



INVESTING IN ARTISTS

INFORMATION SESSION
JULY 18, 2023

ABOUT

The **Investing in Artists** grant program supports individual artists who are creating new work in the performing or media arts that pushes the envelope of their creative process, explores new artistic collaborations, and/or supports artistic growth and experimentation that extends the boundaries of their art-making. The 2023 funding round will award roughly eight project grants of up to \$8,250 each.

Investing in Artists is supported by the William & Flora Hewlett Foundation and administered by the Center for Cultural Innovation (CCI).





Courtesy of 2022 Investing in Artists grantee, Sruti Sarathy.

GUIDELINES



ELIGIBILITY

- Must be a full-time resident of Marin, Napa, Solano, or Sonoma County at the time of applying and for the duration of the grant period (October 18, 2023 – October 17, 2024).
- Must be an individual working artist; organizations, artistic companies, and collectives cannot apply.
- Must propose a new project.
- Must have performed or presented artistic work in a public context—including online/digital platforms—within the last three years.
- Must be 18 years or older at the time of the application deadline.
- Cannot be a full-time or matriculated student.
- Cannot submit more than one application.
- Cannot have a conflict of interest (family or financial relationship) with the board, staff, or directors of the Center for Cultural Innovation.



REVIEW CRITERIA

- Clarity, rationale, and readiness of proposed project, including identification of specific work plans, timeline, and collaborators (if any) required to carry out the project;
- Evidence that funding is coming at a “critical juncture” in the artist’s career (i.e., that the proposed project provides a significant opportunity to “push the artistic boundaries” at the right moment for the artist), and the potential long-term impact of the grant. In other words, there is a compelling rationale as to why the artist should be supported at this particular moment; and
- Demonstrated record of artistic achievement and quality of work.



TIMELINE

Application Opens	July 10, 2023, 9:00 a.m.
Drop-in Q + A	<u>August 2, 2023, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.</u>
Drop-in Q + A	<u>August 9, 2023, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.</u>
Drop-in Q + A	<u>August 16, 2023, 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.</u>
Application Deadline	UPDATED!! August 28, 2023, Noon, PT
Application Notifications	October 18, 2023, by 5 p.m. PT
Grant Support Period	October 18, 2023 - October 17, 2024





Courtesy of 2022 Investing in Artists grantee, Maribel Martinez.

APPLICATION



NARRATIVE

- **Project Description:** Describe the artistic innovation project for which you are seeking funding, providing details with regards to your concept, stage of development, timeline, required resources, and collaborators, if any.
- **Collaborators** (Optional): If applicable, include up to three brief bios for key collaborators and describe how they are supporting the project.
- **Why Now?:** Explain how your artistic innovation project is “pushing the envelope” for your artistic profession or practice, how it may affect your work in the future, and why it is important to undertake this project now.
- **Applicant Context:** Provide a brief statement about your artistic practice and the nature of your work.



RÉSUMÉ & BUDGET

RÉSUMÉ

- Brief, **one-page** résumé that summarizes experience and activities in the field.

BUDGET

- Upload a **one-page** version of your project budget.
 - If project's total expenses are projected to exceed the amount requested from Investing in Artists (up to \$8,250), list additional income sources and their status.
 - [Sample project budget](#) (next slide)
- Required Budget Notes section



BUDGET

Investing in Artists
2022 Sample Project Budget
FOR REFERENCE ONLY

Instructions: Enter the project's projected sources of income—including the amount requested from Investing in Artists—as well as any expenses associated with the project. In addition, indicate the status of each income source.

INCOME	Amount	Notes
Investing in Artists Grant	\$8,250	Pending
B&H In Kind Equipment Donation	\$5,000	Committed
ABC Foundation Grant	\$5,000	Committed
123 Fellowship	\$10,000	Pending
Ticket Sales	\$8,250	Projected
TOTAL	\$36,500	
EXPENSE	Amount	Notes
Artist's Time & Labor	\$20,000	Roughly 307 hours at \$65/hour
Film Editor	\$5,000	Flat rate
Actors	\$4,000	2 actors at \$2000 each; Includes 8 hours of rehearsal and 10 hours of production
Equipment	\$5,000	Includes camera, lights
Production Supplies	\$2,500	Includes costumes, set, and crew meals
TOTAL	\$36,500	



WORK SAMPLES

- The work sample is a critical part of the application and should represent your artistic work in the best possible light.
- A minimum of **one**, and no more than three, work samples are required. Samples may include audio, video, or written manuscripts. ***Video is the preferred work sample type.***
- Panelists will review up to **FIVE (5) minutes** total. Keep this in mind when selecting samples that are lengthy. You may cue your sample to a specific starting point, edit it, or provide playback instructions. **If you are submitting more than one type of work sample, then you cannot submit the recommended total for each type.** For example, you can submit 2 minutes of audio and 3 minutes of video but NOT 5 minutes of audio and 5 minutes of video.
- Select examples of recent work and avoid samples that have poor visibility or audio quality.
- **Samples must be uploaded directly to Submittable** – we will not accept links to an outside platform.



TIPS & TECHNIQUES



Courtesy of 2022 Investing in Artists grantee, Terrance Walker.



TIPS & TECHNIQUES

- Review all grant ephemera—Guidelines, FAQs, Application Preview, Sample Project Budget.
- 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.
- Apply early.
- Reach out to CCI staff with questions! We're here to support you--contact us at grants@cciarts.org or 415.288.0530 during our office hours on Wednesdays and Fridays, from 10am - 2pm.
(Grab an appointment [here](#).)



