



The Arts & Culture Alliance
**Ann and Steve Bailey Opportunity Grants
for Individuals, Fiscal Year 2021**

OBJECTIVES

Through the generosity of Ann and Steve Bailey, the Arts & Culture Alliance offers Bailey Opportunity Grants, which are a part of the Arts & Heritage Fund. Bailey Grants provide financial and technical support to individual artists and small, professionally-oriented arts and culture organizations. The goal of Bailey Opportunity Grants for Individuals is to create a more vital creative community in Knoxville by:

- Encouraging artists' contributions to the city's economy and quality of life
- Positioning Knoxville as a community that honors its artists and supports their efforts to achieve excellence
- Raising artists' public profiles within the city and beyond

The mission of the Arts & Culture Alliance is to serve and support a diverse community of artists and arts and culture organizations.

DESCRIPTION

Opportunity Grants are designed to spur continued artistic and professional growth in innovative, entrepreneurial artists at any stage in their careers who may be engaged in one or more of a broad array of diverse disciplines. The eligibility criteria and support structure is geared toward artists who have demonstrated sustained commitment to artistic work and keen interest in advancing their artistic growth and careers regardless of their level of commercial success. Projects that allow artists to explore new avenues of creativity, wrestle with new ideas that can advance their work, acquire equipment that will help them create or sell their work, improve their business practices, and strengthen their existing talents are encouraged.

Opportunity Grants will support artists working in any media, including but not limited to: literary arts, craft arts, folk and traditional arts, 2-D and 3-D work of all media, installation art, public art, film/video arts, and performing arts (including music, dance, theater, puppetry, performance art). *Design arts is not an eligible media at this time.*

Applicants may apply for a maximum of \$75,000 in support. The entire Bailey Opportunity Grants budget for FY2020 for both Individuals and Organizations combined is \$100,000.

Matching funds are not required.

Awards may include a combination of cash support, in-kind services, mentoring, workshops/seminars, and sales opportunities.

Collaborative artist teams are eligible to apply, however any artist may be included in only one application for funding per grant cycle.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Applications must be received by midnight (EST) on Sunday, March 22. Electronic submissions to LZ@knoxalliance.com are strongly preferred. Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit applications at least one week early so that they may obtain helpful feedback before the final submission deadline of March 22, 2020.

USE OF FUNDS

Grant funds must be used between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021.

Bailey Opportunity Grants for Individuals may be designated for (but not limited to):

- Professional and artistic development
- Mentor relationships
- Arts-related travel (conferences, workshops, gatherings)
- Conference, training, and workshop fees directly related to Artist's work
- Equipment
- Marketing and publicity efforts
- Other resources for all artistic disciplines

Funds may not be used for such things as:

- Tuition expenses toward a degree
- General travel; personal or staff vacations
- Items not directly related to Artist's professional artistic development
- Projects that focus exclusively on K-12 school children
- Personal pay / personal investments
- Production or exhibition expenses for specific projects

ELIGIBILITY

1. Artist must have lived within approximately 50 miles of downtown Knoxville for at least the past six months.
2. Artist must be at least 18 years old.
3. Artist must have exhibited, performed, presented and/or published artistic work in a public context in Knox County within the last 24 months (2018-2020).
4. Artist must not be enrolled in a full-time degree-seeking program.
5. Artist must be a member of the Arts & Culture Alliance at the time of the application and throughout grant period (see www.knoxalliance.com/join-renew).
6. Artist must work in an eligible media (see Description).
7. Requested funds must be for eligible expenses (see Use of Funds).
8. Staff, board members, and relatives of staff or board members of the Arts & Culture Alliance are ineligible.
9. Collaborative artist teams are eligible to apply with cash awards shared equally among team members. An artist may be included in only one application for funding per grant cycle: Artist may not apply as part of a collaboration and also apply individually.

Any question of eligibility should be directed to the Arts & Culture Alliance before the application is made.

All applicants are strongly encouraged to meet with Liza Zenni to discuss projects prior to submission of a grant request.

GRANTEE REQUIREMENTS

Selected artists will be required to make biannual reports to the Arts & Culture Alliance which may be written or conducted via one-on-one meetings with Alliance staff. Final reports, which may include an exhibition or performance of work completed during the grant period, are required in order for artists to be considered for future grant and program opportunities through the Alliance.

