



The Arts & Culture Alliance
**Ann and Steve Bailey Opportunity Grants
for Individuals, Fiscal Year 2018**

OBJECTIVES

Through Ann and Steve Bailey Opportunity Grants, which are a part of the Arts & Heritage Fund, the Arts & Culture Alliance of Greater Knoxville provides financial and technical support to individual artists and small, professionally-oriented arts and culture organizations. The goal of Bailey Opportunity Grants for Individuals is to create a more vital creative community in Knoxville by:

- Encouraging artists' contributions to the city's economy and quality of life
- Positioning Knoxville as a community that honors its artists and supports their efforts to achieve excellence
- Raising artists' public profiles within the city and beyond

The mission of the Arts & Culture Alliance is to serve and support a diverse community of artists and arts and culture organizations.

DESCRIPTION

Opportunity Grants are designed to spur continued artistic and professional growth in innovative, entrepreneurial artists at any stage in their careers who may be engaged in one or more of a broad array of diverse disciplines. The eligibility criteria and support structure is geared toward artists who have demonstrated sustained commitment to artistic work and keen interest in advancing their artistic growth and careers. Projects that allow artists to explore new avenues of creativity, wrestle with new ideas that can advance their work, and strengthen their existing talents are encouraged.

Opportunity Grants will support artists working in any media, including but not limited to: literary arts, craft arts, folk and traditional arts, 2-D and 3-D work of all media, installation art, public art, film/video arts, and performing arts (including music, dance, theater, puppetry, performance art). *Design arts is not an eligible media at this time.*

Applicants may apply for a minimum of \$500 and a maximum of \$75,000 in support. The entire Bailey Opportunity Grants budget for FY2018 for both Individuals and Organizations combined is \$100,000.

Matching funds are not required.

Awards may include a combination of cash support, exhibition/performance opportunities, in-kind services, mentoring, workshops/seminars, and sales opportunities.

Collaborative artist teams are eligible to apply, however any artist may be included in only one application for funding per grant cycle.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Applications must be received by 4:30 PM (EST) on Monday, May 8. Electronic submissions to LZ@knoxalliance.com are strongly preferred.

USE OF FUNDS

Grant funds must be used between July 3, 2017 and June 30, 2018.

Bailey Opportunity Grants for Individuals may be designated for (but not limited to):

- Professional and artistic development

- Mentor relationships
- Arts-related travel (conferences, workshops, gatherings)
- Conference, training, and workshop fees directly related to Artist's work
- Equipment
- Marketing and publicity efforts
- Other resources for all artistic disciplines

Funds may not be used for such things as:

- Tuition expenses toward a degree
- General travel; personal or staff vacations
- Items not directly related to Artist's professional artistic development

ELIGIBILITY

1. Artist must have lived within 50 miles of downtown Knoxville for at least the past six months
2. Artist must be at least 18 years old
3. Artist must have exhibited, performed, presented and/or published artistic work in a public context in Knox County within the last 24 months (2015-2017)
4. Artist must not be enrolled in a full-time degree-seeking program
5. Artist must be a member of the Arts & Culture Alliance at the time of the application and throughout grant period (see www.knoxalliance.com/join-renew)
6. Artist must work in an eligible media (see Description)
7. Requested funds must be for eligible expenses (see Use of Funds)
8. Staff, board members, and relatives of staff or board members of the Arts & Culture Alliance are ineligible
9. Collaborative artist teams are eligible to apply with cash awards shared equally among team members. An artist may be included in only one application for funding per grant cycle: Artist may not apply as part of a collaboration and also apply individually.

Any question of eligibility should be directed to the Arts & Culture Alliance before the application is made.

GRANTEE REQUIREMENTS

Selected artists will be required to make quarterly reports to the Arts & Culture Alliance which may be written or conducted via one-on-one meetings with Alliance staff. Final reports, which may include an exhibition or performance of work completed during the grant period, are required in order for artists to be considered for future grant and program opportunities through the Alliance.

If selected as a grantee, Artist may be required to participate in Alliance-sponsored exhibitions, performances, or collector events. Selected artists may also be required to perform/present public or educational activities benefiting the Greater Knoxville community.

