



EXPOSURE

AN ARTISTS PROGRAM



COVER ARTWORK CREDITS

Artists funded through Exposure, clockwise from the upper left, include: Deavron Dailey (image by Emmai Alaquiva), Almah LaVon Rice (image by Amanda King), Harriet Buckley (image by Emmai Alaquiva), Jasmine Green (image by Kitoko Chargois), Shikeith (self portrait), Mikael Owunna and Marques Redd of Rainbow Serpent (by Emmai Alaquiva), LaVerne Kemp (image by Emmai Alaquiva), Chris Ivey (image by sarah huny young), Clara Kent (image by Asia Margo), Yvonne McBride (image by Ivette Spradlin).



SUPPORT

CULTIVATE

ADVOCATE

Sponsored by The Pittsburgh Foundation and the Opportunity Fund, the Exposure Artists Program is guided by a shared belief in the need to support creative practice, to cultivate and fund diversity, and to advocate for racial justice in the arts community.

Though the Foundations recognize that the funding available cannot solve inequities in the arts nor serve all artists, this program provides resources toward the creative artistic process and offers a self-directed pathway for artists to pursue new ideas, opportunities and skills that are essential to the region's cultural vitality.



Exposure artists and collaborators, L to R. Back row: Dana Bishop-Root (Carnegie Museum of Art), Felicia Savage Friedman (Yoga Roots on Location), Joseph Hall (Kelly Strayhorn Theater), Marques Redd and Mikael Owunna (Rainbow Serpent), Selima Dawson, Jasmine Green. Middle row: Shelly Regner (Yoga Roots on Location), María Eugenia Nieves Escoriza, aka Geña (#notwhite collective), Deavron Dailey, Yvonne McBride, Sarika Goulatia (#notwhite collective), Zena Ruiz (#notwhite collective). Front row, seated, L to R: Harriet Buckley and LaVerne Kemp.

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An Artists
Program



Images provided by Deavron Dailey, mixed media artist.

This program acknowledges

that the field of **arts and culture is constantly evolving**, and, as we learn with and alongside artists in our region, **we seek to be responsive and evolve** the program to meet artists where they are.

The Foundations endeavor **to prioritize direct investment in artists and their respective disciplines** by providing funding to support them.

The Exposure program aims **to elevate** not only the work of artists, but **to honor** the artists who perform and create the work, through activities that create, generate and enhance visibility for the creative process, artwork and societal issues of our time.

PROGRAM GOALS

With a program budget of \$310,000 for 2023, we seek to:

Serve individual artists and collectives.

Attempt to address the lack of equity in Pittsburgh's arts and culture community by establishing a funding stream that directly serves Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) artists who are working at the intersection of arts and activism.

Support access to funding for individual artists who have not previously received Foundation support.

Facilitate connections among grantees and other artists in the field who are promoting equity in arts and culture and working at the intersection of arts and activism.



02

PROGRAM GUIDELINES

The program will support individual artists and collectives through the following funding streams.



INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS

Up to \$20,000

Two-year grants of up to \$20,000 (up to \$10,000 each year for up to two years).



COLLECTIVES

Up to \$35,000

Two-year grants of up to \$35,000 (up to \$17,500 each year for up to two years).



FIRST-TIME GRANTEES

Up to \$5,000

Up to four, one-year grants up to \$5,000:

Grants for individual artists who have yet to receive any support exceeding a total of \$2,500 from any arts grants program for the creation of work. Supporting emerging artists is a critical component of promoting and elevating the next generation of creators in the region and expands and further diversifies the regional arts ecosystem.



TRANSFORMATIVE JUSTICE

Individual artists - Two-year grants of up to \$20,000 (up to \$10,000 each year for up to two years).

Collectives - Two-year grants of up to \$35,000 (up to \$17,500 each year for up to two years).

This funding stream **is limited to individuals and collectives identifying as BIPOC for projects at the intersection of arts and activism with a racial justice lens.**

Applicants will be artists who are involved in serious artistic practice geared towards an intended transformative impact on social outcomes. The Foundations are committed to supporting artists creating their own narratives, and this funding stream will provide dedicated resources and recognition to BIPOC artists in our region doing this work.

Individual artists or collectives working in any discipline may apply for grants to support their artistic practice throughout the grant period.

Grants awarded will prioritize the artist as a person, understanding that artists have typical financial, family and community obligations, dreams and an artistic practice. Funding is aimed at supporting the artist as a human being AND the full scope of artistic work, rather than one individual project of an artist or collective.

