

# 2015 KRESGE ARTIST FELLOWSHIPS

## GUIDE TO THE LITERARY & VISUAL ARTS FELLOWSHIPS

### FELLOWSHIP OVERVIEW

Thank you for your interest in the 2015 Kresge Artist Fellowships in the Literary Arts and Visual Arts! Please read this guide thoroughly as there have been changes to the application process, and also visit the [Kresge Arts in Detroit](#) website for additional information and resources.

[Kresge Artist Fellowships](#) consist of a \$25,000 award and professional practice opportunities for emerging and established metropolitan Detroit artists. Kresge Arts in Detroit has awarded 108 fellowships and invested over \$3 million in metropolitan Detroit artists since 2009. In 2015, nine fellowships will be awarded in the Literary Arts and nine fellowships will be awarded in the Visual Arts.

Kresge Artist Fellowships are given to artists whose commitment to artistic achievement, in contemporary or traditional forms, is evident in the quality of their work. Fellowships recognize creative vision and commitment to excellence within a wide range of artistic disciplines, including artists who have been classically and academically trained, self-taught artists and artists whose art forms have been passed down through cultural and traditional heritage. Kresge Arts in Detroit is committed to supporting artists from diverse cultural backgrounds at all stages of their professional careers.

Fellowships are intended to enable the artist to devote time and resources to whatever is necessary to deepen their art form, to experiment and to advance their artistic career. Fellowship funding may cover any aspect of the artist's life, such as, but not limited to, creation of new work, informal study, overhead costs, travel, living and other expenses. Fellows are required to submit mid-term and final reports to Kresge Arts in Detroit.

[Creative Many Michigan](#), working in collaboration with The Kresge Foundation and Kresge Arts in Detroit, designs and delivers professional practice opportunities for fellows, providing artists at all career stages with the skills, resources, knowledge and connections necessary to fulfill their artistic and professional ambitions. Art X Detroit is a biennial presentation of works created by Kresge Artist Fellows and Kresge Eminent Artists.

### DEADLINES & KEY DATES

#### APPLICATION DEADLINE

**THURSDAY  
JANUARY 22, 2015 BY 11:59 PM EST**

We strongly recommend completing your application well in advance of the deadline to avoid missing the deadline due to unforeseen technical problems. There are no exceptions.

#### ONLINE APPLICATION OPENS

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2014**

Kresge Artist Fellowship applications are only available and accepted online. Visit [www.kresgeartsindetroit.org](http://www.kresgeartsindetroit.org)

#### APPLICANT ORIENTATIONS

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2014**

"Developing a Strong Application"  
6:00 – 8:00 PM

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2014**

"Navigating the Online Application"  
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Held at the College for Creative Studies.  
RSVP online.

[WWW.KRESGEARTSINDETROIT.ORG](http://WWW.KRESGEARTSINDETROIT.ORG)

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:  
JANUARY 22, 2015 BY 11:59 PM**

**2015 FELLOWSHIP CATEGORIES**

**LITERARY ARTS**

**ARTS CRITICISM** ALL CATEGORIES INCLUDING LITERARY, PERFORMING AND VISUAL, **CREATIVE NON-FICTION** INCLUDING ESSAYS, BIOGRAPHY, AUTOBIOGRAPHY AND MEMOIR, FICTION, POETRY, SPOKEN WORD, EXPERIMENTAL FORMS, INTERDISCIPLINARY WORK INCLUDING GRAPHIC NOVELS, ZINES AND OTHER HYBRID FORMS

**VISUAL ARTS**

**ART & TECHNOLOGY** WORK IN WHICH TECHNOLOGY IS AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT OF THE WORK'S CREATION, PRESENTATION OR UNDERSTANDING, **BOOK ARTS, CERAMICS, COLLAGE, DRAWING, FIBER, GLASS, INSTALLATION, METALWORK, PAINTING, PHOTOGRAPHY, PERFORMANCE ART, PRINTMAKING, SCULPTURE, VIDEO ART, EXPERIMENTAL FORMS, INTERDISCIPLINARY WORK**

**WHO MAY APPLY?**

- + Any artist 18 years or older who is a current legal resident of the tri-county metropolitan Detroit area (Macomb, Oakland or Wayne counties)
- + Applicants must have resided in the area for at least the two years prior to the application deadline (January 22, 2013 – January 22, 2015)
- + Applicants must intend to retain residence in the tri-county area throughout the year-long fellowship period

