



## **NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellowship Program Overview**

Established in 1971 as an independent organization to serve individual artists throughout the state, the mission of New York Foundation for the Arts (NYFA) is to empower emerging artists and arts organizations across all disciplines at critical stages in their creative lives and professional development. NYFA serves individual artists through providing financial and informational assistance across four flagship programs: Fiscal Sponsorship, NYFA Learning, Online Resources, and Awards and Grants.

For over 30 years, in partnership with New York State Council on the Arts, the New York Foundation for the Arts has awarded Artist Fellowships of \$7,000 to individual originating artists living and working in New York State and/or Indian Nations located therein for unrestricted use. The Fellowship award accepts submissions in 15 different disciplines, with 5 disciplines reviewed each year on a rotating three-year cycle. NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellowships are awarded to eligible artists of all career levels regardless of their gender, ethnicity, sexuality, ability/disability, financial standing, or geographic location.

**NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellowships are not project grants.** They are intended to fund an artist's vision as displayed across a single criterion of work.

NYFA is committed to supporting artists from diverse cultural backgrounds at all stages of their professional careers. In 2017, NYSCA/NYFA awarded 92 Fellowships to 95 awardees with 3 collaborations, totaling an amount of \$644,000.

### **Who Can Apply?**

To be eligible for the award, applicants must meet the following requirements:

1. You must be 25 years old or older.
2. You must be a current resident of New York State and/or one of the Indian Nations located in New York State, and have been a resident for at least the last two consecutive years prior to the application deadline (2016 & 2017).
3. At the time of the application deadline you must not be enrolled in a degree-seeking program of any kind.
4. You must not have received a NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellowship in any discipline in the past five years; 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, & 2017, and cannot submit any artwork samples that have been previously awarded a NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellowship.
5. Fellowships are not awarded to interpretative artists such as dancers or actors; applicants must be the originators of the work, i.e. choreographers or playwrights.
6. Artists that have been awarded five NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellowships receive Emeritus Status and are no longer eligible to apply.
7. You must not be a NYFA employee, member of the NYFA Board of Trustees or Artists' Advisory Committee, an immediate family member of any of the above, or an immediate family member of a 2017-2018 panelist.



**Application Deadline: 2017/2018**

**Wednesday, January 24, 2018 at 11:59PM**

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

You will receive an automatic response from Submittable once your application has been successfully received.

**Categories: 2017 / 2018**

- Fiction
- Folk/Traditional Arts
- Interdisciplinary Arts
- Painting
- Video/Film

(Including the Joanne Y. Chen Fellowship for Taiwanese American artists applying in, Folk / Traditional Arts, Interdisciplinary Arts, Painting and Video / Film)

***Joanne Y. Chen Taiwanese American Artist Fellowship***

The Joanne Y. Chen Fellowship is awarded annually to a Taiwanese American artist residing in New York State and/or one of the Indian Nations located in New York State. The winner of this award will receive an unrestricted grant of US \$7,000.

Joanne Y. Chen (1949-2015) was the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Jung-Chieh Kuo and wife of Taiwanese American Art Council President Dr. Lung Fong Chen. Born in Tainan, Taiwan, she was raised and educated in Japan, earning a Bachelor's Degree in History from the Sophia University in Tokyo, and a Master's Degree in Sociology from New York University. Joanne Y. Chen was a supporter of the local community, a paragon of moral integrity, and a role model for Taiwanese Americans.

**How Do I Apply?**

**1. Create a new application online.**

All applications and supporting materials must be uploaded and submitted via the online application at <https://apply.nyfa.org/>. NYFA does not accept physical copies.

Applicants must create an account through NYFA's Submittable page in order to access the application form and to upload their supporting materials. If you already have an account with submittable.com, you may still need to create a new login through NYFA's submittable page using your name and email address in order to apply.



To create an account, enter your details and click *Create Account and Continue*. A verification email will be sent to your email address; check your inbox and click on the link provided in the email to verify your account.

**2. Begin your online application.**

**Select your category or categories.** Applicants may apply in up to two categories per year but can only be awarded in one. Should you receive an award in two categories, you will have to choose which category to be recognized in. Applicants use the same login details to create applications in either category but must submit a separate application for each category. However, applicants may use the same work samples for both applications.

**List any collaborations.** Collaborating artists must apply together with one application. A collaboration is defined as up to three artists who can clearly demonstrate an ongoing collaborative career.

Collaborating artists can apply with an account under a collaborative artist name or with an individually named account providing that, in either case, all collaborators are listed under the *Applicant Information* section of the application form. Collaborator’s names should be separated by a “ / ” in the *Name* field. Should a collaborative application receive an award, the grant will be divided evenly between the collaborating artists. All individual applicants must clearly state their respective roles and must meet eligibility requirements.

Please do not label any work with your name, alternatively label each uploaded work sample with the title of the work along with the order that the images should be viewed. Applicants name’s are not made known to the panel during the first two rounds of the review process. Applications are assigned a number and panelists are directed to review application on the work samples submitted within the application.

