North Carolina Arts Council
ARTIST FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Application Guidelines 2018-2019
Visual Arts, Craft, Film/Video, and Choreography

Deadline: November 1, 2017
www.ncarts.org

WHO MAY APPLY

The program operates on a two-year cycle. Choreographers and visual, craft, and film/video artists will be eligible to apply in November 2017 for the 2018-2019 grant year. Songwriters, composers, and writers will be eligible to apply in November 2018.

Artists may apply only one fellowship category per year either as the primary applicant or as a collaborator. Once an applicant becomes a recipient, they must sit out for 5 years. Artists who received a fellowship for 2013–2014, 2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2016-2017, or 2017-2018 are not eligible to apply this year.

 For collaborations, only one member of the collaborative team should submit the application on behalf of the group. The names and résumés of all collaborating members must be included in the application. All collaborators must meet the eligibility guidelines. Collaborators who received a fellowship in the last 5 years are ineligible.

Fellowship applicants must certify on the application form that they:

- are at least 18 years old
- are a U.S. citizen or holder of permanent resident alien status
- have been a year-round resident of N.C. for at least one year immediately prior to the application deadline
- will remain a N.C. resident during the grant period and be physically present in the state for the majority of the grant period
- are not enrolled at the time of application and will not be enrolled during the grant period in an academic or degree-granting program.

Artists recommended for a fellowship will be required to supply proof of current N.C. residency status and sign a contract pledging compliance with the eligibility rules listed above.

VISUAL ARTISTS

This category is open to:

- Artists working in experimental forms
- Artists working in graphic arts, installation, mixed media, painting, drawing, photography, printmaking, and sculpture
- Visually based performance artists

Please note: artists working in media associated with craft and artists who use film or video in their work may apply in the visual arts category, or may choose to apply in the craft or film/video categories. However, artists may apply in only one fellowship category per year.

CRAFT ARTISTS

This category is open to:

- Artists who work in basketry, ceramics, enamel, fiber, glass, jewelry, leather, metal, mixed media, natural materials, paper, textiles, or wood
- Artists who self-identify as craft artists

Please note: Artists working in media associated with craft may apply in the visual arts category. However, artists may apply in only one fellowship category per year.

FILM/VIDEO ARTISTS

This category is open to:

- Filmmakers
- Video artists

Applicants must have completed at least one film, which should be documented on their résumé.

Please note: Artists working experimentally with media (e.g., in installations or other non-traditional presentation formats) may apply in the visual arts category. However, artists may apply in only one fellowship category per year.

CHOREOGRAPHERS

This category is open to:

- Choreographers of ballet, ethnic, folk, jazz, tap, urban, and modern dance.

WHAT WE FUND

Fellowships in the amount of $10,000 support the creative development of N.C. artists and the creation of new work. Fellowship funds may be used to:

- Set aside time to work
- Pursue projects that further artistic development and support the realization of specific creative ideas
- Buy supplies and equipment
- Fund expenses related to the activities listed above: for example, costs related to studio construction or improvements

Fellowship funds may not be used to support academic research or formal study toward an academic or professional degree.

HOW TO APPLY

The 2018-2019 deadline is Wednesday, November 1, 2017. The application will be available online in September 2017. Applicants will submit the form electronically through N.C. Arts Council Grants Online (GO). The system will accept all of your application materials, including work samples. Online submissions will be accepted by 11:59 p.m. on the deadline.

If you don't have a computer at home, all public libraries have computers available for public use. Click here for the statewide library directory.

REVIEW PROCESS

Arts Council staff reviews all of the applications for eligibility and completeness and prepares them for panel review. Discipline-based panels are assembled to review the applications and recommend the artists they consider most deserving of a fellowship. The panels' recommendations are then sent to the Secretary of Natural and Cultural Resources for approval. N.C. Arts Council staff does not participate in the assessment of applications, except to verify completeness, eligibility, and adherence to the guidelines.

The primary evaluation criterion is artistic excellence based on work samples submitted with the application. In making its final recommendations, the panel will also take into consideration the description of the plans for use of the fellowship and how the grant will contribute to the artist's development.

We do not do email notifications. We send letters to the address provided on your application to all of the applicants as soon as possible after approval is given, and in any case, no later than late July or early August of 2018, after the General Assembly passes a budget for the N.C. Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, and the N.C. Arts Council.

APPLICANT REGISTRATION

To get started, all artists will follow this link to the **GO-Smart online portal (formerly known as AGO) https://ncarts.cgweb.org**. If you have applied in the past, you can click login. If you have forgotten your username and password, you can retrieve them on the *Login* page.

If you are a new applicant, the first step is to create your applicant profile. At the bottom of the GO-Smart homepage, there is a link at the bottom of the page that says Click Here to create a new profile. After accepting the system's terms and conditions, you will create your new profile.

This page provides us with your basic information, such as your name and ways to contact you during and at the conclusion of the process. Be sure to check "Individual" when creating your profile. In the User Information fields, enter your name the way you would like to be listed on our records and in our application records. Your record will be alphabetized by the first letter of the name you enter in the Last Name field, so if you have a hyphenated or double last name, be sure to enter it in its entirety here. Fill in all the required information and click "Submit." When you return to GO, you should click the "Login" button.

If you need to update your profile information during this and future individual grant applications, you can click the "Edit Profile" button. Should any of your contact information (address, email, etc.) change during the course of the review, please correct your profile in GO-Smart and email amy.hoppe@ncdcr.gov to update our records.

Once your profile is complete, click on "Current Programs and Applications" and scroll to find NC Artist Fellowship 2018-19 link. This is where you begin your application or edit a saved application in progress.

