

ADVANCING BLACK ARTS IN PITTSBURGH



2018 PROGRAM GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION PROCESS

Together, The Pittsburgh Foundation and The Heinz Endowments support Advancing Black Arts in Pittsburgh, a grant-making program committed to helping create a vibrant cultural life in Pittsburgh and the region. The foundations believe that a vibrant cultural life includes diverse cultural offerings that appeal to the widest array of the region's citizenry. Pittsburgh's cultural offerings are among its strongest competitive advantages, including a rich history and the current presence of excellent Black arts presentation and production.

At the same time, Pittsburgh's cultural landscape has not escaped the systemic national trends of social and economic disparities around race in the arts, as well as racial segregation that deeply impacts its cultural life. Black arts organizations and professional Black artists whose work focuses on the art of African Americans, Africa and the larger Diaspora have historically been under-resourced and often have far less working capital than their counterparts working in western European-based art forms. Less working capital has significant ramifications for the quality and quantity of Black arts programming and the standard of living for those presenting in the region: health insurance is a luxury, artistic risk-taking is curtailed, child care is unobtainable, outreach programming to schools is reduced, individual artists are less likely to find sustainable employment in chosen art forms, visibility within the arts landscape is constrained and organizational growth is made much more difficult.

Creating an equitable arts ecology within the region is a core value of the Advancing Black Arts in Pittsburgh Program and its funders. The program goals are to:

1. Help to build the careers and support the lives of individual artists.
2. Increase the sustainability of cultural organizations that focus on Black arts.
3. Build community awareness of the Black arts sector.
4. Support efforts toward greater collaboration and the elimination of racial disparities within the larger arts sector.
5. Prioritize the documentation and discussion of Black artists' work and well-being as part of the region's cultural health.
6. Support work that directly addresses and calls for the eradication of systemic and structural racism that allows for disparities to exist.

PROGRAM DEADLINES

March 1, 2018, for funding decisions announced by May 31.

August 1, 2018, for funding decisions announced by October 31.

**Applicants to the Festival Support program will be notified by April 30, 2018.

All applications are due at 11:59 p.m. on the day of the program deadline.

Advancing Black Arts in Pittsburgh Initiative is comprised of:

Individual Artist Support

Individual artists in any discipline whose work focuses on Black art – defined as the art of African Americans, Africa and the larger Diaspora – may apply for grants up to \$15,000 to support creative and career development, creation of new works and self-producing. Presentation of a fully realized work is not required.

Residencies at Arts or Community-Based Organizations

Artist residency support is available to any arts or community-based organization interested in hosting artists whose work focuses on the art of African Americans, Africa and the larger Diaspora. Organizations seeking residencies may apply for amounts up to \$20,000.

Three Rivers Arts Festival Support

For the first time, project grants will be given to qualifying artists interested in presenting their work at the Three Rivers Arts Festival (June 1 – 10, 2018), a project of the Pittsburgh Cultural Trust and now in its 59th year. For more information on the 2018 Three Rivers Arts Festival, visit <https://traf.trustarts.org/>.

General Operating Support

A group of nonprofit cultural organizations whose focus is the production and/or presentation of Black art, will be invited to apply for general operating support. *Operating support is provided by invitation only.*

INDIVIDUAL ARTIST SUPPORT

Individual artists in any discipline whose work focuses on Black art, defined as the art of African Americans, Africa and the larger Diaspora, may apply for grants up to \$15,000 to support creative and career development, creation of new works, and self-producing. Presentation of a fully realized work is not required.

ELIGIBILITY

- Artists must be residents of the Pittsburgh region.
- Previous grantees are eligible to apply one year after the close of their grant. Grantees in 2017 are eligible to reapply in 2019.

PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Artist Statement

Discuss the philosophy/approach that supports your creative work (such as influences, processes, tools/medium choice and artistic goals) and your career trajectory to this point. Please also upload a CV/resume in the media uploads section of the application.

Project Goals

What are the artistic goals of the project? Describe the nature of the project's contribution to the presence of Black art in the local cultural landscape. How does it relate to your creative development as an artist?

Location

Describe the site where activities will take place. What resources (studio/rehearsal/performance space, equipment, etc.) are needed or available?

Timeline

Provide a timeline of key tasks. Activities to be funded by this grant request should not begin sooner than three months following the stated funding decision announcement date.

Evaluation

Describe measurable outcomes, including artistic outcomes, community engagement activities, attendance projections, etc.

MEDIA UPLOADS

Each applicant is allowed a total of five media uploads: Use one media upload to submit your budget and one to submit background materials (including resume/CV). The remaining three uploads are available to you to submit your work samples.

Detailed Budget (PDF)

Provide a balanced project budget that itemizes revenues (including the requested amount of this grant) and expenses related to activities described above. Where appropriate, show calculations that make clear how you arrived at the numbers you project. List any revenue sources in addition to this request, indicating which are pending and which are confirmed. List the estimated value and use of in-kind donations separately.