**3. Fill out your online application.**

You must fill out your Applicant Information, Work Statement, any additional statements, and upload your work samples. Each application will have varying components depending on the discipline in which an applicant is applying, so please refer to the category guidelines for further assistance in completing your application.

**4. Upload your work samples.**

Work samples are a representation of your artistic work created within the last five years. All work samples are submitted online as part of your application. NYFA accepts a variety of file formats to support your application, although we recommend you upload:

<b>Images</b>	Jpg
<b>Written Documents</b>	PDF
<b>Video / Film Files</b>	mp4 or .mov



### **5. Submit your application.**

When you have finished filling out your information and have completed the work statement, additional statements and uploaded your work samples, simply click on the *Submit* button on the bottom of the application form to submit your application.

**Once submitted, you will no longer be able to make changes to your application, so make sure you have carefully reviewed the guidelines for your discipline and the entirety of your application before submitting. You will receive a confirmation notification once the application has been successfully submitted. If you do not see this confirmation, please contact [Fellowships@nyfa.org](mailto:Fellowships@nyfa.org).**

### **FAQ**

#### **What is a NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellowship?**

NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellowships are awarded in fifteen different disciplines with five disciplines offered each year alternating over a three-year cycle. They are \$7,000 cash awards made to individual originating artists living and working in the state of New York and or Indian Nations located therein for unrestricted use. NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellowships are not project grants but are intended to fund an artist's vision or voice, regardless of the level of his or her artistic development.

#### **How are Fellows selected?**

NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellowships are chosen based on the single criterion of work that demonstrates a compelling vision as defined by the assembled panel's collective opinion. Materials are reviewed and voted on by the panelists in elimination rounds which produce a smaller pool for each round. An artist's advancement is a product of the collective vote of the panel. A single panelist cannot ensure an applicant's success or failure. Panel selections are reviewed by the Artists' Advisory Committee and by NYFA's Board of Trustees. Neither the Committee nor the Board reviews the work of applicants or makes any aesthetic judgments. Panelists' names are kept confidential until the awards are announced.

NYFA is committed to supporting New York State artists of diverse cultural, sexual, and ethnic backgrounds. NYFA does not discriminate based on the gender, ethnicity, sexuality, or ability/disability of artists, and welcomes work whose content reflects the lived experiences of the applicants.

#### **How are applications reviewed?**

All applications are peer-reviewed by a panel of artist's whom are working and active in the field.

Application reviews happen over 3 to 4 rounds, depending on the discipline. In round 1 and 2, panelists only review work sample materials. In round 3 and 4 panelists review work samples



alongside statements.

All time-based and literary applications are pre-reviewed by the panel off-site before assembling at NYFA for the later rounds. All other disciplines are reviewed on-site.

Artist's digital images are viewed one at a time, in the order uploaded by the applicant. Image work samples are projected using a high-quality projector within the review room while simultaneously viewed on panelists' individual laptops. The moderator reads aloud the title, date, materials, and dimensions of the first and sixth image. Panelists have access to view the images and caption information on their laptop screens. Applicant's names are anonymous until the later rounds of peer-panel assessment.

For all categories, all applicant's statements are available for panelists to read as they review the work samples supplied.

### **How are panels assembled?**

Recommendations for potential panelists come from many sources, including: the Artists' Advisory Committee, arts and cultural organizations around New York State and Indian Nations located therein, and suggestions from practicing artists. All potential panelists must be practicing artists and must receive three recommendations from their field. The Artists' Advisory Committee then approves final choices that reflect considerations of genre, age, ethnicity, and geography within New York State and Indian Nations located therein. Panels are held separately with different panelists for each category. Applicants may participate in this process by suggesting themselves or others as future panel candidates on the application. **NOTE: Panelists change each year for each discipline.**

### **When are the NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellowships announced?**

All applicants will be notified of final decisions in late Summer of 2018 through the email applied with. The names of all Fellows, Finalists and the panelists will be listed online at [www.nyfa.org](http://www.nyfa.org).

### **Can I receive feedback about my application?**

Due to the large number of applicants and time constraints, we regret not being able to give one-on-one feedback about application material.

In 2018 we will be supplying general round feedback for each discipline. This feedback will not be specific to individual applications, but will identify general key trends and panel comments about the round.

Each set of discipline guidelines also has a checklist to help guide the applicant on how to avoid common mistake when applying.

### **If I receive an award, what must I do?**

Fellows must first verify their New York State residency or Indian Nation residency within New



York State. Once a recipient has received notification of their award, they are required to submit documentation verifying their residency for the years 2016, 2017 and January 2018. Acceptable documents include tax forms, phone bills, utility bills, bank statements, driver's license, etc. Grants are given in one payment of \$7,000 upon verification of residency. Most recent tax laws state that Fellowships are taxable income; therefore, you should consult your tax advisor.

**What disciplines are offered next year or the following year?**

Disciplines are offered on a 3 year cycle.

