



2023/2024 Creative Capital Application – Round I

Frequently Asked Questions - Extended

Eligibility

Q: Can I apply for the award if I'm turning 25 after the application deadline?

A: All artists involved must have turned 25 years old before the application closes on March 31, 2023. We encourage you to continue developing your project and consider applying again next year.

Q: Can myself or my collaborator be enrolled in a degree-granting program?

A: All applicants must have finished any degree-granting educational commitments before the time of receiving the award in January 2024. To clarify, you are ineligible if you will be involved in any type of degree granting program from December 31, 2023–December 31, 2024. This applies to ABD (all but dissertation) status Ph.D. candidates and students in low-residency MFA programs. This is a grant meant for professional artists actively working in the field and not artists who are still dedicating significant attention to pursuing their studies. We encourage you to continue developing your project and consider applying again in the future.

Q: Do I need to be a U.S. citizen to be eligible for the award?

A: To be eligible for a Creative Capital award you must be able to receive payment as an individual in the U.S. This includes U.S. citizenship, permanent legal residence, or O-1 Visa status. If these do not apply to you, unfortunately, we will not be able to fund your project due to IRS regulations and funder stipulations.

Q: Do I need to be based in the U.S. to be eligible for the award?

A: You do not have to be based in the US, but you do need to be able to receive taxable income in the US, that means artists who are US visa holders, permanent legal residents, or citizens who live abroad can apply.

Collaborations

Q: My collaborator does not meet the requirements, can they still be part of my project?

A: All collaborators must meet our eligibility criteria. If an individual you are working with does not meet the eligibility requirements, they should not be listed as an official collaborator, but can be mentioned in your narrative answers, indicated in your budget, and of course, credited in the final presentation of the work.

Q: How do I answer the questions if we are a collective?

A: If you are applying as a collective, one individual should apply as the "initial collaborator," submitting their own demographic information, but submitting narrative answers that are reflective of the group as a whole. If you have a longstanding relationship as a collaborative, you'll submit a bio reflective of the entire group. If not, submit your bio in the "Bio" section and your collaborators will submit their bios and resumes separately when they create their profiles.



Application and Review Process

Q: How creative should responses to application questions be?

A: We encourage you to consider how the reviewers will best be able to picture your project in their mind's eye. Start with practical details about what the project will be and then weave in specifics. Keep the use of conceptual and abstract language to a minimum and avoid art jargon to ensure that you have plenty of room to build context for your work.

Q: What if I don't have a personal website? Can you use a social media profile instead?

A: Websites are not required to complete an application and our viewers are not required to visit them while reading your application materials. Your online presence, including your activity on social media accounts, does not factor into the consideration of your project proposal.

Q: Why did we choose the theme of innovation?

A: Creative Capital believes that artists lead the way and in our 20-year history the idea that artists can shape the future has been an essential part of our mission. We believe that artists can shape our culture and have impact beyond the cultural sphere, into politics, science, technology, and all of the realms where we need innovation given the various crises we now face. For that reason, innovation is not only a primary criteria or an overarching theme but something more broadly urgent in our present moment. We need to be thinking about new ways of shaping the future because the future, for various reasons, seems imperiled.

Q: How does one predict impact?

A: We understand that you don't know how your work is going to be received by the world but we do expect you to be able to articulate how your project will connect with the very communities of people and histories that the work is about. We're looking for a sense of investment, deep engagement, and sincere commitment to having an impact in your given area of focus. We understand that once the work is made, it is out of your hands but we are looking for artists who are able to articulate how they are being intentional in making work that is poised to have some kind of transformative potential.

Q: How many jurors are reviewing the applicant and how is the diversity of those jurors reached?

A: During each of our evaluation rounds, every single application is reviewed by external expert reviewers. We draw our pool of experts from across the nation. It is important that our reviewers are professionals in their fields and held in very high esteem, but also that they are people who represent the diversity of the artists in our country and in the art field itself. Just like we look for diversity in our applicant pool, we also look for diversity and emphasize diversity in our evaluator pool to ensure that people are coming from different disciplines, genres, and regions around the country, as well as different identity backgrounds.

