institute of American Indian Arts (2022), The Wellness House (2017), Aimée Suárez Netzahualcóyotl's "98 Flavors" (2025), and exhibitions with Axle Contemporary (2019-2022).

LenWar has contributed to philanthropic art initiatives supporting causes including Black Lives Matter, COVID-19 relief for the Navajo Nation, war relief for Ukraine, the International Museum of Surgical Science, wildlife rehabilitation, and animal rescue organizations.

Stephanie LenWar earned her BFA in Painting and Creative Writing from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and MFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, where her interdisciplinary thesis work focused on intersections between music and drawing.

She is the recipient of the Leon W. Guggenheim Award, Carrie Cole's Best New Artist Award, and First Place in the National Congressional Art Competition, among other honors. In addition to her studio practice, LenWar works as an educator, writer, and illustrator, and has completed private commissions for collectors and collaborative creative projects. Through teaching, public lectures, and community partnerships, she fosters meaningful connections through art.