NARRATIVE

Before you answer the narrative questions, you must answer several further identifying questions to ensure that your name is listed correctly and that your work will be reviewed by the appropriate panel.

Discipline: The discipline you select will determine the panel that reviews your application.

Genre/medium: The genre/medium should further describe the work samples you submitted.

You will also indicate if your application is a collaboration with one or more other people. Only one member of an artist team should submit an application for the group. Work samples should represent work by the members of the collaborative team or, ideally, work done as a team. Members of a team cannot submit separate fellowship applications to support their own work. Eligibility requirements apply to all members of the team. You should consult the appropriate program director prior to submitting a collaborative application.

Your narrative will address the following questions:

- How do you plan to use the fellowship? (1000 characters)
- How will receiving a fellowship impact your artistic development? (2500 characters)
- Why is it important that you receive a fellowship at this point in your artistic career? (1000 characters)

Character counts include spaces and punctuation. You will answer each question in a separate text box provided on the first page of the application. We recommend that you work on your answers in a Word document (keeping in mind the character limits). Then copy and paste your answers below. A budget page is not requested.

Remember that the narrative is an essential part of your fellowship application. In responding to these questions, consider what a panelist, who has seen the work samples you submitted, will want to know about the direction and ambitions you have for your work. Additionally, financial need is not a criterion. Keep the focus on your work and the path you see your practice taking in the future, rather than on yourself or your financial need.

SUPPORT MATERIALS AND WORK SAMPLES

All applications will require a PDF résumé of no more than 4 pages and a one-page artist statement. Some may require supplemental support materials, such as work sample inventories; see your specific discipline below for more information or refer to this **interactive PDF**.

Work samples are the most important part of your fellowship application. Fellowships are awarded primarily on artistic merit and your work samples are the only means panelists have to assess it. Samples should represent the best of your creative ability. Documentation should be the highest possible quality. You must have created the work in the past three years.

Visual and Craft Artists

The following are direct uploads on the first page of the application:

- **PDF résumé -** no more than four pages, emphasizing activities, employment, accomplishments, etc. related to your discipline.
- **PDF artist statement –** no more than one page, describing your work and the key ideas and goals that drive you to create.
- **Image Inventory –** see example.

Please upload your work samples on the second page of the application:

- **Work samples**
    - 10 Images, or
    - Up to 5 minutes of video (maximum of 3 total video samples) or
    - Up to 5 images and up to 2 minutes of video (maximum of 2 total video samples)

Performance artists and artists submitting works with kinetic or other time-based elements may choose to present their work in digital video format, instead of with JPEG images. Work samples should be concise; five minutes or less.

Artists working in new genres, including work created on or intended for presentation on the computer, should select the format appropriate to the nature of the work. For instance, standard Web pages and static computer-manipulated images should be uploaded as JPEGs. Work with a kinetic element should be presented as video, following those guidelines.

Original works of art, manuscripts, and other work sample formats (e.g., JPEGs on CD, slides, or videotapes) will not be accepted for review. Please consult your program director if you have questions about the maximum time limits and number of samples allowable.

Film/Video

The following are direct uploads on the first page of the application. Do not upload anything on the second page of the application:

- **PDF résumé -** no more than four pages, emphasizing activities, employment, accomplishments, etc. related to your discipline. Include a list of completed films.
- **PDF artist statement –** no more than one page, describing your work and the key ideas and goals that drive you to create.
- **PDF web link inventory with links to the following** (see example)
    - **Required:** any combination of two-to-three excerpts or complete works not exceeding 10 minutes total running time. NO TRAILERS.
    - **Optional:** a full-length work of any duration may also be included. Be sure to specify which parts of the sample you would especially like the panel to consider.

This should be a separate link than the required 10-minute sample(s).

Work samples may represent one or more complete works, a segment or segments of longer works, or some combination. Do not submit trailers. Applicants may also submit an optional complete work in addition to the excerpts, for a maximum total of four work samples. Do not upload video samples directly into the Grants Online system. Create a web link inventory - copy and paste links of your video samples from websites like Vimeo and YouTube. Be sure to fill in the descriptive information.

The work samples you submit should be original, independent work and represent your skills as the primary filmmaker. Samples of work made for hire, educational pieces and promotional footage tend to be less competitive. Work completed as part of an academic requirement should not be submitted. Highly edited segments or promotional videos will not be accepted.

Choreography

The following are direct uploads on the first page of the application. Do not upload anything on the second page of the application:

- **PDF résumé -** no more than four pages, emphasizing activities, employment, accomplishments, etc. related to your discipline. Include a list of completed films.
- **PDF artist statement –** no more than one page, describing your work and the key ideas and goals that drive you to create.
- **PDF web link inventory with links to the following** (see example)
  - **Required:** any combination of two-to-three excerpts or complete works not exceeding 10 minutes total running time. NO TRAILERS.
  - **Optional:** a full-length work of any duration may also be included. Be sure to specify which parts of the sample you would especially like the panel to consider. This should be a separate link than the required 10-minute sample(s).

Do not upload video samples directly into the Grants Online system. Create a web link inventory - copy and paste links of your video samples from websites like Vimeo and YouTube. Be sure to fill in the descriptive information.

Work samples must represent work you have choreographed. If applying with collaborators, the primary applicant must submit samples representing collaborative efforts with the co-applicant(s). Electronically enhanced work samples, highly edited segments, or promotional videos will not be accepted.

NCAC STAFF CONTACTS
For craft, film/video, and visual arts applicants

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Guidelines are subject to change from year to year. Updated guidelines and online application forms for the current eligible categories are posted on the N.C. Arts Council's website by September each year.