

## **Artist Fellowship**

### **Panelist Scoring Framework & How-to-Score Guide**

#### **Total Score: 100 points**

Artist Fellowships support **established artists with a strong record of achievement** by providing time and resources for **creative growth, reflection, and exploration**. Panelists evaluate applications based on **Artistic Merit** and **Artistic Excellence**, with emphasis on **sustained accomplishment, artistic maturity, and the credibility of future creative direction**.

Unlike Career Development or Collaboration Grants, Fellowships do **not** require a defined project plan. Instead, panelists assess **why this artist, at this moment, would benefit from fellowship support**.

#### **CATEGORY 1: ARTISTIC MERIT — 50 points**

##### **(Artistic Direction, Reflection, and Future Growth)**

Artistic Merit focuses on **the artist's ability to reflect on their career and articulate a meaningful next phase of creative growth**.

#### **1. Artistic Accomplishment & Career Context — 20 points**

##### **What this measures**

The depth, significance, and consistency of the artist's career accomplishments.

##### **Sources in Application**

- Artist Fellowship narrative
- Artist Bio
- Record of Work

##### **Look for**

- Clear articulation of significant artistic achievements
- Evidence of sustained engagement and accomplishment over time
- A coherent artistic trajectory

##### **How to Score**

- **18–20 (Excellent):**

The artist presents a strong, compelling record of achievement that clearly establishes them as an established artist.

- **14–17 (Strong):**

The artist demonstrates a solid record of accomplishment, though some achievements may be less fully contextualized.

- **10–13 (Adequate):**

The artist shows experience, but the scope or significance of accomplishments is limited or unclear.

- **0–9 (Weak):**

The application does not demonstrate a sustained or significant artistic record.

## **2. Artistic Direction & Creative Exploration — 15 points**

### **What this measures**

How clearly and thoughtfully the artist articulates **future creative growth or exploration**, even without a defined project.

### **Sources in Application**

- Artist Fellowship narrative
- Artist Statement
- Why Your Art Matters

### **Look for**

- Clear sense of where the artist wants to go creatively
- Willingness to explore new directions, questions, or forms
- Credible connection between past work and future exploration

### **How to Score**

- **14–15 (Excellent):**

The artist clearly articulates a compelling next phase of creative exploration grounded in their experience.

- **11–13 (Strong):**

Direction is evident, though exploration goals could be more fully articulated.

- **7–10 (Adequate):**

Future direction is mentioned but remains vague or general.

- **0–6 (Weak):**

Little evidence of thoughtful future artistic direction.

## **3. Fellowship Impact & Artistic Readiness — 15 points**

### **What this measures**

Whether the fellowship is **timely, appropriate, and likely to meaningfully support the artist's creative growth.**

### **Sources in Application**

- Artist Fellowship narrative
- Why Your Art Matters
- Artist Statement

### **Look for**

- Clear explanation of how fellowship support enables growth
- Evidence that this opportunity aligns with the artist's current moment
- Artistic readiness to benefit from open-ended support

### **How to Score**

- **14–15 (Excellent):**

The artist clearly explains why fellowship support is meaningful at this stage and how it will foster growth.

- **11–13 (Strong):**

Fellowship value is evident but not fully articulated.

- **7–10 (Adequate):**

Fellowship impact is implied but not clearly defined.

- **0–6 (Weak):**

Limited evidence that the fellowship will meaningfully impact the artist's work.

## **CATEGORY 2: ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE — 50 points**

### **(Quality, Mastery, and Artistic Voice)**

Artistic Excellence focuses on **the quality, maturity, and consistency of the artist's work**, as demonstrated through samples and professional history.

## **4. Quality of Work & Artistic Mastery — 25 points**

### **What this measures**

The strength and consistency of the artist's work samples relative to an established career.

### **Sources in Application**

- Work Samples (“Share My Work”)

- Your Artistic Process and Skills
- Record of Work

#### Look for

- High level of technical skill and craftsmanship
- Distinct artistic voice
- Depth, consistency, and refinement across work samples

#### How to Score

- **23–25 (Excellent):**  
Work samples demonstrate exceptional quality, mastery, and a mature artistic voice.
- **18–22 (Strong):**  
Work is consistently strong with clear artistic identity.
- **13–17 (Adequate):**  
Work quality is solid but uneven or less distinctive.
- **0–12 (Weak):**  
Work samples show limited mastery or coherence.

## 5. Artistic Process & Conceptual Depth — 15 points

#### What this measures

The thoughtfulness, clarity, and depth of the artist's creative process.

#### Sources in Application

- Your Artistic Process and Skills
- Artist Statement
- Artist Fellowship narrative

#### Look for

- Clear articulation of artistic process
- Conceptual rigor or intentionality
- Alignment between process and work samples

#### How to Score

- **14–15 (Excellent):**  
The artist articulates a sophisticated, intentional process that supports strong work.

- **11–13 (Strong):**  
Process is clearly described, with evidence of depth.
- **7–10 (Adequate):**  
Process is described but lacks insight or specificity.
- **0–6 (Weak):**  
Process is unclear or underdeveloped.

## 6. Professional Record & Artistic Leadership — 10 points

### What this measures

The artist's professional standing, recognition, and contribution to their field or community.

### Sources in Application

- Record of Work
- Artist Bio
- Why Your Art Matters

### Look for

- Recognition, exhibitions, performances, publications, or leadership roles
- Evidence of influence or contribution beyond personal practice
- Sustained professional engagement

### How to Score

- **9–10 (Excellent):**  
The artist demonstrates strong professional standing and leadership within their field.
- **7–8 (Strong):**  
The artist shows consistent professional recognition and engagement.
- **4–6 (Adequate):**  
Professional record is present but limited in scope or impact.
- **0–3 (Weak):**  
Minimal evidence of professional recognition or leadership.

### Final Panelist Reminder

When reviewing Fellowship applications, ask:

**“Does this artist demonstrate sustained excellence, artistic maturity, and a credible next phase of creative exploration?”**

- Do **not** expect a project plan or deliverables.
- Evaluate excellence **within the context of an established career**.
- Strong Fellowships often show **clarity of reflection, depth of work, and readiness for exploration**.