



A PROGRAM OF MID-AMERICA ARTS ALLIANCE

How to Prepare for the Catalyze Application

Combining money, mentoring, and management the Catalyze program ignites change in the careers of individual artists. A program of Mid-America Arts Alliance made possible through the support of the Windgate Foundation, Catalyze provides practice-based grant funding, professional development, and mentoring to artists of all disciplines in the central Arkansas counties of Cleburne, Conway, Faulkner, Garland, Grant, Hot Spring, Jefferson, Lonoke, Perry, Pope, Prairie, Pulaski, Saline, Van Buren, White, and Yell.

The M-AAA Catalyze Application period opens on Wednesday, November 1, 2023 at 9:00am CST and closes Monday, January 22, 2024 at 5:00pm CST. We encourage you to prepare your narrative answers on a separate document and paste your answers into the online application form. In addition, we ask you to submit a Résumé/CV (3 pages maximum, .pdf format) and that you submit up to five work samples (literary, audio, video and/or images) and a Work Sample Summary (1000 word maximum).

Panelists will be reviewing applications based on:

Artistry : Successful applicants will demonstrate artistic excellence, broadly defined by the practitioners and norms in their discipline, and show a deep commitment to their work. Selected artists will have an active creative practice for a minimum of three years and show motivation to continue and further evolve.

Program Readiness : Selected artists will have the desire to advance their career and deepen their practice, engage in an active strategic management process surrounding their practice, as well as an interest in sharing their work and process as part of a network of artists in a peer learning environment.

Impact of Funding on Practice : Successful applicants will clearly identify the ways in which Catalyze funds will impact their careers and creative practices. These identified impacts should relate to previous challenges and/or desired futures.

Complete the online application form here >> <https://www.maaa.org/catalyze>

The deadline to submit the online application is Monday, January 22, 2024 at 5:00 pm CST.
Applicants will be notified by Monday, April 15, 2024.

The Catalyze Grant application consists of both submitted documents and narrative questions. Applicants are required to submit Artist Résumé/CV (as a .pdf document) as well as narrative answers written into the online form (Artist Biography, Artist Statement, Creative Practice Evolution, Future of Your Creative Practice, Fund Use, Professional Development and Work Sample Summary). In order to help applicants better prepare, details, requirements and example links are listed below.

About You and Your Work Submissions:

- Artist Biography (100 words max)
 - [Writing Your Artist's Bio pdf](#)
- Artist Statement (250 words max)
 - [Writing Your Artist's Statement pdf](#)
- Artist Résumé/CV (maximum 3 pages, .pdf format)
 - [Writing Your Artist's Resume and CV pdf](#)
- Work Sample Summary Examples (1000 word max)
 - [Work Sample Summary Examples pdf](#)

Narrative Questions:

1. Creative Practice Evolution

In your own words, explain the evolution of your creative practice over the previous few years. What work have you been pursuing? How has the work evolved? Why has it evolved in that way? Have you faced challenges or constraints in making work? (250 word maximum)

2. Future of Your Creative Practice

Where do you want your creative practice to be in five years? What self-determined measures of success for your practice have you identified? (250 word maximum)

3. Fund Use

If awarded a Catalyze Artist Grant, how do you intend to use the funds to further your artistic practice? (250 word maximum)

4. Professional Development

Considering the criteria of this grant, explain how participating in the Catalyze Retreat, learning alongside a dedicated, small group of your peers, accessing One-on-One mentoring sessions with Artist Peer Facilitators, and building a network of regional artists, will be beneficial to the development of your creative practice. What strengths will you bring to share with your peers? (250 word maximum)

Tips and Troubleshooting:

- We strongly encourage applicants to access the online application through the Google Chrome browser.
- Make sure cookies are enabled
 - On your computer, open Chrome.
 - At the top right, click the three dots next to your profile avatar.
 - Under "Privacy and Security," click Site settings.
 - Click "Third Party Cookies."
 - From here, you can: Turn on cookies: click next to "Allow Third Party Cookies."
- Compose the answers to your narrative questions in a word processing document (i.e., Microsoft word or Google Docs) and then copy and paste answers into the online application form when you are fully satisfied with your responses.
- Verify that all files you will be uploading to the online application form (proof of residency, resume/CV, images, literary samples) are less than 1MB in size.
- Carefully verify that you have typed your email address into the online application form correctly. Your email address is how you access your saved application.
- As you are working in the online application, save frequently.
- Work well in advance of the Monday, January 22, 2024 5:00 pm CST deadline. If you're going to have a technical problem, it always happens when the clock is ticking.

If you have any questions or need help during the application process, please contact: artistservices@maaa.org. This email address is monitored and quickly supported Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm CST. You may also schedule a zoom meeting during our office hours through [Calendly](#).

Office Hours: November 1, 2023 - January 22, 2024
(Offices are closed Monday, December 25, 2023 - Monday, January 1, 2024)

Mondays: noon – 1:00 p.m. CST and 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. CST
Tuesdays: noon – 1:00 p.m. CST and 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. CST
Wednesdays: noon – 1:00 p.m. CST and 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. CST
Thursdays: noon – 1:00 p.m. CST and 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. CST