While the grant does not require the presentation of a fully realized work, it provides artists an opportunity for the creation and/or development of work that may consequently culminate in an artistic product and/or portfolio enhancement.

Applicants may represent multiple artistic disciplines, including but not limited to:

Craft (ceramics, fiber, glass, jewelry, metals, textiles, etc.).

Dance (dancers, choreographers; aerial, ballet, hip-hop, jazz, tap, etc.).

Design (fashion, graphic, industrial, object, all forms of architecture, etc.).

Film (animation, documentary, episodic, experimental, narrative, etc.).

Media (work at the intersection of technology, aesthetics, storytelling, and digital cultures, etc.).

Multidisciplinary (combining or involving several artistic disciplines).

Music (composers, musicians; classical, contemporary, experimental, folk, instrumental, jazz, pop, world, etc.).

Theater and performance (directing, experimental, live action, playwriting, puppetry, tactical and site performance, etc.).

Traditional arts (work related to the continuity and evolution of a tradition and/or cultural heritage such as cultural dance, cultural music, oral expression, and traditional crafts, etc.).

Visual art (installation, painting, performance art, photography, sculpture, sound art, video, etc.).

Literary arts (fiction, nonfiction, poetry, literature for children, criticism, graphic novels, journalism, arts writing, etc.).



03

PROGRAM DEADLINES

Applications to the following Exposure funding streams are due by **Wednesday, Aug. 30, 2023, at 5 p.m.**

- INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS AND COLLECTIVES.
- TRANSFORMATIVE JUSTICE.
- FIRST-TIME GRANTEES.

Due to the large number of requests expected in special initiatives, requests for assistance should allow for ample time prior to the day of the deadline. Please note that questions received on the day the application is due may not be answered due to capacity constraints.

Please be advised that submission of an application does not imply a guarantee of funding.



ELIGIBILITY

Illustrations provided by Trenita Finney, 2023.

- 👑 At least 18 years of age.
- 👑 Resident of Allegheny County. Collectives must be located within Allegheny County.
- 👑 Prospective applicants may apply to only one (1) funding stream per year.

Previous grantees of the Exposure program are eligible to apply again 12 months after the submission of a final report.

Individual artists and collectives that currently have an open grant through the Foundation's discretionary grantmaking or plan to make an application to another Pittsburgh Foundation grant program are still eligible to receive funding through the Exposure program.

FOR COLLECTIVES

- 👑 Members of a collective may also be eligible to apply as individual artists. Each collective may only submit one application.
- 👑 Collectives must apply with a fiscal sponsor. [Please click here to learn more about the guidelines](#) for applying to The Pittsburgh Foundation through fiscal sponsorship.

Learn about fiscal guidelines

FOR TRANSFORMATIVE JUSTICE FUNDING:

- 👑 Individuals and collectives identifying as BIPOC may apply.

WHAT WE DO NOT FUND

INELIGIBLE APPLICANTS ARE:

- NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS.
- LLCs.
- OTHER ORGANIZATION TYPES.

This grant opportunity is for individuals and collectives ONLY.

However, collectives must apply through a fiscal sponsor organization that has been designated as tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and meets the Foundation's fiscal sponsor criteria. [Please click here to learn more about the guidelines for applying to The Pittsburgh Foundation through fiscal sponsorship.](#)

Learn about fiscal guidelines

TAX IMPLICATIONS

05

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 individual IRS Form W-9.

06

APPLICATION PROCESS

AND TIMELINE

- 01.** Applicants must establish a personal account on [the online application portal](#).
- 02.** Once you have an account, you may start and complete your application in the same session or save your work and finish the submission later.
- 03.** All applications (unless otherwise noted) are due by **5 p.m. on Aug. 30.**

Create your account

NEED GRANT ASSISTANCE?

If you would like assistance creating grant application elements or have your application reviewed, [please book time with Arts Consultant Christiane Dolores](#).

Register with Christiane

PLEASE NOTE:

If you are a new applicant to the Exposure program and have an organizational account previously established with the Foundation, you must use another unassociated email address and create a new account for this application.

COMMUNITY Q&A SESSIONS (REMOTE)

Though not required, all applicants are strongly **encouraged to attend the Community Q&A session prior to applying for funding.**

This will be held on **July 27, 2023, at 3 p.m.** via Zoom. Advance registration is required.

