



INVESTING IN ARTISTS

TOOLS & EQUIPMENT

INFORMATION SESSION

JULY 24, 2024

ABOUT

Investing in Artists: Tools & Equipment will award grants of \$1,000–\$5,000 to individual craft artists, craftspeople, and folk and traditional artists to purchase artistic tools, materials, or equipment that support their ability to make object-based work. The program is open to artists in the U.S. and its Territories, with geographic eligibility rotating over the 2024–2026 funding cycle. A total of \$50,000 is available in each round of funding.

Competitive applicants will present a clear request, demonstrate a sustained commitment to their craft, and illustrate how funding will provide linchpin support, such as enabling the artist to meet demand, address safety requirements or other regulations, replace outdated or damaged equipment, or reach a higher standard of quality or craftsmanship. Investing in Artists: Tools & Equipment is supported by the Maxwell/Hanrahan Foundation and administered by the Center for Cultural Innovation (CCI).



ELIGIBILITY

To be **eligible** for funding consideration, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Identify as an [individual working craft artist](#).
- Align with CCI's [definition of craft](#).
- Reside full-time in an eligible region.
 - *For the 2024 round of funding, craftspeople residing full-time in **Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wyoming** or the U.S. Territories of **American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands** are eligible to apply.*
- Presented artistic work in a public context—including online/digital platforms—within the last three years (i.e., since 2021).
- Are 18 years or older at the time of the application deadline.

ELIGIBILITY (cont'd)

The following are **ineligible** for funding consideration:

- Artist collectives, coops, or collaboratives;
- Nonprofit or fiscally sponsored organizations;
- Recipients of the Maxwell/Hanrahan Award in Craft, administered by United States Artists;
- Incomplete applications and those with inaccessible work samples or other required files;
- Full-time or matriculating students;
- Applicants who submit more than one application;
- Requests to support training in or experimentation with a new medium;
- Requests for routine art materials or supplies;
- Requests for fixed costs (e.g., studio rent, equipment/tool insurance and ongoing maintenance, utilities);
- Requests to support capital improvements or repairs, purchases made before the award of the grant, consultant fees, personal compensation, or payment of debts, credit cards, loans, or other financial responsibilities; and
- Applicants who have a conflict of interest (family or financial relationships) with the boards, staff, and directors of CCI or the Maxwell/Hanrahan Foundation.

PROJECTS SUPPORTED

Examples of **eligible** requests:

- Repairs to broken equipment
- New/used tool or equipment purchases
- Installation of equipment
- Materials needed to build equipment
- Tool/equipment storage

REVIEW CRITERIA

Panelists will evaluate applications against the following criteria:

- **Vision:** Proposed project is clear and has a strong rationale. Details are provided about the specific tools/equipment requested, associated costs, timeline, resources needed and their status, and other considerations required to carry out the project.
- **Impact:** Proposed project will offer vital, linchpin support that will impact the artist's career and ability to produce work, enabling them to meet demand, adhere to safety requirements or other regulations, replace outdated or damaged equipment, reach a higher standard of quality or craftsmanship, or realize other professional needs.
- **Artistry:** Applicant demonstrates sustained commitment to their discipline by way of training, record of artistic achievement/cultural relevance, and quality of work.

NARRATIVE

- **Project Description:** Describe the tools/equipment you need, their purpose, timeline for acquisition, resources needed to support this request and their status, and any other details that will help to illustrate your project. (350 words max)
- **Impact:** Explain how the proposed project will provide vital, linchpin support to your career and ability to produce work. (350 words max)
- **Applicant Context:** Provide a brief statement about your artistic practice and the nature of your work. (150 words max)

RÉSUMÉ & BUDGET

RÉSUMÉ

- Brief, **one-page** résumé that summarizes experience and activities in the field.

BUDGET

- Upload a **one-page** version of your project budget.
 - If project's total expenses are projected to exceed the amount requested from Investing in Artists: Tools & Equipment (up to \$5,000), list additional income sources and their status.
- [Sample project budget](#) (next slide)
- Required Budget Notes section

BUDGET

Investing in Artists: Tools & Equipment - Project Budget Template*	
Income	
Item & Status (e.g., prospective, pending, confirmed)	Amount
Investing in Artists: Tools & Equipment Grant, Pending	\$ 5,000.00
ABC Foundation Grant, Pending	\$ 250.00
Earned Revenue, Projected	\$ 1,000.00
Personal Contribution, Confirmed	\$ 155.00
Income Total	\$ 6,405.00
Expenses	
Item	Amount
Evenheat Ceramic Kiln - RM II 2329	\$ 3,128.00
Evenheat Ceramic Kiln - RM II 2329 Customization - Tap Smart Controller, Lid Lifter, Pwer Interrupt Switch, Downdraft Vent System, and Furniture Kit	\$ 1,612.00
Speedball Big Boss Pottery Wheel	\$ 1,280.00
Extra Splash Pan	\$ 110.00
Shipping/Tax (all items)	\$ -
In-home delivery and installation (kiln and wheel)	\$ 275.00
Expense Total	\$ 6,405.00
<i>Net</i>	\$ -

***Applicants must upload a budget; however, they are not required to use the budget template.**



WORK SAMPLES

- The work sample is a critical part of the application and should represent your artistic work in the best possible light.
- **Panelists will spend up to five minutes total viewing work samples.** Generally, it is best to select examples of recent work (2021 or later), arrange/upload samples in the order in which they should be viewed by panelists and, if applicable, share work related to the proposed project.
- A minimum of **five**, and no more than ten, high-resolution images of artwork created since 2021 are required.

WORK SAMPLES (cont'd)

- **Work sample images must be uploaded individually to the Submittable platform or uploaded in a single document.** In either case, the sample must be accompanied by its title, medium, dimensions, and the year created. You may also include up to two sentences of contextual information. Ex., *Vessel. Monterey pine with epoxy resin. 15x25 in. 2020. This piece is part of my exploration into the perception of flaws in nature.*
 - **Images uploaded individually:** jpg and .png files accepted. Note: the field to enter the work sample description (i.e., title, medium, dimensions, year, and contextual information) will appear AFTER each image file is uploaded. It is otherwise not visible.
 - **Images uploaded in a single document:** .doc, .docx, and .pdf files accepted. Each image and its description (i.e., title, medium, dimensions, year, and contextual information) should be displayed on a letter-size (8.5 x 11 inches) page.

TIMELINE

Application Opens	July 10 at 9:00 a.m. PDT
<u>Drop-in Q&As</u>	July 31, 2024, from 12:00–1:00 p.m. PDT August 14, 2024, from 5:00–6:00 p.m. PDT August 21, 2024, from 12:00–1:00 p.m. PDT
Application Deadline	September 4, 2024, at 11:59 a.m. (Morning) PDT
Application Notifications	November 20, 2024, by 5:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time (PST)
Grant Support Period	December 2024 - December 2025

All times Pacific. For help converting to the Pacific Time Zone, see [here](#).



TIPS & TECHNIQUES

- Review all grant ephemera—Guidelines, FAQs, Application Preview, Sample Project Budget, and attend a Drop-in Q&A to receive support from staff in real time.
- Be clear and to the point—avoid responses that are overly technical or dense/abstract.
- Answer the question.
- Have a friend, etc. look over your application to see if any important details were left out or whether anything is unclear.
- Apply early.
- Reach out to CCI staff with questions! We're available at grants@cciarts.org (include IA – Tools & Equipment in the subject line) or call us at 415.713.7650.



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