For 100 years, the California Community Foundation (CCF) has recognized, encouraged and supported the Southern California arts community by funding and nurturing a full range of artistic expressions. The foundation’s ultimate goal is to ensure that arts and culture is a dimension of everyday life in all communities in Los Angeles County. Toward that end, the CCF Fellowship for Visual Artists is designed to support Los Angeles based visual artists so they can advance to the next level of professional development. Professional artists play a significant role in connecting communities, bridging cultural barriers and in celebrating the rich cultural diversity of Los Angeles County.

The CCF Fellowship for Visual Artists is a unique opportunity for artists because it is an investment in an artist’s career rather than in a particular project. The award is an unrestricted grant of $25,000. The award may be spent according to the greatest need of the artist. For this reason, the panel will consider the artist’s entire career and future promise.

CCF’s fundamental goal is to help individual L.A. County-based artists become more sustainable through their art practice. Therefore, the investment in the artist’s career also includes strengthening their business skills through 2 (two) artist retreats which take place during the grant year in which the award is made. The curriculum is tailored specifically for CCF Fellows, with sessions and individual consultations on accounting, legal issues, money management, negotiations and alternative financing options. The retreat will provide Fellows with the knowledge, tools and resources to help them manage their life and careers more effectively. The retreat environment will also offer plenty of time for peer-to-peer networking, reflection, and the opportunity to learn from each other and build an artist community.

The California Community Foundation’s Fellowship for Visual Artists is made possible by the J. Paul Getty Trust Fund for the Visual Arts, the Brody Arts Fund, the Atlass Fund, the Joan Palevsky Endowment for the Future of Los Angeles, the T.M. and R.W. Brown Fund, the Harry J. Volk Fund and other CCF funds.

**PROGRAM OBJECTIVES**

- To support and develop artistic or cultural talent of special merit that reflects Los Angeles County’s diverse population
- To acknowledge the contributions of outstanding visual artists in Los Angeles County by enhancing, encouraging and nurturing artistic accomplishments
- To increase access to artistic support among the diverse communities of Los Angeles County
REVIEW PROCESS

Each year, we select a new multidisciplinary selection panel made up of distinguished artists and professionals from the Los Angeles arts community to review qualified applications. The panel will recommend grant awards to the most outstanding individual artists who have submitted all required application materials (including requested attachments and sample work) and meet the eligibility requirements. Awards will be based on the following criteria:

1. Artistic quality and merit
2. Past artistic accomplishments
3. Impact of the fellowship on the artist’s career
4. Work that is representative of Los Angeles County’s diverse communities, including those defined by ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, economic circumstances or geographic location
5. Artist’s contributions to the cultural vitality of Los Angeles

All applicants will be notified of the status of their application on CallForEntry.org by early December.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible applicants:
- Must be working in the visual arts (e.g., painting, drawing, photography, printmaking, sculpture, installation, experimental film and video\(^1\), interdisciplinary/mixed media or performance art\(^2\) in which visual art must be a significant and integral component). Artists whose primary practice is performing or media arts (e.g., music, dance, acting, film, video, or moving animation) are not eligible.
- Must be visual artist with at least five (5) years or more years of active professional experience in their field. Artists must have documented exhibition history, publications or other significant proof of professional accomplishments, including evidence of work in Los Angeles County.
- Must be a full-time resident of Los Angeles County for at least the last five (5) consecutive years prior to the application deadline. Full-time resident is defined as being physically present in Los Angeles County 9 months per year of residency.
- Must be at least 25 years old in age

Not Eligible:
- Individuals that are currently enrolled in an arts-related undergraduate or graduate degree program

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\(^1\) Art in motion on a film, video or digital format that transcends aesthetic, formal, ideological and/or narrative norms. The work seeks alternative modes of production or distribution, outside the theatrically commercial approach. Conventional documentary work is not eligible.

\(^2\) An artistic presentation that incorporates the disciplines of music, theater, dance or other performance as a central element for engaging the audience. Performance artwork may be associated with advanced technologies, and more than one medium may be involved in the presentation.
• Individuals who live outside of LA County

• Individual artists whose submitted resumes do not adequately demonstrate the required 5 years of professional history

• Individuals who have previously received a CCF Fellowship

• California Community Foundation employees and their immediate family members

APPLICATION

Beginning this year, the Fellowship for Visual Artists will use a two-stage application process. All eligible applicants will be required to submit the following in the first stage of the application:

Stage One:
- Basic contact information (Name, Address, Discipline, Residency)

- Artistic statement that describes your artistic goals and the nature of your work (2,000 character limit, approximately 250 words).

- Artistic samples:
  - Up to six (6) images. Artistic work samples should represent work completed in the last three years. Or;
  - One (1) video (up to five minutes). Artistic work samples should represent work completed in the last three years.

- Résumé/CV that outlines exhibition history, education, fellowships or awards received and art-related work history. Applicants must demonstrate a professional history of at least five years, including evidence of work in Los Angeles County.
  - Document should not exceed five pages

Stage Two:
Selected applicants from the first stage will be invited to complete the full application in early September. The panel of jurors will make recommendations based on the entire application, including materials submitted in the first and second stages. Awards will be announced in December.

DEADLINE: 11 P.M. PST ON THURSDAY, JUNE 30, 2016

Applications must be submitted through www.callforentry.org.

Late applications will NOT be accepted regardless of technical difficulties or other circumstances. No exceptions.

For more information about this application, please visit our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) on our website at calfund.org/artist-gallery or contact us at fva@calfund.org.