[Please register at this link.](#) After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with information about joining the meeting. [For questions, email arts@pghfdn.org.](mailto:arts@pghfdn.org)

Register for Zoom Session

APPLICATION APPROVAL

Applicants approved for a grant will be notified by the end of the calendar year. **Activities to be funded by this grant request should not begin sooner than March 1, 2024.** Grantees must submit a final report on the project after the duration of the grant period (one to two years). An interim report is required for all multi-year grants. For further inquiries please contact [arts@pghfdn.org.](mailto:arts@pghfdn.org)

SELECTION PROCESS

07

GRANT REVIEWER PANEL

A grant reviewer panel comprised of regional and/or national artists will review applications and make recommendations to the Foundation for funding. Grant reviewers will be identified by Foundation staff and selected based on their lived experiences and their expertise in the artistic disciplines represented in the applicant pool.

EVALUATION

Applications will be evaluated on the proposal narrative, sample work and feasibility of the plans for the grant period.

ASSESSMENT

In assessing an application, grant reviewers will take the following into consideration as appropriate to the art form and stage of career:

- Quality of creative work.
- Evidence of alignment with programmatic values.
- Vision for artistic process, idea(s) planned to pursue/continue during the grant period, and impact on creative process and artistic goals.

HOW TO APPLY

08

The “how to apply” guidelines below are relevant for the following funding streams:

- **INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS AND COLLECTIVES.**
- **TRANSFORMATIVE JUSTICE.**
- **FIRST-TIME GRANTEES.**

01 Create a user profile

[Create a user profile on the online application portal.](#)

This year, the program has switched to accepting applications through a new grant application system called Foundant. Applications will no longer be accepted through SlideRoom.

To familiarize yourself with this new application format, before applying, please review the following for help creating a profile and submitting an online application:

- [Download step-by-step instructions for creating a profile and applying.](#)

02 Watch our how-to video

Review these instructional videos to help you complete a profile and submit an application.

- [Watch how-to-apply video here.](#)

03 Review Grant Questions

Grant application questions, including detailed instructions on sample work submission and fiscal sponsor required documents, can be found at this link.

- [Download grant application questions.](#)

04 Log-in

Once logged into your profile, select "Apply" at the top of the screen and then the Exposure Artists Program on the applicant dashboard.

Artist: An artist is defined as an individual who has devoted significant time and/or training to create and/or interpret works of art in any discipline. For example, our definition of theater/performance includes playwrights and choreographers, as well as those who bring works of art to life for audiences, such as stage directors, actors, dancers or designers and other non-traditional forms of art. Artists may be at any stage in their careers.

Artist collective: A group of artists working together with a common mission and goals.

BIPOC: Black, Indigenous or People of Color.

Craft: Craft emphasizes the handmade and the custom made. It is centered on the concept of materiality, by which we mean the materials used and the skill in using them, both manually and conceptually. Craft artists work with materials associated with folk and/or contemporary craft traditions: clay, glass, fiber, wood and metal. We celebrate practices rooted within a common ethnic heritage, geographic region, religious affiliation or occupation, just as we do those that expand upon these traditions through non-traditional materials, new technologies and experimental approaches.

Racial justice: Using the definition from [Philanthropic Initiative for Racial Equity](#), we define racial justice as the systematic fair treatment of people of all races through the proactive elimination of policies, practices, attitudes and cultural messages that reinforce differential outcomes by race. A racial justice lens:

- Analyzes data and information about race and ethnicity.
- Understands disparities and reasons they exist.
- Looks at structural root causes of problems.
- Names race explicitly when talking about problems and solutions.
- Understands and acknowledges racial history.
- Creates a shared affirmative vision of a fair and inclusive society.
- Focuses explicitly on building civic, cultural and political power by those most impacted.
- Emphasizes an aim toward transformative solutions that impact multiple systems.

Transformative justice: Using definitions from various organizers, we define transformative justice as a framework and approach for responding to violence, harm and abuse. At its most basic, it seeks to respond to violence without creating more violence and/or engaging in harm reduction to lessen the violence.

CHEAT SHEET

I AM:

A first-time grantee.

I AM:

An individual artist or artist collective.

I AM:

An artist or collective identifying as BIPOC applying for projects at the intersection of arts and activism with a racial justice lens.

NOTES

COMMUNITY Q&A SESSION ON ZOOM July 27, 2023, at 3 p.m.

Advance registration is required.

[Please register at this link.](#) After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with information about joining the meeting.

[For questions, email arts@pghfdn.org.](mailto:arts@pghfdn.org)

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Visit: <https://pittsburghfoundation.org/exposure>

Contact: arts@pghfdn.org

Call: [412-394-2654](tel:412-394-2654)