



DC COMMISSION ON  
THE ARTS & HUMANITIES

# **FY2016 GENERAL OPERATING SUPPORT ARTIST FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM**

Applicants may submit one Artist Fellowship Program application per grant cycle

**Individuals may receive up to \$10,000**

**Deadline: Friday May 15, 2015 at 4:00PM**

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## GENERAL OPERATING SUPPORT GRANTS

Applicants may submit one Artist Fellowship Program application per grant cycle

**FY 2016**

### Artist Fellowship Program

Individuals may receive up to \$10,000

Deadline: May 15, 2015 at 4:00PM

#### Artist Fellowship Program Description

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The Artist Fellowship Program (AFP) offers up to \$10,000 fellowships to individual artists whose artistic excellence significantly contributes to the District of Columbia as a world class cultural capital. AFP recognizes the impact of individual artists within the District of Columbia and supports the vitality that those artists bring to the local community.

**AFP is not a project-based grant and applicants are not required to complete a particular project as part of the fellowship. Funds may be used for any type of expenses.**

**AFP is open to all artistic disciplines in FY2015.** Artistic disciplines may include, but are not limited to, dance, design, folk and traditional arts, literature, media arts, music, theater, and visual arts, as well as other emerging and experimental fields and multi-disciplinary media. **Established as well as emerging artists are encouraged to apply.**

Artist Fellowship Program has no cash matching requirement. Funds must be spent within DCCAH's FY2016 (October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016).

#### Artist Fellowship Program Goals

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- Encourage the contributions of individual artists to the District of Columbia's arts and humanities communities
- Highlight the professional accomplishments and creative excellence of artists in the District of Columbia
- Provide support to individuals who demonstrate exceptional creativity

#### Successful Artist Fellowship Program Applications

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- Consider how your Artist Statement connects panelists to your work samples.

- Focus on work that you have created, not work that you WILL create.
- Avoid work samples which make it difficult for panelists to review the quality of the work itself (e.g. low resolution images, audio with unintentional white noise, etc.)
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## Eligibility Requirements

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Individuals may apply if they meet all of the following eligibility requirements at the time of application. Applicants must:

- Be legal DC residents for at least two years prior to the application deadline and must maintain residency during the entire grant period;
- Be artists or arts professionals (e.g., presenters, producers and educators), aged 18 or older;
- Have a permanent DC address, as listed on government issued identification or tax returns. PO Boxes may not be used as a primary address;
- Be in good standing with DCCA. Applicants with incomplete or delinquent reports, in any funding program, as of October 15, 2014, are ineligible to receive an additional award from DCCA in FY2015; and
- Not use fiscal agents.

## Funding Restrictions and Allowable Costs

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There are no funding restrictions on Artist Fellowship Program grants and no unallowable costs. Individual applicants may receive funds from multiple grant programs. Please note that payments may be taxable under the law, and each grant recipient should consult with a tax professional to determine how payments may impact individual circumstances.

## Technical Assistance and Workshops

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DCCA staff members are available to help develop grant applications through group and individual technical assistance. Between April and May 2015, the DCCA will conduct free workshops and application review for participants to learn useful information about the agency’s funding opportunities and how to submit a grant application. More information about the dates and times of these workshops may be found at [www.dccarts.dc.gov](http://www.dccarts.dc.gov) under [Grant Writing Assistance](#). **The DCCA urges all applicants to attend these workshops.** In addition, DCCA staff members are available for 30-minute appointments up to one week before the deadline.

Workshops will take place at the offices of the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities and the THEARC. **Workshop dates, times and locations listed below are subject to change.** All workshops are free and open to the public; however, participants are encouraged to RSVP. Be sure to bring photo identification when you arrive. Contact Alexxis Hooks at [Alexxis.Hooks2@dc.gov](mailto:Alexxis.Hooks2@dc.gov) or call 202-724-5613.

