

2026 Joyce J Scott Trust & Archives Approved Micro Bio

Dr. Joyce J. Scott (b. 1948, Baltimore, Maryland) is a MacArthur Fellow and internationally acclaimed artist whose multidisciplinary practice spans beadwork, fiber, glass, sculpture, printmaking, installation, and performance. For more than five decades, she has created work that confronts racism, sexism, violence, inequality, oppression, and injustice while embracing themes of beauty, spirituality, nature, humor, and healing. Through a distinctive artistic language that merges technical mastery with social critique, Scott uncovers universal truths and explores the complexities of personal and collective history.

Born to sharecroppers descended from enslaved people, Scott was raised in Baltimore, where she continues to live and work. Influenced by her mother, renowned artist Elizabeth Talford Scott, she has become one of the most influential American artists of her generation, challenging conventional boundaries between art and craft while demonstrating the power of art as a catalyst for dialogue and change.

In 2024, the Baltimore Museum of Art and Seattle Art Museum co-organized *Joyce J. Scott: Walk a Mile in My Dreams*, a major 50-year retrospective celebrating her career. Represented globally by Goya Contemporary, Scott's work is held in leading public, private, and museum collections including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Smithsonian Institution museums, the Baltimore Museum of Art, Seattle Art Museum, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Museum of Fine Arts Boston, Dallas Museum of Art, and many others worldwide.

Scott earned a BFA from MICA and an MFA from the Instituto Allende in Mexico. She has also received honorary doctorates from MICA, California College of the Arts, the University of Baltimore, and Johns Hopkins University. Her many honors include the MacArthur Fellowship, Anonymous Was a Woman Award, National Endowment for the Arts grants, and recognition as a National Living Treasure.