



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

## Playwriting/Screenwriting

### Application Deadline:

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

### Discipline Definition

This category accepts work in the writing of stage plays, screenplays, teleplays, libretti, radio plays, and audio dramas. While librettists should apply in this category, no audio is accepted. Composers of music theater works are advised to apply in the Music/Sound category.

### Application Requirements

Support Materials for Playwriting/Screenwriting applications include:

- **Work Statement** – up to 100 words
- **Excerpt Explanation** – up to 400 words
- **Technical Statement** – up to 200 words (optional)
- **Cultural Statement** – up to 400 words (optional)
- **Work Sample** – Up to 20 pages of manuscript, 12 point font, double spaced and 1 pg title page

### 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.

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

Your supplementary statements will be reviewed alongside your work samples in later rounds.

*Please note, panelists will not look at websites of any kind 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 can submit **up to 20 pages** from a script that best represents their practice. Please also include a **1 page title page** in your pdf in addition to the 20 page manuscript. The title page should include the title of the piece and the date of completion, but not the name of the author. If your work sample includes a combination of excerpts from larger works, you are strongly advised to include substantial portions from each larger work, rather than small fragments.

Do not include publication and/or production information anywhere on your manuscript. Do not include your artistic résumé in your PDF. Scanned excerpts from books or periodicals, in published form, will be ineligible. Manuscripts must be in English, but can be translated into English by someone other than the artist.

**Work Sample Descriptions:** Before you upload the .pdf file to your application, you will need to name your file. **Do not label your work sample with your name.** Instead, label it with the title of your work.

After your work sample has uploaded, you will be able to provide a description including title, date the work was completed, intended medium (i.e. stage, screen, television), and additional information. *Do not include production history.*

**File Format:**

File name: label your manuscript with the title of the work, ex. *Landscape.pdf*

Length: Up to 20 pages, 12 point font and double spaced

Title Page: One page title page with title of the work(s), and year of completion

Language: English

File format: .pdf

**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 overriding themes of the work?
3. How does this work represent the primary concerns and intentions of your artistic practice?

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



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

1. How does your work sample(s) relate to the full work?
2. What information is needed to give context to your work samples?

**Technical Statement (Optional):** A supplemental statement describing the key technical aspects of the work. Use this statement to provide further information as to how your script would be produced in its intended medium (Theatre, Film, Television etc.). Up to 200 words.

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

1. What are your intentions for sound/lighting design?
2. How do you intend for your work to be performed on screen/on stage?

**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.

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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!

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- 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:
  - Your work sample file is a .pdf
  - You have included up to 20 pages, **12 point font, double spaced**
  - You have included a title page with the title of the work and the date of completion
  - Your name is not present anywhere in your descriptions, file names, or title page
  - You have not include any scanned excerpts from books or periodicals in published form
  - Your manuscript is in English
  - Ensure that the work you have selected is your strongest, remembering you don't need to include all 20 pages if your work is represented with fewer
  - **Do not** included a Résumé or CV in your .pdf
- 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 a *Technical Statement (optional)*, check to make sure:



- You describe how your script would be produced in its intended medium
  - If your work should be viewed or interacted with in a certain way, you explain this here
  - If need be, you have itemized each work or group of works to better explain your work samples
- Before you upload an *Excerpt Explanation*, check to make sure:
- You have explained the work samples submitted and contextualized their placement 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.
- 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)

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