



# NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellowship 2018/2019 Discipline Specific Guidelines

## Choreography

### Application Deadline:

**January 23, 2019 11:59 PM EST**

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### Discipline Definition

This category accepts work in all choreographic styles, including mixed-media or multi-genre performance works in which choreography and/or organized movement is primary.

*Live performances and rehearsals cannot be attended.*

### Application Requirements

Support Materials for Choreography applications include:

- **Work Statement** – up to 100 words
- **Technical Statement** – up to 200 words (optional)
- **Excerpt Explanation** – up to 400 words (optional)
- **Cultural Statement** – up to 400 words (optional)
- **Work Samples** – 1 to 2 videos with descriptions and two 2-minute excerpts

### Work Samples

Work samples are a representation of your artistic work created within the last five years. This is the most important part of your application, as it will be the primary point of review. Keep in mind the panel reviews a large volume of material in quick succession, therefore, it is very important that you present your work clearly.

**Review Process:** Choreography applications are reviewed over the course of 3 rounds. All Choreography applications will be pre-reviewed by panelists. In the pre-review round, panelists are directed to review only your 2-minute excerpts & corresponding descriptions. During pre-review, all applications are assigned a number and are reviewed anonymously.



During later rounds of review supplementary statements will also be reviewed alongside your work samples, and panelists will have access to all of this information on their individual laptops. Work samples will be viewed on laptops, as well as projected at roughly 50" x 70" per video via high-definition digital projectors. NYFA uses an Epson LCD Projector, PowerLite Home Cinema 2000 Model: H56ZA (lamp type ELPLP78) to project work and ONKYO Model no., HT-R667 7.1 Sound System system with a ONKYO Model No., SKW-750X speaker system. During pre-review, work samples will be viewed on panelists' personal laptops or desktop computers. Please consider this when editing your work samples.

*Please note, panelists will not look at websites or links during the application review process. Submitting any work that has been awarded a NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellowship in the past will automatically disqualify your application.*

**Work Sample Inventory:** Applicants must submit **two 2-minute excerpts**, and up to **2 longer video work samples** of up to 30 mins each. Excerpts must be taken from your longer video work samples. If you are submitting only **one** video work sample, you can submit up to 60 minutes, as well as two corresponding 2-minute excerpts from the one piece. If you are submitting **two** longer work samples, please submit one corresponding 2-minute excerpt from each.

We recommend submitting un-edited continuous footage for your choreographic work samples.

Each video sample must relate to one project only; submitting video samples comprised of multiple clips from different projects is not recommended. "Demo Reels" or highlight reels should also be avoided.

**Titles and credits should not be included in excerpts**

**Work Sample Descriptions:** Before you upload your files to your application, you will need to name your files. **Do not label any work samples with your name.** Instead, label each uploaded work sample starting with a number 01 through 02, followed by the title of the work. For excerpts, please include "excerpt" in the title.

After your work samples have uploaded, you will be able to provide descriptions for each submitted work sample, including title, date the work was performed, duration, and additional information. If your piece is largely conceptual, and requires additional written context, please explain this in the "additional information" section using 1 - 2 sentences.

**File Format:**

**File name:** label each file starting with a number 01 through 02, followed by the title of the work (label if an excerpt), ex. *01\_Landscape.mov / 01\_Landscape\_Excerpt.mov*

**File size:** No larger than 2 GB

**Length:** Full length works should be no longer than 30 minutes each

**Excerpts:** 2 minutes in length each

**File format:** .mov/.mp4



If your video/film files are too large, you'll need to compress them in order to upload them to the application. You can do so using video editing software, such as Movie Maker, Premiere, Final Cut, iMovie, etc.

When editing your video it is important to ensure your file is formatted correctly so that your video will play across a range of platforms whilst maintaining quality. Therefore it is important to choose the right codec and container for your file.

A codec is a method for encoding and decoding data and is used for compressing data, particularly video. Choosing the right container can depend on several desired outcomes, i.e. file size, playback quality, capabilities for re-editing etc. There are many codec and container combinations but h.264 and .mov or .mp4 are preferred as they are supported by a wide range of media players with little loss of quality.

### **Support Statements**

Support statements are available to the panelists in the later rounds of review.

**Work Statement:** A statement explaining your artistic vision as directly related to your submitted work samples. This is not an artist statement, but should instead reflect only the ideas and inspiration relevant to the work submitted. Up to 100 words.

#### **Questions to consider for your Work Statement:**

1. What is this work about?
2. What are the fundamental processes used in creating your work samples?
3. How does this work represent the primary concerns and intentions of your artistic practice?

