



Craft Research Fund - Artist Fellowship

For Artists

Awards of \$20,000 to advance, expand, and support the creation of new research and knowledge through craft practice.

The purpose of the Craft Research Fund - Artist Fellowship is to advance, expand, and support the creation of new research and knowledge through craft practice. Awards of \$20,000 will be granted to two artists to support research projects relating to the goals of the Craft Research Fund - Artist Fellowship. At the end of the grant period Fellows will present their new body of work in an exhibition at the Center for Craft as well as present their research methodologies and finding in the Center for Craft's symposium.

The Craft Research Fund - Artist Fellowship is one of four categories that make up the Craft Research Fund, a visionary program dedicated to supporting scholarly craft research in United States. Other categories include Graduate, Project, and Exhibition.

Grant Goals

Support

To support new research and knowledge through craft practice

Create

To create new models for craft research

Include

To make research in craft accessible within and outside of the Academy

Spotlight

To support the careers of craft artists that may be relatively unknown

Catalyze

To assist "mid-career" artists in undertaking a specific proposal/project that would otherwise not be possible

Overview

Award Amount: Two, \$20,000 Fellowships

Grant Period: 18 months

Timeline

Applications Open: June 2019

Deadline: October 1, 2019

Notification: December 2019

Fellowship Period Begins: January 2020

Fellowship Period Ends: June 2021

Exhibition Period: June - August 2021

Symposium Presentation: July 2021

Final Report: August 2021

Eligibility

Proposals are welcome from mid-career artists, artisans, designers, makers, sculptures, and so on, who identify their practice within the field of craft. The Center, and by extension this grant, recognizes craft to be a particular approach to making with a strong connection to materials, skill, and process. We believe in empowering artists, makers, scholars, and curators to grow the field, embracing new definitions, technologies, and ideas while honoring craft's history and relationship to the handmade. Craft, in all its forms, demonstrates creativity, ingenuity, and practical intelligence. It contributes to the economic and social wellbeing of communities, connects us to our cultural histories, and is integral to building a sustainable future.

Applicants must be:

- 21 years of age or older
- Eligible to receive taxable income in the U.S.
- Residing and working in the U.S. for the last two years and for the duration of the Fellowship period.
- Mid-career: Artist must self-identify as mid-career.

Applicants cannot be:

- An institution or small business
- A full-time student in a degree-granting program or its equivalent
- Students at the time of applying, even if graduation is pending the same year
- A current employee, consultant, board member, or major funder of the Center for Craft, or an immediate family member of such a person

- A previously awarded Craft Research Fund - Artist Fellow

For the purpose of this grant, the Center for Craft understands craft research to be:

- A method of working in an established craft practice used in relation to a proposed project that will contribute to new knowledge.
- A systematic investigation to establish facts, test theories, and reach new knowledge or new understanding.
- A combination of qualitative and quantitative research that underscores a specific craft practice.
- Thinking in, through, and with craft in a way that expands the field.
- The work (material development, process, subject, information, experiences) that goes into creating a new work of art.

Examples of craft research might include:

- Archive and museum-based research
- Material innovations, experimentation
- Process-oriented research/innovation
- Historical research
- Collaborations among artists and/or other disciplines and/or institutions
- Projects that have the potential to transform questions that are being asked in an academic context

Requirements

- Fifty percent of the grant will be awarded upon return of a signed contract (January 1, 2020).
- Thirty percent of the grant will be awarded upon the receipt of a two-page status report and proposal for a body of work to be exhibited Summer 2021 to include title and 250 word description and 3-5 marketing images (January 1, 2021).
- Installation and exhibition of a body of work produced during the Fellowship in the Center for Craft's gallery Summer 2021.
- Presentation of research at Center for Craft symposium Summer 2021.
- The final twenty percent will be awarded upon receipt of a final report to include a project narrative and two copies of any publication produced as a result of the research grant. Project must be completed in 18 months (June 2021), with a final report deadline of August 31, 2021. If there is no publication, then provide a copy of the completed research in full.

- Recipients will acknowledge support from “Craft Research Fund at the Center for Craft” in any publications or presentations resulting from the grant, to include the Center for Craft’s logo.

Review Process

A panel of reviewers, who are recognized craft artists, scholars, and/or curators, free of any conflict of interest, will evaluate the applications based on the following criteria and a final two Fellows will be selected.