Sample Work (PDFs, videos, images, MP3s)

Panelists will review a maximum of 10 pages of written work, 15 images or five minutes of video or audio. You may provide links to works available online on YouTube, Vimeo and SoundCloud. Work samples should represent the strongest artistic achievements to date and provide an understanding of the artist's body of work. If a work sample is the product of collaboration, include a description of the lead artist's/organization's role in the work's creation. To upload multiple images, save them as a multi-page PDF and upload as a single document. If providing links to sources outside of YouTube, Vimeo or SoundCloud, please submit live website links via a PDF document that includes a description of content.

Please Note: Funds awarded to individuals through this grants program are not excludable from gross income and must be reported to the IRS. Please consult a tax professional to review the impact of this grant on your personal tax liability. Grantees will be required to submit an IRS Form W9 as an individual and a signed grant agreement.

RESIDENCIES AT ARTS AND COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Arts or community-based organizations may apply for grants up to \$20,000 to host artists whose work focuses on the art of African Americans, Africa and the larger Diaspora. Residencies should last a minimum of three months to a maximum of 18 months. Applications will be reviewed and recommendations made to foundation staff by a peer panel comprised of local and national experts from a variety of artistic disciplines. Residencies should include some element of in-depth public interaction with professional artist(s) such as studio tours, public lectures, presentation of works-in-progress, events with members of the local arts community, workshops and classes.

ELIGIBILITY

- Applicant organizations must be 501(c)(3) organizations (or work with a fiscal sponsor) located in the Pittsburgh region.
- Competitive residency proposals will demonstrate significant artist involvement in the development of the residency.
- Two-thirds of project costs should be directly related to artist fees or production expenses.
- Previous grantee organizations are eligible to apply one year after the close of their grant. Grantees in 2017 are eligible to reapply in 2019.

RESIDENCY PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Organizational History

Please provide a summary of the residency host organization's history and mission. Arts organizations should provide a brief statement of their artistic vision. All applicants should provide information about their involvement in providing cultural programming in the past, and/or information about how this project connects to your organization's mission. What experience does the organization have hosting artist residencies? Please include specific examples of residencies that have been previously carried out.

Partnership

If this is a new partnership, please describe how it began and the benefits that each partner is hoping to receive because of this effort.

Artist Statement

Discuss the philosophy/approach that supports your creative work (such as influences, processes, tools/medium choice and artistic goals) and your career trajectory to this point. Please also upload a CV/resume in the media uploads section of the application.

Project Goals

What are the artistic goals of the project? Describe the nature of the project's contribution to the presence of Black art in the local cultural landscape. How does it relate to your creative development as an artist?

Location

Describe the site where activities will take place. What resources (studio/rehearsal/performance space, equipment, etc.) are needed or available?

Timeline

Provide a timeline of key tasks. Activities to be funded by this grant request should not begin sooner than three months following the stated funding decision announcement date.

Evaluation

Describe measurable outcomes, including artistic outcomes, community engagement activities, attendance projections, etc.

MEDIA UPLOADS

Each applicant is allowed a total of five media uploads: Use one media upload to submit your budget and one to submit background materials: (including resume/CV of artist in residence; IRS 501(c)(3) Determination Letter for the applicant organization or fiscal sponsor; fiscal sponsor agreement signed by both parties, if applicable; and the most recently completed audited financial statement for 501(c)(3) organization). The remaining three uploads are available to you to submit your work samples.

Detailed Budget (PDF)

Please provide, using your own format, a detailed statement of proposed income and expenses for your project. Please indicate where income is actually received, requested, or anticipated. List any revenue sources in addition to this request, indicating which are pending and which are confirmed. Separate residency costs from other organizational expenses. Artist's fees or production expenses should equal at least two-thirds of the residency budget. Organizations must submit both project and operating budgets.

Sample Work (PDFs, videos, images, MP3s)

Panelists will review a maximum of 10 pages of written work, 15 images or five minutes of video or audio. You may provide links to works available online on YouTube, Vimeo and SoundCloud. Work samples should represent the strongest artistic achievements to date and provide an understanding of the artist's body of work and the organization's capacity to host the residency. If a work sample is the product of collaboration, include a description of the lead artist's/organization's role in the work's creation. To upload multiple images, save them as a multi-page PDF and upload as a single document. If providing links to sources outside of YouTube, Vimeo or SoundCloud, please submit live website links via a PDF document that includes a description of content.

THREE RIVERS ARTS FESTIVAL SUPPORT

Offered during the first cycle of ABAP only – Deadline: March 1, 2018

Festival: June 1 – 10, 2018

Festival Support grants are designed to raise the visibility of Black artists, increase professional network opportunities between artists and the Three Rivers Arts Festival, and alleviate prohibitive economic barriers for artists who otherwise meet festival requirements and would produce quality art projects to enhance the festival experience for all.