**WHO MAY NOT APPLY?**

- + Students working toward any degree, arts or non-arts related, at the time of application or individuals planning to work toward a degree during the course of the fellowship, with the exception of ABD (all but dissertation) status Ph.D. candidates
- + Individuals who received a Kresge Artist Fellowship within the last four years (2011-2014)
- + Individuals who have received a Kresge Eminent Artist Award
- + Current Kresge Artist Fellowship panelists and their immediate family members
- + Current Kresge Arts in Detroit Advisory Council members and their immediate family members
- + Staff and immediate family members of The Kresge Foundation, Creative Many Michigan, Midtown Detroit, Inc. and the Kresge Arts in Detroit office at the College for Creative Studies (faculty and staff of the College for Creative Studies NOT associated with the Kresge Arts in Detroit office ARE eligible to apply)

**COLLABORATIVE APPLICATIONS**

Artists who collaborate with other artists, and who have an ongoing demonstrated history of collaborating together are permitted to apply under one collaborative application. Each collaborative artist must meet all eligibility requirements, including residency.

Collaborators create one account in the online application system and submit one application. **The application includes one primary applicant and up to four additional collaborators.** The resume and statements should address your collaborative history and practice, and work samples should represent work created by the collaborative, not by the artists individually. Should a collaborative application receive a fellowship, the award funds would be divided equally among the collaborators.

**SELECTION PROCESS**

Kresge Artist Fellowship applications are reviewed by independent fellowship panels. For each arts category, a new, independent fellowship panel is selected each year. Panelists are experienced and well-respected national, regional and local artists and arts professionals. They are selected according to the categories of arts disciplines being reviewed. Panelists represent the diversity of artistic styles within the disciplines, as well as diversity of age, ethnicity, gender and geography.

*ARTISTS ARE SELECTED BASED ON THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:*

A demonstrated track record of artistic achievement and high quality work (the main determinant in the selection of a fellow)

.....  
The potential to grow and advance in their artistic career during the fellowship period

.....  
The potential to reflect, enhance or impact communities within metropolitan Detroit

## APPLICATION OVERVIEW

The 2015 Kresge Artist Fellowship application consists of components listed below. Each section is limited to a number of characters (not words), which includes punctuation and spacing. Keep formatting simple, as bold, italics, underlined text and bulleted lists will not be saved.

01.

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### ARTIST PROFILE

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Requires basic information including your name, website, birth date, county of residence, and a questionnaire. If submitting a collaborative application, you will also submit information about your collaborative group and each individual member.

02.

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### PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE QUESTIONNAIRE

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A brief questionnaire regarding your interest in and access to arts resources in your community. Your responses assist Creative Many Michigan in providing professional practice opportunities. *This information is not shared with the panelists.*

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### RESUME

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Include relevant educational background and a list of the professional achievements that reflect your artistic accomplishments in the category in which you are applying, such as exhibits, readings, honors, awards, commissions, collections, residencies, lectures and publications. Only include information that relates to your creative practice. Please format as a list in reverse chronological order. *LIMIT: 12,500 characters max; approximately 2,000 words*

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### STATEMENTS

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- [A] **DISCIPLINE SELECTION:** Select the discipline that *best* describes the work in your application: i.e. arts criticism, creative non-fiction, fiction, poetry, spoken word, interdisciplinary work. Your selection assists panelists in understanding the context for your work.
- [B] **DISCIPLINE STATEMENT:** Briefly provide additional explanation of your discipline, such as the specific genre your work samples fit into or additional context for your work within its discipline (i.e. the audience for your work or a specific influence). *LIMIT: 250 characters max; approximately 40 words*
- [C] **ARTIST BIOGRAPHY:** Provide a short artist biography written in third person that gives a concise snapshot about you, your artistic career and your practice. It may note key themes in your practice, your medium, career highlights or other relevant information. *LIMIT: 600 characters max, approximately 100 words*
- [D] **ARTIST STATEMENT:** Clearly explain your artistic work, vision and inspiration. You may want to address what your work means to you, what materials or techniques you use and why, where you find inspiration to create, what ideas you're trying to communicate, the life experiences that have influenced your artistic vision, how your work relates to your development as an artist or how your work relates to other artists' work. *LIMIT: 4,250 characters max; approximately 700 words*
- [E] **COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT:** The community impact statement should explain how your work impacts and inspires individuals and groups around you. (i.e. how does your work reflect and/or enhance communities within metropolitan Detroit, such as artistic communities, educational communities, neighborhoods, specific populations or audiences or those you mentor). *LIMIT: 4,250 characters max; approximately 700 words*
- [F] **NARRATIVE STATEMENT:** The narrative statement should explain your overall plans for the fellowship period, how you will use the fellowship time, why the fellowship will be pivotal in the exploration of your art form and what the fellowship will contribute to the advancement of your career. The fellowships are merit-based and are NOT project grants, however, it is helpful to the panelists to get a sense for how the fellowship will impact your work. *LIMIT: 4,250 characters max; approximately 700 words*

05.