Q: There's legal language that says you own the rights to my work – how would this be used?

A: This is the standard legal language for the terms of service in the application and is non-negotiable. Creative Capital has no intention of using the content and materials you or any other artist submit through the application for our own benefit. If you were to receive the award, we would only use your materials with your express permission for promotional purposes.



Discipline

Q: My project falls under two categories in separate award years, can I apply for both?

A: Yes. If your project is not awarded in the 2024 cycle you are welcome to apply again for a future grant cycle. We encourage you to craft your application materials with the specific context of each respective discipline in mind to ensure that reviewers in each category can best understand your project.

Q: What subcategories are listed under each discipline?

A: You may select up to three subcategories after choosing one of the main disciplines.

2023 Application

Performing Arts

- Dance
- Jazz
- Multimedia Performance
- Music
- Musical Theater
- Opera
- Puppetry
- Socially-Engaged Performance
- Theater

Technology

- Augmented Reality
- Bio Art
- Data Visualization
- Digital Media
- Games
- Hardware
- Internet Art
- Software
- Socially-Engaged Technology
- Virtual Reality

Literature

- Graphic Novel
- Literary Fiction
- Literary Nonfiction
- Poetry
- Socially-Engaged Literature

2024 Application

Visual Arts

- Architecture & Design
- Craft
- Drawing & Illustration
- Ecological Art
- Installation
- Painting & Printmaking
- Performance Art
- Photography
- Public Art
- Sculpture
- Social Practice
- Socially-Engaged Visual Art
- Sound Art
- Video Art

Moving Image

- Animation
- Dance Film
- Documentary Film
- Experimental Film
- Narrative Film
- Socially-Engaged Film

Funding and Support

Q: Can I receive funding through a fiscal sponsor?



A: Starting this funding cycle, Awardees can only receive funds directly.

Q: Is the award money taxed?

A: Yes, the Creative Capital Award funding is taxed. Awards are taxable income and Creative Capital cannot provide advice on tax reporting or tax implications, nor can we assume responsibility for awardees' tax obligations. For more information about the Internal Revenue Service's rules regarding the implications of grants to individuals, go to: irs.gov/charities/foundations/article/0,,id=137396,00.html.

Q: Are there limitations on how I use my funding?

A: After an initial disbursement of funds, you will need to submit a funding request for all remaining award money that outlines how you plan to spend your funds. While these requests must first be approved by staff, we generally approve any costs related to your project's development including artist fees and travel costs. We also approve funding to aide the infrastructure of your practice including purchases to upgrade technology, software, and other studio tools.

Q: What kind of non-monetary support does Creative Capital provide?

A: We encourage the development of our awardees' projects and their professional skills through consultations with staff; Creative Capital Artist Retreats and convenings; personalized coaching; promotional support; consultations with consultants for legal concerns, PR, financial planning, business planning, and more; web and technology advice; and partnerships that provide access to crowdfunding platforms. Creative Capital believes in helping artists build sustainable careers and we are available as a point of contact throughout the lifespan of your awarded project.

Timeline

Q: I've already started production on my project, can I still apply?

A: We prefer to get involved with projects that are in the early stages of production, or even in the research and development stages. Our support is typically utilized over a 3-5 year timespan with many professional development, counseling, networking, and funding opportunities that are best utilized during earlier stages of a project's growth. If you plan to premiere your project in January of 2024 or sooner your project would not be eligible for this cycle's Creative Capital Award. If you anticipate a later premiere date and feel that your project has some time to grow, we are more than happy to consider your application.

Q: Is there a requirement for when a project should be completed?

A: We prefer to support projects over a span of three years and up to five years in conversation between the artist and Creative Capital staff. You are not able to premiere your project within the first year of receiving an award and we expect projects to be in research and development phases or early stages of production to ensure that we're able to provide the best quality of support.