

2019 Research & Development Grant

What is it?

Research & Development (R&D) Grants provide funding support to Arizona artists as they work to advance their artistic practice, expand their creative horizons, and deepen the impact of their work.

Who's it for?

Artists working in any discipline who live and work in Arizona. Whether you're just getting started or you have already experienced many career successes, the R&D Grant is available to help you take your artistic practice to the next level, including:

- exploration of new techniques
- experimentation with new materials or technologies
- creation of new work
- development of new strategies for engaging your community of practice

Award Amount

Artists may request between \$3,000 and \$5,000 in funding. Up to 30 grants will be awarded this year.

Eligible Expenses

Grant funds may be used for any of the following (this list is not comprehensive):

- Artist stipend to applicant.
- Artist stipends to collaborators.
- Materials.
- Travel costs.
- Technology.
- Equipment.
- Space rental.
- Marketing.
- Production costs.
- Documentation.
- Rehearsal time.
- Registration fees.

New: 2-Stage Application & Review Process

The R&D Grant application process is now split into two stages so applicants don't spend a lot of time doing unnecessary work. With guidance from over two dozen Arizona artists, we stripped down, simplified, and streamlined the application and review process.

Stage 1 includes a **narrative proposal details** section and an opportunity to submit **work samples**. After these materials are reviewed by a panel of independent arts professionals, applications determined to be most competitive according to evaluation criteria will move to the next stage of review.

Applicants who advance to **Stage 2** of review will be invited to submit additional information including a **process map**, an **experience list**, and an **expense list**. Panelists will review the application as a whole and convene for a public panel meeting to make final funding recommendations. Applicants are welcome to attend in person or listen to the proceedings online.

Application & Review Timelines

November 9, 2018 (11:59pm): Stage 1 application due.

January 3, 2019: The day you'll find out if your application will advance to Stage 2.

February 7, 2019 (11:59pm): Stage 2 application due.

March 15, 2019: The day panelists convene publicly in Phoenix to review applications.

April 2019: Grantees announced!

Funding Period:

Proposals may be underway prior to the time of application but must be completed by March 2020.

Primary Staff Contact:

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The Application

Stage 1

Due by 11:59pm, November 9, 2018

When you're ready, go to <https://azarts.gov/grant/artist-research-and-development/> and click on "Apply Now." This will take you to a website called Submittable where you'll submit your application materials.

Narrative Proposal Details

Answer each of these questions.

You can type up your proposal narrative (1200 words),

or

You can upload it in a video or audio recording (no more than 8 minutes in length).

- a) Describe the work you propose to do with the grant funds. What are your specific proposed activities?
- b) Tell us about your community of practice: is it your artistic discipline, field of study, place-based, geographic, or broader community?
- c) How does the work you propose reflect or respond to your community of practice?
- d) How does this proposal relate to the work you currently do?
- e) How would receiving this grant deepen your artistic practice?

If you share your proposal narrative in a video or audio recording keep it simple and to the point. The recording should be just you, describing your proposal and answering the five questions listed above.

Please do not include edits of your work samples or special effects. Production quality of this recording will not be considered in your review. Just make sure we can hear and understand you and keep editing and post-production embellishment to a minimum.

Work Samples

Submit work samples you've completed in the last 5 years. From the list to the right, please choose the most appropriate artistic work sample format to represent your discipline:

- 3 minutes of recorded audio
- 3 minutes of recorded video
- 6 images
- 5 pages of double-spaced text or 3-5 poems
- Combination of materials listed above: Please edit accordingly for no more than a total of 3 minutes of reviewing time (2 images=1 min.)

Please do not submit promotional materials. Panelists can't assess your work based on an exhibition poster, an event program, or a published review. Remember to test your work samples as you upload them.

Work Samples Description

Provide a brief description explaining how the submitted work sample(s) relate to your proposal. Why did you choose them?