Grants are available to individual artists for: performing arts, visual arts, artist market and for special projects and collaborations. Descriptions of these programs and eligibility criteria can be found at https://traf.trustarts.org/traf_home/artists. Applicants must live in the Pittsburgh region.

Eligible expenses include: Examples of artistic costs that might be included are the lead artist's fee; expenses incurred during creative or rehearsal periods; materials and equipment used in creation or presentation of the work; collaborating artists, designers, or technicians' fees; costumes; sets; etc.

PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Artist Statement

Discuss the philosophy/approach that supports your creative work (such as influences, processes, tools/medium choice and artistic goals) and how participating in the Three Rivers Arts Festival might advance your career. Please also upload a CV/resume in the media uploads section of the application.

Project Goals

What are the artistic goals of the project? Describe the nature of the project's contribution to the presence of Black art in the local cultural landscape.

Location

Describe the site where you would prefer activities will take place. For more information, visit https://traf.trustarts.org/traf_home/visit/map. What resources (studio/rehearsal/performance space, equipment, etc.) are required?

Timeline

Awardees will have two to three months to fully develop their work. Given the deadline for presentation/exhibition, please provide a timeline of key tasks.

Evaluation

Describe measurable outcomes, including artistic outcomes and economic goals.

MEDIA UPLOADS

Each applicant is allowed a total of five media uploads: Use one media upload to submit your budget and one to submit background materials (including resume/CV). The remaining three uploads are available to you to submit your work samples.

Detailed Budget (PDF)

Provide a balanced project budget that itemizes revenues (including the requested amount of this grant) and expenses related to any activities described above. Where appropriate, show calculations that make clear how you arrived at the numbers you project. List any revenue sources in addition to this request, indicating which are pending and which are confirmed.

Sample Work (PDFs, videos, images, MP3s)

Panelists will review a maximum of 10 pages of written work, 15 images or five minutes of video or audio. You may provide links to works available online on YouTube, Vimeo and SoundCloud. Work samples should represent the strongest artistic achievements to date and provide an understanding of the artist's body of work. To upload multiple images, save them as a multi-page PDF and upload as a single document. If providing links to sources outside of YouTube, Vimeo or SoundCloud, please submit live website links via a PDF document that includes a description of content.

Please Note: Funds awarded to individuals through this grants program are not excludable from gross income and must be reported to the IRS. Please consult a tax professional to review the impact of this grant on your personal tax liability. Grantees will be required to submit an IRS Form W9 as an individual and a signed grant agreement.

DEFINITION OF TERMS

ARTS OR COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION: An arts organization is defined as an IRS-registered, 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation or organization working with a fiscal sponsor with a mission to produce or present work in dance, film/video, digital applications, literature, music, theatre, traditional/folk arts, visual arts or interdisciplinary work. For the purpose of this application, a community-based organization is one that works at a local level to improve life for residents and has a mission focus other than in the arts. Eligible organizations may be of any budget size and must demonstrate the capacity to implement proposed activities. University arts departments, history museums or other nonprofit cultural entities are also eligible if a strong track record and/or effective support system for working with creative artists can be demonstrated.

RESIDENCY: A residency is defined as an immersive period during which an artist has access to the resources of a host arts organization for the expressed purpose of developing artistic work. The artist does not need to reside continuously in the region, but both the artist and organization must engage each other in an active exchange that adds value to both the artistic work and the host organization.

PITTSBURGH REGION: Artists and arts organizations located in the following counties are eligible to apply for funding: Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Washington and Westmoreland.

HOW TO APPLY

These guidelines define program eligibility and provide instructions for submitting applications to the 2018 Individual Artist Support Grant, Residencies at Arts or Community-Based Organizations and Festival Support.

All support material (budget sheets, sample work, and supplemental background materials-- including CV/resume) must be submitted online via the program's applicant portal at: <https://pittsburgharts.slideroom.com>

To begin, applicants must establish an account. Once you have an account, you may start and complete your submission in the same session, or save your work and finish the proposal at a later date.

All 2018 applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on Thursday, March 1 (grant cycle one) or Wednesday, August 1 (grant cycle two). Projects may begin when the required grant documents are returned. Grantees will be required to submit a final report on the project one year from the date of the grant award.

QUESTIONS?

For more information, visit:

<https://pittsburghfoundation.org/advancing-black-arts-pittsburgh>

or

<http://www.heinz.org/strategic-areas/creativity/advancing-black-arts-in-pittsburgh>

Individual Artist Support and Residencies at Arts or Community-Based Organizations:

Celeste Smith, Program Officer for Arts and Culture, The Pittsburgh Foundation
smithc@pghfdn.org – (412) 394-2625

General Operating & Festival Support:

Shaunda Miles, Program Officer, Arts & Culture in the Creativity Department at The Heinz Endowments / smiles@heinz.org or (412) 338-2653

LEARN MORE ABOUT FOUNDATION INITIATIVES:

- [100 Percent Pittsburgh](#)
- [Just Pittsburgh](#)