WORK SAMPLES

**ALL APPLICATIONS MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:**

- **Three to eight (3-8) Work Samples in the sequence you prefer**  
*You must submit a minimum of 3 work samples and may not exceed a maximum number of 8 work samples total. Prior to uploading work samples, please name each file with your last name and the title of the work. (ie. "Smith\_Title.jpg")*
- **Work Sample Description**  
*You will be provided space to include additional information about your work samples (see list below). Each work sample must include an accompanying work sample description.*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ TITLE OF THE WORK</li> <li>+ NOTE IF SAMPLE IS EXCERPT OR COMPLETE WORK</li> <li>+ YOUR ROLE IN THE CREATION OF THE WORK</li> <li>+ LENGTH OF COMPLETE WORK (pages, words or minutes)</li> <li>+ YEAR WORK WAS COMPLETED or note "work in progress"</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>+ MEDIUM (visual arts only)</li> <li>+ DIMENSIONS formatted HxWxD (visual arts only)</li> <li>+ ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTION (i.e. circumstances in which viewers should experience the work, brief synopsis, etc. Limited to 500 characters, approximately 80 words)</li> </ul> |
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**FORMATS ALLOWED**

**LITERARY ARTS:**

Any combination of MANUSCRIPTS, AUDIO, VIDEO

**VISUAL ARTS:**

Any combination of IMAGE FILES, VIDEO

**MANUSCRIPTS** ..... [LITERARY ARTS ONLY]

- FILE TYPE: .PDF
- LENGTH: All manuscript pages must not exceed 15 pages total
- FILE SIZE: Individual .PDF files may not exceed 10 MB each
- FORMATING: Work samples must be on standard letter size pages, and double-spaced in 12 pt. type unless an alternate format is industry-standard, and/or essential to understanding the work sample (i.e. concrete poetry). Please include page numbers.

**AUDIO** ..... [LITERARY ARTS ONLY]

- FILE TYPE: .MP3
- FILE SIZE: Individual audio files may not exceed 30MB each
- NOTE: Audio work samples are only accepted as documentation of interactive, dynamic, or time-based work, such as spoken word. Audio samples are *not* an acceptable format if performance is not an integral element of the work.

**IMAGES** ..... [VISUAL ARTS ONLY]

- FILE TYPE: .JPG, .TIFF
- FILE SIZE: Individual images may not exceed 5MB

**VIDEO** ..... [LITERARY & VISUAL ARTS]

- FILE TYPE: .MOV, .MP4
- FILE SIZE: Individual video files may not exceed 250MB
- NOTE: Video work samples are *only* accepted as documentation of interactive, dynamic, or time-based work. In the VISUAL ARTS, this includes video art, interactive installations or works created for virtual environments. However, video work samples are *not* an acceptable format for 2D work, such as painting, photography, and ceramics. In the LITERARY ARTS, video work samples of spoken word performances are accepted. However, video work samples are *not* an acceptable format for poetry where performance is not an integral element of the work.

## APPLICATION TIPS

### ONLINE APPLICATION TIPS

- + The online application system is called SlideRoom. SlideRoom supports most browsers. For information and support with other platforms, please contact SlideRoom support: [support@slideroom.com](mailto:support@slideroom.com).
- + Most local libraries offer free computer usage and Internet access, as well as free or low-cost classes teaching computer and Internet skills. Please contact your local branch for information.
- + SlideRoom offers additional work sample specifications and tips: [sideroom.besnappy.com/faq](http://sideroom.besnappy.com/faq)
- + You can save and return to an application with incomplete information, but your application is not submitted until you complete all required materials and click SUBMIT on the final application page.

### RESUME TIPS

- + Keep your text formatting simple in the application. Only basic spacing and punctuation will be saved in the system.
- + You should only include work or achievements that relate to your creative practice.
- + Accomplishments should be listed in reverse chronological order, starting with the most recent.
- + Fellowships are for emerging and established artists. If you are an emerging artist, your resume may be brief. If you are an established artist, you may have to select your most notable accomplishments.

## STATEMENT TIPS

### GENERAL STATEMENT TIPS

- + Keep your text formatting simple in the application. Only basic spacing and punctuation will be saved in the system.
- + Statements may be as short as one paragraph. A longer statement is not necessarily a better statement.
- + Have a friend, especially someone who is not an artist, read your statements and give you feedback. Your statements should be clear and understandable to someone outside of your field.