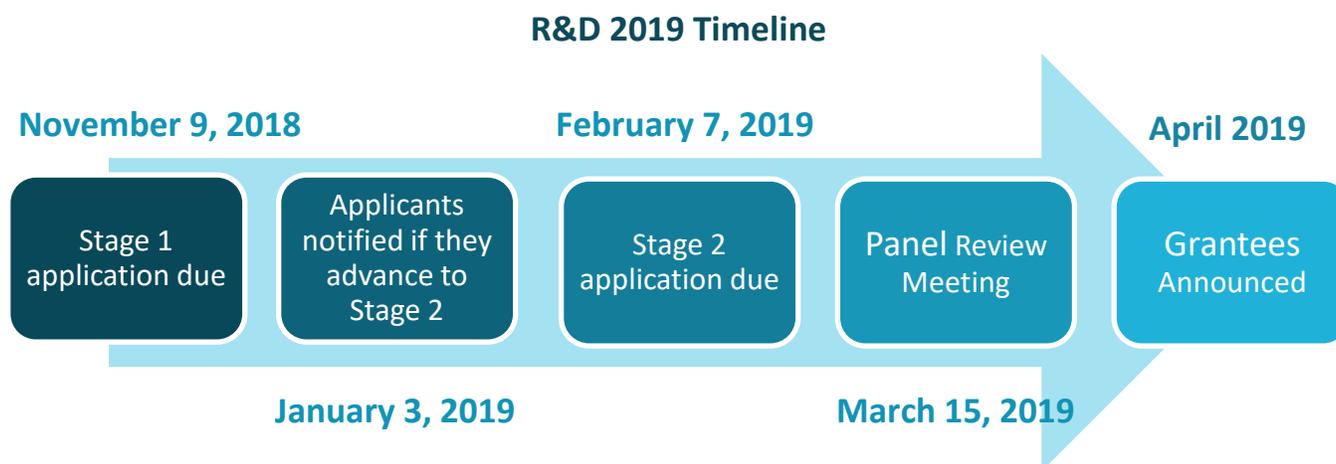
Include the following for each work sample:

- Title of the work
- Date completed/premiered
- If appropriate:
 - Location/site of exhibition or presentation
 - Dimensions and medium of the work

Stage 1 – Evaluation Criteria

Here's what panelists will be thinking about as they review Stage 1 application materials:

- **Potential Impact to Artist:** Does the application describe the potential impact to your personal craft and/or body of work in the narrative proposal details submitted?
- **Potential Impact to Artist's Community of Practice:** Did you clearly outline who is your community of practice? Does the application describe the potential impact to your artistic discipline, field of study, community of practice, place-based community, or broader community? Community can mean different things to different people in different contexts, and we encourage you to define your community in a way that makes sense for your artistic practice and this proposal.
- **Artistic Strength:** Do the work samples you share reflect your distinct vision and originality? Does your work sample description convey a clear understanding of your craft—the techniques you use and the intention behind them—and commitment to artistic achievement?



After [Stage 1](#) application materials are received and reviewed by panelists, applications determined to be most competitive according to evaluation criteria will move to the next stage of review.

Applicants who advance to [Stage 2](#) of review will receive a request for additional information including:

- a process map
- an experience list
- an expense list
- a budget narrative

For details on Stage 2 materials, turn to page 4. Panelists will then review the application as a whole and convene for a public panel meeting on March 15, 2019, to make final funding recommendations. Applicants are welcome to attend in person or listen to the proceedings. Specific details about the meeting and how to listen in will be made available in 2019.

The Application

Stage 2

Due by 11:59pm, February 7, 2019

Process Map

Map the course of your creative process for this proposal by identifying 3 to 5 specific steps you will take during the funding period. These can be activities, events, achievements, or anything else you will use to track and anchor your artistic process.

You can provide a list or narrative text or upload a 1-page file (.jpg or .pdf) of a drawing, sketch, or other visual.