Day & Date	Time	Topic	Location
Wednesday, April 8	2:00pm-3:30pm	<b>AFP &amp; CAP - Individual</b>	DCCA
Thursday, April 9	9:00am-12:00pm	<b>OPEN HOURS</b>	THEARC - Community Room
Wednesday, April 15	9:00am-12:00pm	<b>OPEN HOURS</b>	THEARC - Recital Hall

Wednesday, April 15	12:00pm-1:30pm	<b>AFP &amp; CAP - Individual</b>	THEARC - Recital Hall
Thursday, April 16	<b>Holiday</b>	<b>Holiday</b>	<b>Holiday</b>
Wednesday, April 22	3:30pm-5:00pm	<b>Grant Application Portal</b>	DCCAH Multi-Purpose Room
Thursday, April 23	9:00am-12:00pm	<b>OPEN HOURS</b>	THEARC - Recital Hall
Thursday, April 23	6:30pm-8:00pm	<b>AFP</b>	DCCAH Multi-Purpose Room
Thursday, April 30	9:00am-12:00pm	<b>OPEN HOURS</b>	THEARC

<p><b>FY2016 Workshops will be located at:</b></p> <p><b>DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities</b>  200 I (Eye) Street SE, Suite 1400  Washington, DC 20003</p> <p><b>THEARC</b>  1901 Mississippi Ave., SE  Washington, DC 20020</p>
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### **Application Process**

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All of the FY2016 grant program guidelines are available [www.dcartarts.dc.gov](http://www.dcartarts.dc.gov). DCCAH utilizes an online grant portal. All applications must be submitted online by the deadline, 4:00 pm, Friday, May 15, 2015. Incomplete or late applications, or applications which do not follow the instructions, will be ineligible for review and funding. The grant period is from October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016. Grant funds may not be used for project activities that occur prior to October 1, 2015. DCCAH will not accept mailed, emailed or hand-delivered copies of grant applications.

#### Grant Application Procedure

1. Review the FY2016 Guide to Grants [PDF] and the grant guidelines thoroughly and determine eligibility of the applicant, project and project activities;
2. Go to the [Apply for Grants](#) page and select the [Grant Application Portal](#) to register:
  - To reset the password either select “Forgot your password?” or click [here](#).
3. Once fully registered, applicants must select the desired grant program(s),
4. Complete the application questions and budget/budget narrative data,
5. Upload all required documents, supplementary material, and work samples,
6. Submit the application by 4:00pm on the grant program’s deadline date.

**The application process is competitive and subject to the availability of funds.** Applicants may not request or receive funding for the same project activities through more than one DC Commission grant program or grant category.

Applicants are fully responsible for the content of their application packages. An automated confirmation of an application's submission does not guarantee an application's eligibility or recommendation for funding by the Advisory Review Panel. DCCAH staff is not permitted to make corrections to applications on behalf of applicants. DCCAH staff will review applications for completeness and contact applicants for any incomplete documents within five business days of the deadline. Applicants are responsible for updating their application within five business days of DCCAH's notification. Incomplete applications will not be forwarded to the Advisory Review Panel for consideration.

## Review Process

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AFP applications are scored according to three categories: Mastery of Technique, Conceptual Content, Cohesion, and Overall. The evaluation criteria are specific to each grant program and listed in each grant program's guidelines.

Once an application has been successfully submitted, a grant manager will review each submission for eligibility and completeness. Receiving an automated confirmation of the applicant's submission does not guarantee the application's eligibility or recommendation for funding.

Applicants are fully responsible for the content of their application packages. Incomplete applications will not be forwarded to the Advisory Review Panel for consideration.

Applicants with eligible applications will be divided into cohorts based on Applicant Discipline. Applicants with eligible and complete applications in Performing Arts cohorts will be invited to perform for the panel. Applicants with eligible and complete applications in Visual Arts cohorts will be invited to participate in a group exhibition. Please note: participation by performance or in the exhibit is not mandatory, however, it is recommended since both will be reviewed by the respective Artist Fellowship Advisory Review Panel.

DCCAH selects Advisory Review Panelists for each grant program to make funding recommendations to the Commission Board. Advisory Review Panelists are arts, humanities and/or business professionals, independent of the Commission, who ensure that the DCCAH provides programs and services that meet the needs of the District's cultural community. All eligible applications will be forwarded to the Advisory Review Panelists for evaluation and scoring based on the published criteria. Panelists will conduct a thorough review of all applications and convene as group to discuss the applications and finalize scores.

