



MID-AMERICA ARTS ALLIANCE

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## Artistic Innovations Grant Program

### Call for Letter of Intent Forms for Applicant Organizations (Issued September 2019)

**Deadline: Friday, November 1, 2019**

Mid-America Arts Alliance strengthens and supports artists, cultural organizations, and communities throughout our region and beyond. We are especially committed to enriching the cultural life of historically underserved communities by providing high quality, meaningful, and accessible arts and culture programs and services.

The Artistic Innovations Grant Program encourages the spirit of **experimentation** and **exploration**, *exclusively* engaging in-region artists in the **creation of new, original works** for audiences in the M-AAA region. This grant program offers up to \$15,000 in support of expenses incurred in the art-making process and premiere of these endeavors. Through generous support from the National Endowment for the Arts, M-AAA invites arts-based organizations in Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas to submit a Letter of Intent Form for a project that meets the criteria and eligibility requirements listed below.

#### PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

A great Artistic Innovations project is one that has in-person experiences of art, art making, or artists at the heart of the initiative and introduces a new or original idea or product to the applicant's audience. Audience engagement through feature presentation and outreach activities includes but is not limited to performance, publication, lecture/demonstration, exhibition, master class and/or workshop.

The grant program is designed to support new innovative creative endeavors by in-region artists that culminate in at least two public-facing events: a premiere feature presentation and an outreach activity that take place between July 1, 2020, and June 30, 2021 in M-AAA's six-state region.

#### PROGRAM CRITERIA

A Letter of Intent Form is required of all applicants. Letter of Intent Forms are screened by M-AAA staff to determine applicant and project eligibility. All eligible applicants with eligible projects are invited to submit a proposal. The Artistic Innovations Request for Proposal (RFP) guidelines are distributed as part of that invitation. *Please note: Receipt of an invitation to submit a proposal does not infer, confer, or guarantee funding for any project.*

#### APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

Applicant Organizations *must*:

1. not be an Artistic Innovations grant recipient or a featured artist/ensemble or partnering organization in another Artistic Innovations project in fiscal year 2020;
2. be a nonprofit, 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization, a unit of state or local government, or a federally recognized tribal community;
3. be registered in the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS);
4. be incorporated and located in the M-AAA region with three consecutive years of arts-based programming prior to the Letter of Intent Form deadline; and
5. be in good standing with M-AAA and all other federal agencies, with no delinquent reports and/or grant documents.

#### PROJECT ELIGIBILITY

Projects described in the Letter of Intent Form are evaluated by M-AAA staff for the following eligibility requirements:



## HOW TO APPLY

If you wish to apply, please use the following checklist to prepare for the online Artistic Innovations Letter of Intent Form. Data typed in the form can be saved for editing later. To resume your form, check your email inbox for the most recent link at which it can be accessed.

Limit one Letter of Intent Form per applicant and per project per fiscal year. Artists cannot be involved in more than one project put forward for consideration in any given fiscal year.

**M-AAA will only review Letter of Intent Forms submitted by 11:59 p.m. CST on Friday, November 1, 2019, through the following website:**

<https://www.tfaforms.com/4765493>

## ARTISTIC INNOVATIONS: LETTER OF INTENT FORM CHECKLIST FOR APPLICANT ORGANIZATIONS

### APPLICANT INFORMATION

1. **Choose the category that best describes the Applicant's legal status**
2. **Organization Legal Name**  
This is the organization name as it appears on its Federal Employer Identification document.
3. **Organization Address and Contact Information**
4. **Application Contact Person Name, Title, and Information**
5. **U.S. Congressional District Number**
6. **State House Legislative District Number**
7. **State Senate Legislative District Number**
8. **Organization Federal Employer Identification Number (EIN)**
9. **Organization Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS)**
10. **Organization Primary Artistic Discipline**
11. **Organization Mission Statement** (limit 125 words)

### PROJECT INFORMATION

12. **Project Title**
13. **Project Primary Discipline**
14. **Project Start and End Dates**
15. **Project Description** (limit 1,500 words)

Include relevant information about the project's feature presentation and where it will take place.

16. **Outreach Activity Description** (limit 250 words)

Include relevant information about the outreach activity and where it will take place.

17. **Artist Selection Process and Biography** (limit 250 words for each, limit ten)  
Briefly describe the process / criteria for the selection of the artist involved in the project. Include a brief biography and describe their involvement in the development of the project to date. Be sure to note in which M-AAA state the artist resides.
18. **Other Key Individuals Selection Process and Biography** (If applicable, limit 250 words for each, limit ten)  
Briefly describe the process / criteria for the selection of other key individuals involved in the project. Include a brief biography and describe their involvement in the development of the project to date. Be sure to note in which M-AAA state these individuals reside.
19. **Description of Organizational Partner** (If applicable, limit 250 words for each, limit ten)  
Briefly describe key organizational partners. An organizational partner is an outside entity that will provide resources (other than money) to support the project. Funders are not excluded from being partners, but they must also provide human resources or information capital, or actively participate in some other way. Where relevant, describe their involvement in the development of the project to date.
20. **Expected Project Budget** (this must be *at least* double the grant amount requested)
21. **M-AAA Grant Amount Requested** (\$15,000 maximum)