**2018:**

Fiction  
Folk/Traditional Arts  
Interdisciplinary Arts  
Painting  
Video/Film

**2019:**

Architecture/Environmental Structures/Design  
Choreography  
Music/Sound  
Photography  
Playwriting/Screenwriting

**2020:**

Crafts/Sculpture  
Digital/Electronic Arts  
Nonfiction Literature  
Poetry  
Printmaking/Drawing/Book Arts

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.



## **Application Requirements**

Applicants must include the following information as part of their submission. Full requirement descriptions can be found in the discipline specific guidelines:

*Fiction* applicants must include:

- **Work Statement** – 100 words (max)
- **Excerpt Explanation** – 400 words (max)
- **Cultural Statement** – 400 words (max) (optional)
- **Work Samples** – 20 page manuscript, double spaced

*Folk/Traditional Art* applicants must include:

- **Work Statement** – 100 words (max)
- **Technical Statement** – 200 words (max) (optional)
- **Cultural Statement** – 700 words (max)
- **Work Samples** – 10 digital images with descriptions and/or 1 to 2 videos and 2 excerpts

*Interdisciplinary Work* applicants must include:

- **Work Statement** – 100 words (max)
- **Excerpt Explanation** – 400 words (max)
- **Technical Statement** – 200 words (max) (optional)
- **Cultural Statement** – 400 words (max) (optional)
- **Work Samples** – 10 digital images with descriptions and/or 1 to 2 videos and 2 excerpts

*Painting* applicants must include:

- **Work Statement** – 100 words (max)
- **Technical Statement** – 200 words (max) (optional)
- **Cultural Statement** – 400 words (max) (optional)
- **Work Samples** – 10 digital images with descriptions

*Video/Film* applicants must include:

- **Work Statement** – 100 words (max)
- **Excerpt Explanation** – 400 words (max)
- **Technical Statement** – 200 words (max) (optional)
- **Cultural Statement** – 400 words (max) (optional)
- **Work Samples** – 1 to 2 videos and 2 excerpts



## **Work Statements and Samples**

### **Statements**

**Work Statement:** A 100-word (max) statement directly related to the work sample submitted. Explain your artistic vision clearly to the panel as it is exemplified in your work samples. Work statements will be available for panelists to read in later rounds as they view your work sample.

**Excerpt Explanation:** A 400 word (max) supplemental statement to further orient the panel to the context, concept, and execution of work sample(s). Statements will be available for panelists as they view your work sample.

**Cultural Statement:** A 400 word (max) (or in Folk/Traditional Arts, 700 word) supplemental statement describing how your work is rooted in a specific technique and/or cultural tradition. It is not a requirement that you submit a cultural statement.

**Technical Statement:** A 200 word (max) supplemental statement (required in Interdisciplinary) describing the relationship of support materials to the work (i.e. is your work sample(s) the work itself or a documentation of the work?), the circumstances in which the viewer/audience should experience the work, and your role in the creation/execution of the piece. Also, please include instructions on how to navigate your work sample if your work is interactive. It is not a requirement that you submit a technical statement.

**Work Sample Inventory/Image Descriptions:** Please provide information regarding your work sample (i.e., title, date, material?). Note that for categories accepting digital images you have the option to provide a specific description about each image, and/or whether it is a detail or installation view. Keep in mind the panel views a large volume of material in quick succession; therefore, it is very important that you document your work clearly.

***Although it is not advised, composite images are accepted as work samples as long as they depict different views of a singular piece. Each application may only have up to 10 individual artworks represented through their image work samples. Images of diptychs, installations, and multi-part works are not considered composites and are permissible.***

**NOTE: *Once you have submitted your application, you will no longer be able to make changes, so be sure you have reviewed everything carefully before submitting.***  
Please print a hard-copy or save a version of your application for your records.

### **Formatting of Work Samples**

#### **Digital Images**

Please upload up to 10 digital images using the following specifications:

**File name:** Label each image with the title of the artwork. Your images will be viewed in the order they are uploaded.



Dimensions: 1,240 pixels x 1,240 pixels (maximum)

Resolution: 72 dpi (low resolution)

File size: No larger than 4.0 MB (each image)

File format: .JPG

Upload your images directly to your application. Do NOT send discs containing image files. Images will be shown in the order they are uploaded, one at a time. Images are viewed on widescreen laptops, and projected at roughly 30" x 40" per image via high-definition digital projectors. Moderators will read aloud the materials, dimensions, and date of the first and fifth image; panelists will have access to this information as well.

You do not need to submit 10 images if you feel your work is represented well with fewer, and submitting fewer will not detract from the review of your application

### **Manuscripts**

Please upload a PDF that includes:

- A title page with title of your work(s), and year of the work's completion.
- Up to 20 pages double-spaced for Fiction which best represents your work within the past five years. If you are excerpting a larger work, you are strongly advised to include substantial portions, 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 not be accepted. Manuscripts must be in English, but can be translated into English by someone other than the artist.

It is not required that you submit a 20 page manuscript if you feel your work is represented well with fewer, and will not detract from the review of your application.

### **Video/Sound**

- If you are submitting **one** work sample video, please submit the full-length piece, and up to two, 2 minute excerpts.
- If you are submitting **two** work sample videos, please submit both full-length pieces, and one 2 minute excerpt from each.