**Excerpt Explanation (Optional):** A supplemental statement further explaining the context, concept, and execution of your excerpted work sample(s). This statement can explain how the excerpted work sample relates to the entire original piece. Within the Excerpt Explanation you can itemize each submitted work sample and talk about them individually. Up to 400 words.

#### **Questions to consider for your Excerpt Explanation:**

1. How does your excerpt relate to the full work?
2. What information is needed to give context to your excerpted work samples?

**Technical Statement (Optional):** A supplemental statement describing the key technical aspects of the work. Use this statement to highlight your role in creating/executing the work. Be sure to note whether your work samples represent documentation of a performance, installation, experience, or etc. You can also describe the circumstances in which the viewer/audience should experience the work. Please include instructions on how to navigate your work if it's interactive. Up to 200 words.



**Questions to consider for your Technical Statement:**

1. What elements were involved in the making of this piece?
2. How did you adapt the venue for the performance?

**Cultural Statement (*Optional*):** A supplemental statement describing how your work is rooted in a specific cultural technique, tradition or community. Up to 400 words.

**Write a Cultural Statement if:**

1. Your practice stems from a specific and/or unique cultural tradition.
2. The understanding of your work is dependent on the context of a cultural community.

Please email [fellowships@nyfa.org](mailto:fellowships@nyfa.org) with any questions.

*NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellowships are administered with leadership support from New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.*



## Quick Tips Before You Submit!

- Read the Application Guidelines and Discipline Specific Guidelines thoroughly!
- Ensure you meet all Eligibility requirements:
  - You are at least 25 years or older.
  - You are a current New York State resident, and/or a resident of one of the Indian Nations located therein.
  - Have you lived in New York State, and/or one of the Indian Nations located therein for the past two consecutive years: all of 2017 & 2018.
  - If you are a past NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellow, none of the work samples you have submitted have previously received an award.
  - You are not currently enrolled in a degree-seeking program of any kind.
  - You are the originator of the artwork submitted.
  - You have not received five NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellowships.
  - You are not a NYFA employee, a member of the NYFA Board of Trustees or Artists' Advisory Committee, immediate family member of any of the above, or an immediate family member of a 2018-2019 panelist.
- Before you upload your *Work Samples*, check to make sure:
  - Video files are .mov/.mp4
  - Your name is not present anywhere in your descriptions, file names, or work samples
  - Your excerpts do not include titles, credits, or the color bar screen
  - Your files are numbered 01 to 02 in the order you want them to be reviewed
  - You have labeled all of your excerpts accordingly in the file name and title
  - You've added descriptions to your work samples where necessary
  - Your excerpts begin from an intriguing start to peak interest in the panel
  - All of your work sample files are less than 2GB
- Before you upload your *Work Statement*, check to make sure:
  - Your work statement is concise, referencing only the work in your application
  - Your statement doesn't use "art speak"
  - You use simple clear language, with concrete descriptions
  - You avoid quoting or referencing other artists by name
  - You do not use speculative language such as "I am trying to, or I seek to..." but rather, "I am."
- Before you upload an *Excerpt Explanation (optional)*, check to make sure:
  - You have explained the work samples submitted and contextualized your excerpts within your larger work



- Your excerpt explanation does not repeat your work statement
  - Within the excerpt explanation you can itemize each submitted work sample and talk about them individually
- Before you upload a *Technical Statement (optional)*, check to make sure:
- Your technical statement describes how your work was made and what techniques or specialty equipment was used to create the work
  - If your work should be viewed or interacted with in a certain way, you explain this here.
  - If the work is interactive, this statement should also explain what the intended outcome is
  - If need be, you have itemized each work or group of works to better explain your work samples
- Upload a *Cultural Statement (optional)*:
- This statement should outline how your work is connected to a cultural community. You should only use this statement if you feel it is integral to the interpretation of the work.

**Once submitted, you will no longer be able to make changes to your application!**

You will receive an automatic confirmation notification from Submittable once your application has been successfully submitted. If you do not see this confirmation, please contact [fellowships@nyfa.org](mailto:fellowships@nyfa.org).

Application **Deadline**:

**Wednesday, January 23, 2019 at 11:59PM EST**

Applications submitted after the stated deadline will not be accepted and no exceptions will be made. We highly recommend completing your application before the deadline to allow time for work samples to upload and to avoid potential technical problems.

***Thank you for your application!***

Contact us at:  
[fellowships@nyfa.org](mailto:fellowships@nyfa.org)

212-366-6900 x 239  
212-366-6900 x 166

New York Foundation for the Arts  
20 Jay Street, Suite 740  
Brooklyn, NY 11201

[www.nyfa.org](http://www.nyfa.org)