### ARTIST STATEMENT TIPS

- + Artist statements should be written in first person and present tense.
- + Successful artist statements generally have a clear relationship to included work samples.
- + Avoid obscure or complex language in favor of clear and concise insights into your work, process and motivation.
- + An artist statement may address one body of work or multiple bodies of work that share a theme.

### COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENT TIPS

- + You may speak to the communities you impact currently and/or those you hope to impact in the future.
- + It's up to you to consider and define the community or communities that your work impacts.

### NARRATIVE STATEMENT TIPS

- + You do not need to outline a specific project you would complete if awarded a fellowship. If you do describe a project, you will not be required to complete it if you receive a fellowship. This statement serves only to provide panelists with an idea of your current interests and goals.

### WORK SAMPLE TIPS [GENERAL WORK SAMPLE TIPS](#)

- + Work samples should represent your recent artistic work (preferably from the past five years).
- + Work samples are the most important part of your application, and high-quality documentation is of paramount importance. You may want to consider hiring a professional to document your work. If you have a limited budget, consider hiring a student or asking a knowledgeable family member or friend for assistance.
- + Work sample descriptions are incredibly valuable for panelists to understand what they are viewing. Provide clear, informative details in the description boxes provided with each work sample for further explanation of your work.
- + It is especially important to clarify your role in work sample submissions if it is not apparent.
- + Edit each work sample to begin at an engaging point to catch panelists' attention.
- + Panelists view your work samples in order, so place them in the progression that best presents your work.
- + After uploading, check in SlideRoom to be sure that your content is oriented correctly (i.e. the work sample does not open with your work displaying upside down).
- + Promotional materials (i.e. event announcements) and commercial work (i.e. work done for hire) will not be accepted.

### [IMAGES/VIDEO/AUDIO FILE TIPS](#)

- + When documenting work, use a tripod if at all possible so images will be in sharp focus.
- + Proper lighting is important to quality work samples. Avoid excessive shadows and highlights, which prevent panelists from clearly and completely viewing your work.
- + For longer work samples documenting time-based work, you may want to edit your submission to include different sections of the work to represent its full scope.
- + Be sure that audio is clearly audible and volume is consistent throughout work samples.
- + If applicable, indicate if your work sample is documentation of the work (i.e. a digital image that documents a painting) or the work itself (i.e. a digital image created to be viewed on a computer screen) in the work sample description.
- + Only one work may be represented in a single work sample. A single image that is comprised of multiple *different* works will not be accepted. However, a single image that includes a full and detailed view of the *same* work is permitted.
- + Applicants should submit work samples in the most clear and compelling format possible for their discipline. Even if your work meets the requirements to submit video or audio files (interactive, dynamic, or time-based work), carefully consider whether your audio/video documentation is of sufficient quality or whether another format (image or manuscript) would better represent your work overall.
- + Panelists may choose to only view the first minute of video or audio work samples, so be sure to start with the most dynamic portion of the work.

### [MANUSCRIPT TIPS](#)

- + Do not embed links or media files (video, sound, images) in PDF documents.
- + Scanned excerpts from books or periodicals, in published form, will not be accepted.
- + Only one work may be represented per work sample (i.e. one poem per PDF). Multiple selections of longer works may be included in one work sample (i.e. excerpts of multiple chapters of a novel) or you may provide separate excerpts as individual work samples.
- + Manuscripts must be submitted in English. Scholarly manuscripts, standard journalism, and translations of other's work will not be accepted.

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**APPLICATION SUPPORT** Please direct questions about program policies or application instructions to the Kresge Arts in Detroit staff at (313) 664-1150 or [kresgeartsindetroit@collegeforcreativestudies.edu](mailto:kresgeartsindetroit@collegeforcreativestudies.edu).

Visit [www.kresgeartsindetroit.org](http://www.kresgeartsindetroit.org) to access application resources, FAQs and more.

**TECHNICAL SUPPORT** For technical support (i.e. uploading work samples, creating PDFs, browser issues, file compression, etc.) please contact the staff at SlideRoom by emailing [support@slideroom.com](mailto:support@slideroom.com).

Applicants may also access SlideRoom's FAQ section at [slideroom.besnappy.com/faq](http://slideroom.besnappy.com/faq), as well as SlideRoom's Step-by-Step Guide to the system at [slideroom.besnappy.com/applicant-guide](http://slideroom.besnappy.com/applicant-guide).

*PLEASE NOTE: THE GUIDE FOR THE KRESGE ARTIST FELLOWSHIPS IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE*