

Artist Grant Application

Quick Reference Guide for Applicants

This guide explains **what to focus on in each section of the application**, depending on the grant type you choose. While all applicants complete the same application, **panelists review each grant type differently**.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

For artists building or advancing their careers

Big Picture: What panelists want to understand

- Where you are in your artistic career
- What specific next step you want to take
- How this grant will help you grow artistically or professionally *right now*

Artist Bio & Artist Statement

Focus on:

- Your background, influences, and current artistic practice
- How you define yourself as an artist
- How your work reflects your ideas, identity, or perspective

Artist Career Development Narrative

Focus on:

- Specific goals or activities you plan to pursue
- Why these activities matter at this stage of your career
- How this opportunity will advance your artistic work or career development

💡 *Be specific. Panelists expect Career Development applicants to clearly describe what they plan to do and why it matters now.*

Why Your Art Matters

Focus on:

- The broader purpose or impact of your work

- How your art engages with community, culture, or your artistic field
- How your proposed activities connect to this purpose

Your Artistic Process and Skills

Focus on:

- How you make your work
- The skills, techniques, or approaches you use
- Past achievements that demonstrate your readiness to grow

Work Samples

Focus on:

- Your strongest, most recent work
- Examples that support the activities you're proposing
- Quality and consistency relative to your career stage

ARTIST COLLABORATION GRANTS

For two or more artists working together

Big Picture: What panelists want to understand

- Why these artists are collaborating
- How the collaboration strengthens the work
- What becomes possible together that could not happen alone

Artist Bios & Artist Statements (All Artists)

Focus on:

- Each artist's individual practice and experience
- What each artist brings to the collaboration
- How your practices relate or complement one another

Artist Collaboration Narrative

Focus on:

- Who the participating artists are and their roles
- What you hope to create together
- How the collaboration strengthens individual or collective practice

💡 *Panelists evaluate the collaboration itself—not just the individual artists.*

Why Your Art Matters**Focus on:**

- Why each artist’s work matters individually
- The shared purpose or impact of the collaboration
- How working together deepens artistic or community impact

Your Artistic Process and Skills**Focus on:**

- Each artist’s creative process
- How those processes intersect or inform one another
- How you will work together creatively (idea development, decision-making, production)

Work Samples**Focus on:**

- High-quality work from all collaborating artists
- Examples relevant to the proposed collaboration
- Work that demonstrates readiness to collaborate

ARTIST FELLOWSHIPS**For established artists with a strong record of achievement****Big Picture: What panelists want to understand**

- The significance of your artistic career to date
- Your artistic maturity and excellence

- How fellowship support will enable reflection, exploration, or a new creative direction

Artist Bio & Artist Statement

Focus on:

- Your established artistic identity
- Major accomplishments and influences
- How your work has developed over time

Artist Fellowship Narrative

Focus on:

- Your most significant artistic accomplishments
- How your career has evolved
- How this fellowship will help you grow creatively or explore new directions

💡 *You do not need to propose a specific project. Panelists are looking for clarity of artistic direction, not a work plan.*

Why Your Art Matters

Focus on:

- The broader significance of your work
- Your contribution to your field, community, or cultural landscape
- Why your work continues to matter at this stage of your career

Your Artistic Process and Skills

Focus on:

- Your creative process and conceptual approach
- Depth, refinement, and intentionality in your work
- How your process supports artistic excellence

Work Samples

Focus on:

- Strong, representative work showing mastery and consistency
- A clear artistic voice
- Work that reflects the depth of your experience

Final Tips for All Applicants

- Choose the grant type that best matches **your current career stage and goals**
- Make sure your narratives and work samples **support each other**
- Be clear, concise, and intentional — panelists spend limited time on each application
- Quality matters more than quantity