Experience List

Provide 3 to 5 personal, professional, and/or community-based experiences you have engaged in the past 5 years that are relevant to your proposal.

Briefly describe how each experience has prepared you for the work you propose to undertake.

Expenses List

List total eligible expenses (artist stipends, including your own artist stipend, materials, travel costs, equipment, space rental, production costs, documentation, rehearsal time, etc.) related to your proposal.

Please include expenses even if you are not seeking funding for them and tell us about any additional income in the Budget Narrative section below.

Grant Amount Requested

Indicate the grant amount you are requesting, up to \$5,000.

Budget Narrative

Describe anything in the expenses list that would benefit from additional explanation. For example, if your expenses exceed \$5,000, please tell us how you will fund the rest of your proposed activities.

Stage 2 – Evaluation Criteria

As you develop your application materials for Stage 2, consider that the panelists will be thinking about Stage 1 Application Materials and Evaluation Criteria in addition to the following:

- **Feasibility:** Does the application demonstrate substantial evidence that the proposal will be realized within the funding period? Does the application include a reasonable expenses list for the scope and scale of your proposed activities? Do the process map and experience list provide evidence of your ability and capacity to realize your proposal? Are the experiences you describe relevant to the work you propose? Does the process map present a clear path to success?
- **Integrity of Proposal:** Viewed as a whole, does your application demonstrate the integrity with which you approach your artistic practice and the community of practice you defined? Do the application materials demonstrate a consistency of proposed actions, values, methods, and goals?

Bill Desmond Writing Award

The Bill Desmond Writing Award provides funding support in the amount of \$1,000 to excelling nonfiction writers for specific project-related costs. The award is available to a nonfiction writer applying for the R&D Grant and can be offered independent of or in addition to the R&D award. No additional application materials are required. Funding for the Bill Desmond Writing Award is generously provided by the Bill and Kathy Desmond Endowment.

Applicant Eligibility

Applicants must be individuals and may submit only one application per year. Organizations are not eligible to apply. At the time an application is submitted, and the grant is awarded, an applicant must be:

- 18 years of age or older;
- not enrolled for more than three credit hours at a college or university;
- and a resident of Arizona.

Recipients of the R&D Grant must wait 4 years to reapply and may receive a maximum of 4 awards in their lifetime. This also applies to recipients of the previously-named Artist Research and Development Grant and previously-offered Artist Project Grant. Applicants who failed to submit a Final Report are not eligible to apply.

Funding Restrictions

This program does not fund the following:

- Teaching artist residencies.
- Documentation of existing arts projects.
- Costs related to activities for which the applicant is employed or contracted.
- Costs related to academic research or formal study toward an academic or professional degree.
- Expenses incurred in the presentation of final work, such as self-publishing, promotion, catalogs published by the artist(s), exhibition expenses, and self-presenting. Such expenses may be one component of the proposal but cannot be the sole purpose of the requested funds.
- Fundraising projects, food and beverages for any purpose.
- Scholarships, awards, and competitions.
- Grant administration, overhead, or processing fees taken by an umbrella/parent organization.

Investing in Arizona's Innovators and Creative Contributors

In 2018, the Arizona Commission on the Arts and the Arizona Community Foundation (ACF) embarked upon a public-philanthropic partnership supported in part by funding from the Newton and Betty Rosenzweig Fund for the Arts, an endowment held at ACF. The collaboration aims to increase strategic investments in artists, supporting the work they do as innovators and creative contributors to Arizona's future.

Assessing Arizona's arts-funding landscape, ACF and the Arts Commission determined that there was a clear shortage of support for individual artists compared to other regions. Thanks to ACF's investment, the Arts Commission will double the number of artist grants awarded annually, with ACF matching state funding, dollar-for-dollar.

Both partners believe that Arizona is home to many artists who lead with creativity, resourcefulness, and ingenuity, and that supporting their work can enhance our state's creative capacity for years to come. View the comprehensive partnership announcement at <https://azarts.gov/acf-partnership>.

