

LOLA OKUNOLA

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Biography

Lola Okunola is a Nigerian American mixed media artist based in Atlanta whose practice explores identity, heritage, migration, belonging, and cultural memory through richly layered works combining paper, textiles, leather, beads, raffia, and paint. Drawing inspiration from African fashion, traditional textiles, and contemporary life, she creates vibrant compositions that celebrate culture while inviting conversations about memory, connection, and the stories we carry across generations.

Since beginning her artistic practice in 2019, Okunola has exhibited nationally and internationally in Atlanta, Los Angeles, London, and Miami. Her work has been featured at Google Atlanta Headquarters, the Pacific Design Center, Mash Gallery, CasildArt Contemporary, Hammonds House Museum, Spruill Arts Center, the Zuckerman Museum of Art at Kennesaw State University, and Miami Art Week. She has presented invited lectures at Kennesaw State University and George Mason University and will present an exhibition and lecture at Oglethorpe University Museum of Art in 2027. Okunola serves as an Arts Commissioner for the City of Brookhaven and continues to build a practice that bridges art, storytelling, identity, and belonging.

Education

MBA, Information Systems, Keller Graduate School of Management, 2004

BBA, Business Management, Georgia State University, 2001

Professional Service

- Arts Commissioner, City of Brookhaven (2024–Present)
- Cowart Family YMCA Board Member
- Curator, Heritage in Hues, Distillery of Modern Art
- Brookhaven Paint the Park, Art Judge (2021–2023)
- Brookhaven Paint the Dome, Art Judge (2025); Returning Judge (2026)

Selected Exhibitions, Installations & Lectures

- 2027 (Upcoming) — Oglethorpe University Museum of Art – Solo Exhibition & Artist Lecture
- 2026 — The Other Art Fair Atlanta – Selected Artist
- 2026 — George Mason University – Invited Lecture: Beyond Visibility: How Art and Storytelling Play a Role in Belonging
- 2026 — Midtown Alliance Outdoor Gallery – Dancing with the Stars featured on Peachtree Street banner
- 2025 — Google Atlanta Headquarters –Installation
- 2025 — Brookhaven City Hall Opening Exhibition

- 2025 — Spruill Arts Center – Summer 5x8 Series
- 2025 — Mash Gallery – Unspoken Emergence
- 2025 — Kennesaw State University – Threads of Identity (Solo Exhibition & Lecture)
- 2025 — CasildArt Contemporary, London – EmpowerHer '25
- 2025 — Pacific Design Center – A GOGO III
- 2024 — Miami Art Week
- 2024 — Mash Gallery – Dazzling Glamour of Creative Pursuit
- 2024 — Heritage in Hues – Distillery of Modern Art
- 2024 — Hamilton Hotel Art Walk
- 2024 — Mash Gallery – Artful Alchemy
- 2024 — Spotlight on Art
- 2023 — Miami Art Week
- 2023 — Hammonds House Museum – Foundations and Futures
- 2023 — The Scene Gallery
- 2022 — The Art Experience, North Point Mall
- 2022 — Spotlight on Art
- 2021 — Zari Gallery, London – Black History Month
- 2020 — Zari Gallery, London – Black History Month

Featured Publications/Shows

- The Portia Show
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YOV4e7qVnI8>
- Prime Time Show **Bob Hearts Abishola** Season 3, Episode 1 “Welcome to Lagos”
<https://share.icloud.com/photos/0fdEMxH-nOUrk7ZI3fnKKfJMg>
<https://share.icloud.com/photos/021PfhJQOwT3Eh-BkLSd1w1eA>
- Business Radio X
<https://businessradiox.com/podcast/sandysprings/lola-okunola/>
- Rough Draft
The Distillery of Modern Art presents “Heritage in Hues” dual exhibition - Rough Draft Atlanta
- Explore Brookhaven
<https://www.explorebrookhaven.com/blog/brookhaven-residents-featured-in-art-pop-up-shop/>
- Arts Atl
<https://www.artsatl.org/hammonds-house-museum-marks-35-years-of-celebrating-work-by-black-artists/>
- AJC
<https://www.ajc.com/things-to-do/hammonds-house-museum-marks-35-years-of-celebrating-work-by-black-artists/JA47C2ZE6FHENEHWLEL5J5USYY/>
<https://www.ajc.com/news/local/brookhaven-announces-art-contest-winners/wezOMTplA8ge7dBEdoN0hl/>
- Canvas Rebel
<https://canvasrebel.com/meet-lola-okunola/>