GRANT REVIEW PROCESS

Grants will be reviewed by a three-person panel consisting of one artist, one curator, and one arts/history administrator. The panel members assign scores based on how well the application addresses the Opportunity Grants Description (see page 1). Panel members will use an evaluation criteria, examining:

- Artistic excellence, quality or merit
- Creativity in concept, form and use of medium
- Potential for the grant to enhance Artist's career or achievement

- Commitment to deepening and expanding artistic work
- Clarity in the application about how the grant funds will further the Artist's artistic and career goals and benefit the community
- Professional or career achievements/history/activity
- Timeframe of project

The panel will refer a list of finalists to the Arts & Culture Alliance staff and board. If approved as a finalist, Artist will need to provide to the Arts & Culture Alliance:

1. Social Security Number (Grant funds are taxable)
2. Proof of residency or Green Card

If selected as a grantee, Artist may also need to provide proof of income from previous art sales in order for the Alliance to track the effectiveness of the program to help artists increase their income. All information will be kept strictly confidential. Selected grantees must also commit to remaining in the Greater Knoxville area for the period of the grant (usually one year).

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The application for Bailey Opportunity Grants for Individuals includes four items.

I. **Application**

This includes your contact information and the questions:

- How did you hear about Bailey Opportunity grants?
- Describe the nature of your work. Talk about your materials, methods, research, and the meaning of your current work.
- What is the project, opportunity, or need for which you are requesting support?
- What is the timeline? When does it start, and what are important points in the progress of the project?
- Describe how you see this opportunity improving the artistic quality of your work and/or how the grant funds will further your career goals.
- What are the desired outcomes of the project, opportunity, or fulfillment of need? What, if any, will be the community benefits?

II. **Curriculum Vitae / Artist Resume**

Please submit as a one-page PDF representing documentation of your artistic accomplishments. This document should include a current listing of your exhibition record, grants, awards, residencies and other professional activities, including dates and locations. If you do not have an exhibition history, describe how other areas of your life (i.e. personal accomplishments or professional experience) have contributed to where you are now as an artist. The document should be neatly organized and include information pertinent only to your artistic career.

III. **Portfolio**

For Visual Artists: Please submit a minimum of ten images in PDF or JPG formats (recommended at 1600 pixels on the longest side or 1-2 MB per image) as follows:

- Two separate images of the best examples of your work created in 2012 or before
- Three separate images of the best examples of your work created in 2013-2014
- Three separate images of the best examples of your current work (2015 – present)
- Two separate images of the work of any artist, living or dead, whose work you admire and whose career you hope to emulate (these images could also include drawings/plans for the direction in which you want to go).

Include relevant information pertaining to each work, such as Title, Date Completed, Dimensions (if applicable) and Medium. Artists may also include a two sentence artist statement for each image.

For Literary Artists: Please submit a minimum of six samples of your work:

- Two samples of your work from 2012 or earlier
- Two samples of your work from 2013-2014
- Two samples of current work (2015 – present)

For Performing Artists: Please submit a minimum of six samples of your work in video form. In order to show an arc of artistic growth, videos of separate projects conducted over time are preferred. Limit the length of your videos to two minutes, and be sure they are not password protected (if applicable). Videos should be up to 250MB each. You may also link to YouTube and Vimeo.

Give some thought to what kinds of materials actually support your application. Context for video samples is vital. Tell why you have selected a particular video: is it representative of the kind of work you do or is it a break from it? How is it related to your proposed project?

IV. **Budget**

Total expenses should equal the amount of your request. Outline expenses related to improving your artistic skills (see list of eligible expenses in Use of Funds) or career prospects. Expenses for travel or research must be specifically related to the proposal and should be quantified by how they will further Artist's work or career.

REMEMBER: Write clearly. Be concise. Be creative in your thinking. Demonstrate that the grant will allow you to push the boundaries of your practice in a significant way. Follow directions.

TIMELINE

Monday, April 3, 5:30 PM: Technical Assistance (How to Apply) Workshop for Individuals

At the Emporium Center, 100 S. Gay Street. Free to attend, please RSVP to LZ@knoxalliance.com or 865-523-7543.

Monday, May 8, 4:30 PM: Bailey Opportunity Grants for Individuals Application Receipt Deadline (electronic submissions are strongly preferred)

June 19-28, 2017 – Individual Finalist Interviews and Planning Sessions

Held in the offices of the Arts & Culture Alliance at the Emporium Center

Monday, July 3 – Funds available for use

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Arts & Culture Alliance is a service organization: we exist to help artists and organizations. All interested artists are encouraged to contact Liza Zenni at 865-523-7543 or LZ@knoxalliance.com if they have questions.



Arts & Culture Alliance
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