If selected as a grantee, Artist may be required to participate in Alliance-sponsored exhibitions, performances, or collector events. Selected artists may also be required to perform/present public or educational activities benefiting the Greater Knoxville community.

GRANT REVIEW PROCESS

Grants will be reviewed by a three-person panel. Panel members will use an evaluation criteria, examining:

- Artistic excellence, quality or merit
- Creativity in concept, form and use of medium
- Potential for the grant to enhance Artist's career or business practices
- Commitment to deepening and expanding artistic work
- Clarity in the application about how the grant funds will further the Artist's artistic and career goals
- Professional or career achievements/history/activity
- Timeframe of project

The panel will refer a list of finalists to the Arts & Culture Alliance board. If approved as a finalist, Artist will need to provide to the Arts & Culture Alliance:

1. Social Security Number (Grant funds are taxable)
2. Proof of residency or Green Card

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The application for Bailey Opportunity Grants for Individuals includes four items.

I. **Application**

This includes your contact information and the questions:

- How did you hear about Bailey Opportunity grants?
- Describe the nature of your work. Talk about your materials, methods, research, and the meaning of your current work.
- What is the project, opportunity, or need for which you are requesting support? BE SPECIFIC. Artists should identify the specific class or workshop he/she wants to use grant funds for including dates, locations, and teacher/presenter. Artists must articulate how this specific learning opportunity will enhance their current work or career. Describe why this teacher is the right one for you and be sure to include his or her qualifications.
- What is the timeline? When does it start, and what are important points in the progress of the project?
- Describe how you see this opportunity improving the artistic quality of your work and/or how the grant funds will further your career goals. If you are requesting equipment, be sure to describe how you know that this equipment will fit your needs.
- What are the desired outcomes of the project, opportunity, or fulfillment of need?

II. **Curriculum Vitae / Artist Resume**

Please submit as a one-page PDF representing documentation of your artistic accomplishments. This document should include a current listing of your exhibition record, grants, awards, residencies and other professional activities, including dates and locations. If you do not have an exhibition history, describe how other areas of your life (i.e. personal accomplishments or professional experience) have contributed to where you are now as an artist. The document should be neatly organized and include information pertinent only to your artistic career.

III. **Portfolio**

For Visual Artists: Please submit a minimum of ten images in PDF or JPG formats (recommended at 1600 pixels on the longest side or 1-2 MB per image) created between 2017 – present.

Include relevant information pertaining to each work, such as Title, Date Completed, Dimensions (if applicable) and Medium. Artists may also include a two sentence artist statement for each image.

For Literary Artists: Please submit a minimum of four samples of your work from 2017 – present.

For Performing Artists: Please submit a minimum of three samples of your work in video form. Limit the length of your videos to two minutes, and be sure they are not password protected (if applicable). Videos should be up to 250MB each. You may also link to YouTube and Vimeo.

Give some thought to what kinds of materials actually support your application. Context for video samples is vital. Tell why you have selected a particular video: is it representative of the kind of work you do or is it a break from it? How is it related to your proposed project?

IV. **Budget**

Total expenses should equal the amount of your request. Outline expenses related to improving your artistic skills (see list of eligible expenses in Use of Funds) or career prospects. Expenses for travel or research must be specifically related to the proposal and should be quantified by how they will further Artist's work or career.

REMEMBER: Write clearly. Be concise. Be creative in your thinking. Demonstrate that the grant will allow you to push the boundaries of your practice in a significant way. Follow directions.

TIMELINE

Sunday, March 22, 2020 at midnight: Bailey Opportunity Grants for Individuals Application Receipt Deadline
(electronic submissions are strongly preferred)

Mid-May 2020: Awards Announced

Wednesday, July 1, 2020 – Funds available for use

CONTACT INFORMATION

The Arts & Culture Alliance is a service organization: we exist to help artists and arts and culture organizations. All interested artists are encouraged to contact Liza Zenni at 865-523-7543 or LZ@knoxalliance.com if they have questions.



Arts & Culture Alliance
PO Box 2506
Knoxville, TN 37901-2506