The evaluation process will also take into consideration general standards of decency and respect for the diverse beliefs and values of the American public consistent with The National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act, as amended in 1990.

For more information regarding the grant review process please visit the [Guide to Grants](#). To nominate a person to serve on DCCAH's Advisory Review Panels, see DCCAH's [FY2016 Call for Panelists](#).

## Notification and Payment

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Applicants will be notified in writing of their application status on October 9, 2015. This notification may consist of a grant package, letter of ineligibility, or letter of denial.

**The date of payment disbursement is subject to change depending on the availability of funds.** DCCAH works with other DC government agencies to pay grant recipients in a timely manner but DCCAH does not create or distribute payments onsite. To expedite the payment process, DCCAH strongly recommends FY2016 grant recipients register for direct deposit. For more information on direct deposit by completing an Automated Clearing House (ACH) Vendor Payment Enrollment Form. The ACH Form can be found on our website at [Managing Grant Award](#).

DCCAH reserves the right to rescind any and all grant awards for non-compliance with grant guidelines, policies and regulations. FY2016 grantees with unfulfilled reporting, in any funding program, as of October 15, 2015, are ineligible to receive any additional awards from DCCAH.

## Risk Management and Performance Monitoring

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All grant recipients are subject to risk assessments and monitoring requirements as outlined in the [City-Wide Grants Manual and Sourcebook](#) from the Office of the City Administrator (OCA). DCCAH has established standards for grantees in making determinations of demonstrated performance prior to the award of all grants.

All activities funded by DCCAH will be monitored and evaluated by staff to assure compliance with all aspects of the District of Columbia's requirements, which may include evaluating allowable costs, meeting project benchmarks, providing proof of expenditures, etc.

All FY2016 grant recipients must complete final reports by October 15, 2016. Grantees are required to document payment of all grant related expenses as well as the required match. Interim and final report will be completed through the online portal. Grantees may access the interim and final report pages through the [Manage Grant Award](#) page on the DCCAH's website. All grantees are responsible for reporting grant awards as income on federal and local tax returns and are strongly encouraged to consult with the tax professionals and the IRS.

## Contact Information

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For more information regarding DCCAH's grant programs, or clarification about accessibility requirements, work sample submissions and the grant making process, please refer to the [Guide to Grants](#) or contact Regan Spurlock, at [regan.spurlock@dc.gov](mailto:regan.spurlock@dc.gov) or 202-724-5613.

# GENERAL OPERATING SUPPORT

**FY 2016**

## **Artist Fellowship Program**

### **Review Criteria**

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#### **Mastery of Technique 30%**

- Application and work sample demonstrate exemplary technical capabilities.

#### **Conceptual Content 30%**

- Application demonstrates highly innovative theories, ideas, and/or perceptions.

#### **Cohesion 30%**

- Application represents an astute and perceptive body of work that clearly advances the applicant's artist statement.

#### **Overall 10%**

- The applicant's body of work supports the goals of the Artist Fellowship Program.



**FY 2016**

# **Artist Fellowship Program**

## **Application Checklist**

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The following is a checklist for all mandatory and supplementary documents required to submit the Artist Fellowship application. Documents must be uploaded prior to the application deadline. These documents are in addition to the required narrative questions.

### **MANDATORY DOCUMENTS**

- Work Sample(s) – see Guide to Grants for more information on Work Sample Requirements. *Flyers and brochures DO NOT count at work samples.*
- Support Material – up to six additional items, e.g., publicity, letters of support, programs, brochures, awards, etc.
- Resume(s) of Key Personnel – Applicant’s Resume / CV
- Signed W-9 (Request for Taxpayer Identification and Certificate)
- Valid DC driver’s license or identification card



DC COMMISSION ON  
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## ADDENDUM A: WORK SAMPLES AND SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities (DCCAH) values and emphasizes artistic excellence in all grant programs within all disciplines. This section contains detailed information on the DCCAH’s requirements and suggestions regarding artistic content.

Artist content is one of several criteria on which an application is reviewed. Other criteria include: District Impact and Engagement, Capacity and Sustainability, Overall and others. Artistic content is demonstrated to the Advisory Review Panel through the applicant’s:

- **Section 1 - Work sample;**
- **Section 2 - Support materials;**
- **Section 3 - Résumé(s) of key personnel; and**
- **Section 4 - Assessment and evaluation methods**

Of these, the work sample carries the most weight because it must contain the clearest depiction of the applicant’s best work(s) of art. All applicants must submit artistic work samples.

To further assist you in submitting strong artistic content with your application, DCCAH has provided:

- **Section 5 – General suggestions from DCCAH staff.**

### **Section 1 - Work Samples**

Work samples are a critical to each application and are carefully considered during application review. The DCCAH strongly recommends that applicants pay close attention to the content of work sample submissions.

The guidelines on what to submit within a work sample submission depend on the applicant’s artistic discipline and the nature of the grant request. *Applicants must adhere to the work sample requirements below in order to be eligible for consideration.*

***Work samples must be no more than two years old. Submitting older work samples will make the application ineligible for funding consideration.***

<b>Arts Education</b>	
	Includes video and audio excerpts, writing samples, and student art work along with syllabi, lesson plans, and other materials created by teaching artists and teachers in professional development projects.
	Educational materials are also acceptable alongside the artistic work sample.
<b>Crafts</b>	

	Individuals - Submit digital images of ten different works.
	Organizations - Submit 20 digital images of different works.
	Create an Image Identification List of the images you are submitting. Arrange the list in the order that you would like the images to be viewed. Title the page with the words "Image Identification List" and the applicant's name. For each image, include the artist's name, artwork title, medium, size and the year the work was completed. Digital images must be numbered to correspond with the Image Identification List.
<b>Dance</b>	
	Submit up to two video recordings of performances.
	Submit an ensemble selection unless you are a soloist or the project involves a solo.
<b>Design Arts</b>	
	Individuals - Submit digital images of ten different works.
	Organizations - Submit 20 digital images of different works.
	Create an Image Identification List of the images you are submitting. Arrange the list in the order that you would like the images to be viewed. Title the page with the words "Image Identification List" and the applicant's name. For each image, include the artist's name, artwork title, medium, size and the year the work was completed. Digital images must be numbered to correspond with the Image Identification List.
<b>Interdisciplinary</b>	
	Individuals and organizations must submit up to 10 digital images or up to two audio/video recordings demonstrating the integration of disciplines in the work.
<b>Literature (Includes poetry, fiction, creative writing, screenwriting, spoken word, etc.)</b>	
Fiction and creative nonfiction writing	Submit 10-20 pages from no more than three short works, or a portion from no more than two larger works up to 20 pages.
	Applicants must label the work(s) as fiction or nonfiction.
	If the work is an excerpt, include a one-page statement in the manuscript about where it fits into the whole to orient the reviewers.
Poetry	Submit 10-15 pages of poetry from no fewer than five poems, not to exceed 10 poems.
	Shorter poems should be printed one to a page.
Spoken Word	In addition to the Poetry requirements above, submit video recordings of three contrasting pieces.
<b>Media Arts</b>	
Film, Video, Radio	Submit up to two audio/video recordings of completed work or work-in-progress.
<b>Multi-disciplinary</b>	
	Provide the required work samples (as described herein) for two (minimum) or three (maximum) of the artistic disciplines that are relevant to the grant request.
<b>Music</b>	
	Submit up to three audio/video recordings.
	Selections must not exceed five minutes.

	Upload each selection in a separate file.
<b>Photography</b>	
	Individuals - Submit digital images of ten different works.
	Organizations - Submit 20 digital images of different works.
	Create an Image Identification List of the images you are submitting. Arrange the list in the order that you would like the images to be viewed. Title the page with the words "Image Identification List" and the applicant's name. For each image, include the artist's name, artwork title, medium, size and the year the work was completed. Digital images must be numbered to correspond with the Image Identification List.
<b>Theater</b>	
Actors	Submit video recordings of two contrasting monologues.
	Still images of productions are prohibited.
Directors	Submit a copy of a 1-3 page concept statement of a recently directed play.
Organizations	Submit up to two video recordings of performances.
	Digital images of productions are prohibited.
	Playbills and programs are prohibited as work samples. However, they may be included as support material.
Playwrights	See LITERATURE, above.
Sound designers	Submit up to three audio recordings.
<b>Visual Arts</b>	
	Individuals - Submit digital images of ten different works.
	Organizations - Submit 20 digital images of different works.
	Create an Image Identification List of the images you are submitting. Arrange the list in the order that you would like the images to be viewed. Title the page with the words "Image Identification List" and the applicant's name. For each image, include the artist's name, artwork title, medium, size and the year the work was completed. Digital images must be numbered to correspond with the Image Identification List.

## **Section 2 - Support Materials**

Support materials are documents that strengthen the application and provide additional information that directly relates to the grant request. Support materials do not take the place of a work sample! They do, however, reinforce the quality of the applicant's artistic disciplines(s).

Some examples of support materials are:

- Theater/exhibition reviews;
- Letters of recommendation;
- Certificates;
- Sample lesson plans;
- Assessments and evaluations; and
- Awards.

## **Section 3 - Résumés of Key Personnel**

Another way for the Advisory Review Panel to determine the artistic content of each application is to review the résumés of the key artists, administrators, and facilitators involved in the grant activities. The professionals involved in the project determine the capacity of the project and ability for the applicant to effectively create an excellent artistic product and/or experience. Their backgrounds as artists and administrators should be relevant to the project and clearly demonstrated through their professional résumés.

## **Section 4 – Assessment and Evaluation**

Purpose of Assessment & Evaluation

(a) To determine the efficacy of a program – as articulated in the program goals and as required for grant reporting.

(b) To provide evidence to support changes in order to improve the program and its delivery.

Types of Assessment & Evaluation

(a) Qualitative Assessment is often subjective in approach and narrative in nature.

(b) Quantitative Assessment provides empirical data that demonstrates growth in the knowledge, skills, and understandings of the participants.

Assessment & Evaluation Design

There are many ways to assess and evaluate programming including; needs assessments, pre- and post-testing, and formative, observational, and summative assessments that utilize mixed method approaches such as portfolio assessment.

## **Section 5 - General Suggestions from DCCAH Staff**

When creating and preparing Work Samples, Support Materials and Résumés, the DCCAH recommends considering the following:

- Select recent, high quality samples that relate as directly to the application as possible.
- Uploaded pictures should be JPEGs with the resolution of at least 72 dpi
- The file upload limit is 80MB. If your work sample is larger than this, we encourage you to provide a link rather than compromise the quality of the work sample
- Less is more. Oftentimes, adding more than the recommended number of work samples to your application will weaken the application.
- Carefully chosen work samples (pictures, videos, excerpts, etc.) tend to make the biggest impact and create the strongest artistic impression.
- Advisory Review Panelists are required to review each applicant's work samples; however, they are not guaranteed to review multiple work samples within the same application.
- Each work sample and document must be labeled clearly so that panelists can identify what they are reviewing
- For project-based grants, if you have conducted similar projects in the past two years, include samples of work that illustrate the core mission, theme or impact of those projects.
- Panelists must be able to assess the skill level of the artist(s) involved in the work that will be created, exhibited or taught.
- Digital File Format - All files should be labeled as follows, in the appropriate file extension (jpg, gif, pdf, etc.)
  - Template: Applicant'sLastName.FirstName.Image#.ArtworkTitle.jpg
  - Example – "DaVinci.Leonardo.1.MonaLisa.jpg"

For video submission

- Do not send promotional work samples (e.g., highly-edited booking tapes).
- Do not send dark work samples or samples with poor visibility.

For online materials and website:

- A website is not a sufficient work sample. Only submit a website that is an essential part of the project.
- Provide all passwords or include any necessary information on required to view your work sample such as plug-ins or navigation paths.
- Be sure that the links to websites or online materials are fully functioning and maintained throughout the year. An inoperative link to a website containing your work sample will negatively affect your application. DCCAH is not responsible for any material outside of the online grant portal.