

2019 Artist Fellowship Application Guidelines

Founded under the legal name The Arts Council of Erie in 1960, Erie Arts & Culture is the oldest arts council in Pennsylvania. Erie Arts & Culture is a backbone organization uniting and supporting local arts and culture by offering services to providers of arts and cultural products and activities, investors and the general public.

Erie Arts & Culture is pleased to make available Artist Fellowships of up to \$6,000 to individual artists living and working in Erie County, PA for unrestricted use. The program is designed to support the ongoing growth and development of Erie County's creative community. Funding for this program is made possible by contributions made to the Erie Arts Endowment, Combined Campaign for Arts and Culture and special giving events like Erie Gives Day.

Artist Fellowships are not project grants but are instead intended to fund an artist's vision as displayed across a single criterion of work. ***For the 2019 cycle, applications will be accepted from the Visual and Media Arts categories only. Please see Artist Fellowships FAQs for a listing of disciplines within these categories.***

Fellowships will not be awarded to interpretative artists such as dancers, actors or musicians who solely perform the work of others. Applicants must be the originators of the work; i.e. choreographers or playwrights.

Fellowships will be awarded to artists regardless of their gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, belief affiliation or ability/disability.

Emerging Artist Fellowship (\$2,500)

The Emerging Artist Fellowships are two \$2,500 cash awards made over a 12-month period to individual artists living and working in Erie County, PA for unrestricted use. Emerging Artists Fellowships are intended to expand an artist's vision or voice by identifying a specific idea or investigation that will be targeted during the term of the fellowship.

Established Artist Fellowship (\$6,000)

The Established Artist Fellowship is a \$6,000 cash award made over a 12-month period to an individual artist living and working in Erie County, PA for unrestricted use. The fellowship is not a project grant but is intended to fund an artist's vision or voice, regardless of the level of his or her artistic development

Within 30 days of the end of the fellowship period, artists will submit to Erie Arts & Culture a final report which is to include a two-page summary of the fellowship and documentation (i.e. photographs or video). The artists will also be asked to present a summary of their fellowship at one of Erie Arts & Culture's events.

Who can apply?

To be eligible for the award, applicants must be 25 years old or older, and be a current resident of Erie County,

PA for at least the two consecutive years prior to the application deadline. Applicants must neither be enrolled in a graduate or undergraduate degree program of any kind at the time of the application deadline nor may they be a member of Erie Arts & Culture's board of directors, subcommittees or staff, or be an immediate relative of a member of Erie Arts & Culture's board of directors, subcommittees or staff.

For the 2019 cycle, applications will be accepted from Visual and Media Art disciplines only.

How do I select which Artist Fellowship to apply to?

Three Artist Fellowships will be awarded in the 2019 cycle. One \$6,000 fellowship will be awarded to an Established Artist, and two \$2,500 fellowships will be awarded to Emerging Artists. The following definitions are intended to assist artists in selecting which fellowship opportunity to apply for.

Emerging Artists are creators in the early stages of their careers and have "voices" that reveal significant potential. They have some evidence of professional achievement but have not yet established solid reputations as artists within their discipline. They have rigorous approaches to creation and production and created modest independent bodies of work. The fellowship would move their work to the next level.

Established Artists are creators in a more advanced stage in their career. They have created extensive bodies of independent work and reached advanced levels of achievement by sustaining recognized contributions to their disciplines in Erie County, PA or beyond. The fellowship would provide recognition and honor their achievements.

What is the deadline to apply?

Applications must be submitted online **by 11:30 pm July 15, 2019**. No applications will be accepted after the deadline. Artist Fellowship awards will be announced by November 30, 2019.

How do I apply?

1. All applications and support materials must be uploaded and submitted via the online application at **<https://erieartsculture.submittable.com>**. The link to the online application can also be found on **www.erieartsandculture.org**. Erie Arts & Culture will not accept any physical copies.
2. You are able to save a draft of your online application and return to it later. You may also download the Microsoft Word or PDF version of the application available at **www.erieartsandculture.org**, and complete your narrative prior to beginning the online form. Then, begin the online application. Select either the Established Artist Fellowship or Emerging Artist Fellowship. **Applicants may apply to only one of these fellowship opportunities.**
3. Fill in the online application and upload the required support materials. Each application will have varying components depending on the discipline in which an applicant is applying. Please refer to the category guidelines for further assistance in completing the application.
4. Submit the application. When the application is complete and all required support materials have been attached, click the Submit button on the bottom of the application form to submit an application.

QUESTIONS? Contact Melinda Meyer, Program Director at (814) 452-3427 or melinda@erieartsandculture.org.