



# CALI CATALYST

**INFORMATIONAL WEBINAR**

**April 5, 2023**

# WHAT IS CALI CATALYST?

CALI Catalyst is a CCI grant program that awards unrestricted grants of up to \$7,500 to California artists and arts workers who are on the frontlines of effecting greater inclusion, access, diversity, and equity in the arts and culture sector.



# WHO DOES CALI CATALYST SUPPORT?

CALI Catalyst prioritizes support for the following:

- Applicants whose bold actions (2020 or later) are upending the status quo that has held the arts and culture sector back from realizing greater inclusion and equity by tangibly helping underrepresented communities—including Black, Indigenous, people of color, LGBTQIA+, and people with disabilities—gain more influence and power at industry-wide levels.
- Applicants who played a causal role in the change that occurred (i.e., they decidedly influenced change at an industry level).
- Applicants who are of underrepresented communities, but if they are not, whose bold actions are in the interest of underrepresented communities and are visibly moving the needle for these communities to have more inclusion, influence, and power in the arts and culture sector.
- Applicants who reside in a non-metropolitan region.
- Applicants who have not previously received CALI Catalyst funding.



# 2023 APPLICATION DEADLINES & ELIGIBILITY



Open Door Studio Team. Pictured: RoxAnne D. Trujillo, Tess Zufolo, Daniel Schneider, David Idell, Caraline Murphy, Mark Gonzalez, Dylan Czoschke, Taku Johnson



# 2023 APPLICATION ROUNDS

## Round #1

- Applications accepted from March 8 to May 3, 2023 at 12 p.m. PT (noon).  
Notifications shared on July 5 by 5 p.m.

## Round #2

- Applications accepted from June 1 to July 27, 2023 at 12 p.m. PT (noon).  
Notifications shared on September 28 by 5 p.m.



# ELIGIBILITY

CALI Catalyst applicants can be individuals or teams of individuals.\* To be eligible for funding consideration:

- Applicants must be artists or arts workers (e.g., arts administrators, cultural producers, culture bearers, creatives, cultural practitioners, teaching artists, or specialized technicians).
- Applicants must reside full-time in California.
- Applicants' change-making action(s) must have taken place or commenced (i.e., the action is still in progress) on or after January 1, 2020.

*\*Only one application will be accepted per team (i.e., individual team members cannot submit separate applications that describe the same “bold” action). Teams will therefore need to select a single team member to apply, and if funding is approved, this individual will be responsible for fulfilling the grant requirements.*



# INELIGIBLE

The following are ineligible for funding consideration:

- Organizations (e.g., nonprofits, for-profits, fiscally sponsored organizations);
- Individuals or teams of individuals who describe a change-making action that began or took place before January 1, 2020;
- Individuals or teams of individuals who are requesting funding to support an organization;
- Individuals or teams of individuals who have a conflict of interest (family or financial relationship) with the board, staff, or directors of the Center for Cultural Innovation; and
- Incomplete applications or applications with inaccessible (e.g., password-protected, broken links) attachments.





Rasheed Shabazz. Betti Ono Gallery, Oakland, CA. Photo by Uthman Williams.



# REVIEW CRITERIA





# REVIEW CRITERIA

## 1. Impact on arts and culture sector

- Is the applicant's change-making action shifting entire sectors, such as the entirety of the museum or theatre sectors, to move away from the status quo?
- Are there tangible and measurable ways that the applicant is helping underrepresented communities gain more power (e.g., through governance authority, through causal "changing of the guards," or shifting industry or regulatory policies and practices)?
- Did the applicant play a causal role in the catalyzing change that was realized?

## 2. Intention to enact greater inclusion, access, diversity, and equity

- Is the applicant's change-making action aimed at helping underrepresented communities gain more influence and build power?

## 3. Informed perspective

- Does the applicant have direct experience with the arts and culture sector and are they of an underrepresented community?





Piper Thomasson. Oakland, CA. "Piper with Notebook." June 2022. Photo by Jer Blanco (@jer.vision)

# APPLICATION



# APPLICATION

## NARRATIVE

### 1. Overview

- Describe the change-making action, including relevant dates, the oppressive, unfair, or untenable circumstances that prompted action to be taken in the arts and culture sector, and the specific causal role(s) played by the applicant.

### 2. Intention

- Why did you undertake the action? What were your expectations and what goals did you hope to achieve?

### 3. Impact

- What was the *actual* impact or outcome of the action? In your response, describe the scale of impact on the arts and culture sector and cite the tangible and measurable ways in which underrepresented communities gained power and influence.

### 4. Perspective

- Describe applicant's direct experience with the arts and culture sector, and indicate whether applicant is of an underrepresented community. In your response, include duration in the sector, roles played, communities supported, and any other factors that have informed applicant's point of view.



# APPLICATION

## SUPPORT MATERIALS

- One to two-page résumé, CV, or bio that references applicant's current role(s) in the arts and culture sector and summarizes experience and activities in the field.
- Up to three ephemera *directly* related to applicant's change-making work. Examples may include relevant URLs, press, screenshots, or photo/video documentation.

## REFERENCES

- Provide two references who can attest to the applicant's demonstration of the review criteria and speak on behalf of the communities the applicant is hoping to positively impact. **References who are family (including spouses and partners) or with whom the applicant has an active financial relationship will not be accepted as these are considered conflicts of interest.**
- CCI will also call on individuals in the field of a competitive applicant's work so that the people directly meant to benefit will influence the adjudication process.





# APPLICATION TIPS



Sarah Rafael Garcia, founder of Crear Studio. Santa Ana, CA. August 2021.  
Photo by Scott Smeltzer (LA Times Photographer)



# APPLICATION TIPS

- Review all ephemera—Guidelines, FAQs, Application Preview, Grantee Directories...this webinar!
- Be clear and to the point—avoid responses that are overly technical or dense/abstract.
- Have a friend, etc. look over your application to see if any important details were left out or whether anything is unclear.
- Reach out to CCI staff with questions! We're available at [cali@cciarts.org](mailto:cali@cciarts.org) or 415.288.0530.