- Artistic merit
- Originality
- Feasibility, I.e. applicant contains the experience and ability to carry out proposed research project
- Timely - both in the sense of are the questions asked by the applicant timely and is this grant timely in the artists career trajectory - is this the right time for them to receive this grant.
- Representation - priority will be given to artists who are underrepresented in the field

Considerations in final pairing selection:

- Representation
- In and outside academia

How to Apply

Deadline

The application for Craft Research Fund - Artist Fellowship must be submitted via **SlideRoom** no later than **11:59 pm on October 1, 2019**. Notification of awards will be released December 2019 for projects beginning January 2020. ***Work outlined in the grant request must be completed within 18 months of the award.***

Notification

Notification of the results will be sent via email in December 2019 for a start date of January 1, 2020. The e-mail address listed on the application form will be used to send out notifications. Please be sure that it is a valid account that you check regularly.

How to Apply

Applicants must apply using the online application program SlideRoom at <http://www.craftcreativitydesign.slideroom.com>. Please review the sample application below before beginning your application. Please note there is a separate application for each Craft Research Fund category. All applicants should create a login to be able to partially complete the form and return to finish it at a later date. Before submitting your application, you will be directed to a confirmation page where you will be able to review your form and return to edit or delete your uploaded files as needed. Once you submit your application, you will not be able to access your form again. Applicants will receive a confirmation email once the application form has been successfully submitted.

2020 Craft Research Fund – Artist Fellowship SAMPLE APPLICATION

This is only a sample application, all applications must be completed in SlideRoom.

Proposal to be submitted via SlideRoom as follows:

Cover sheet

1. Applicant name(s)
2. Your title and organization (if applicable)
3. Your personal or project specific website
4. Are you over the age of 21 (yes or no)
5. Have you lived in the United States for at least two years (yes or no)
6. Are you able to receive taxable income for the duration of the project period (yes or no)
7. Project Title (up to 15 words)
8. Summary of research proposal (50 words)

Application

1. Artist statement (up to 500 words)
2. Summary of research proposal, including project deliverables (up to three pages)
3. How will this research advance your artistic practice? Why is now an optimal time in your career to receive this award? (250 words)
4. How do you define research in the context of your practice? What questions will you address through your research? (250 words)
5. What three communities do you hope your project will impact? (250 words)
6. **Timeline** and schedule for completing the project. *Projects must be completed by June 30, 2021 (18 months from start date).*
7. Completed **budget form**, provided in SlideRoom, sample is below.
8. Please provide a **budget narrative** for any budget items that require further explanation.

9. **CV** of relevant education and experience (no more than 4 pages).

11. Please provide **two letters of support**. References should be requested via SlideRoom and are due at the same time as the application, October 1 (11:59pm EST), 2019.

12. 10 -15 work samples. You have the option of uploading any combination of images or video links (from hosting sites such as Vimeo, Flickr or YouTube.) During the review process only the first 2 minutes of each video sample so please edit your materials accordingly. Images should be in JPEG format no larger than 1000 pixels on any side @ 72 dpi. Name each jpeg file with "Collaborator's Last Name/ImageTitleNumber.jpg," i.e. "SmithUntitled1.jpg", "SmithUntitled2.jpg" etc. Each uploaded image or video link must be accompanied by a corresponding image description (up to 50 words). This list should correspond to the order in which the images were uploaded. Please include title, date, medium, size, and a short explanation for each.

FAQs

Can collectives apply?

We understand that there are many collaborative partnerships in the art world and we encourage you to apply as long as all members of the collective meet the requirements of the application. You can find specific instructions on how to navigate our application as a collective in the application itself. Collectives must demonstrate an extensive collaborative practice.

If I don't win the award, can I apply again next year?

Yes, as long as you still meet the requirements for application.

If I win, will I have to pay taxes on my award?

Yes, all cash prizes are taxable income.

May I mail a hard copy of my application materials to the Center for Craft's office?

No, hard copy submissions will not be accepted. The application must be completed and submitted through SlideRoom.

Can I work on my application and return to complete it at a later date?

Yes, creating a login account will enable you to complete the form in several online

sessions.

I just submitted my application but I want to return to it and make an edit. Is this possible?

No, once your application is submitted, you will not be able to return to the form or change any submitted information. The application fee must also be paid at the time of submitting your application as you will not be able to log-in again to access the payment page again.

I have a question that wasn't answered. How can I reach the Center for Craft?

If you have any further questions, please contact grants@craftcreativitydesign.org.

Sponsors

The Craft Research Fund is administered by the Center for Craft and supported by the Windgate Foundation.