



Grants for Artists

Work Sample Guidance

Work Sample Submission Requirements

The application will include the following prompt:

Submit two work samples of your original work that reflect your current, sustained practice as an independent artist. Samples may be of completed works created within the past five years or works in progress.*

*For GFA, original work refers to work that reflects the applicant's own creative practice and artistic choices, whether as an artwork or as the interpretation or performance, of existing works, compositions, choreography, or traditional practice. Submitted creative outputs must not be copies or simple reproductions of another artist's work, though they may incorporate existing source material if it is substantially transformed to create something new. Applicants will be asked to certify that all submitted work samples represent their own original creative outputs.

Work Sample Formats

Work samples may be submitted as direct website links or uploaded files.

Direct Website Links

Acceptable links must lead to work samples that are clearly attributed to the applicant and publicly accessible (no login required). Eligible links include:

- An artist website or online portfolio
- An independent artist profile listing (such as the [Baker Artist Portfolios](#) or MSAC's [Presenting and Touring Roster](#) or [Public Art Roster](#))
- For performing artists, direct links to work samples hosted on platforms such as YouTube, SoundCloud, Spotify, or similar

Please note: social media accounts (such as Instagram, Facebook, TikTok) are not accepted as work samples.

File Uploads

Acceptable file formats:

- Image
- Audio
- Video
- PDF or Word Document

Maximum file size: 500 MB per file

If submitting audio or video files, please edit or shorten files as needed to meet the size limit.

To ensure smooth upload and review, please follow these file-naming guidelines:

- Use only letters and numbers (no punctuation, symbols, or special characters)
- Do not use accents or non-Latin characters (e.g., è, Ø, ü, ñ)

Work Sample Selection

Applicants are encouraged to select work samples that best represent their artistic practice. Examples may include:

- Visual documentation: Images of artwork, installations, or exhibitions
- Audio or video recordings: Excerpts from performances, rehearsals, compositions, or other time-based work
- Written materials: Excerpts, scripts, scores, or documentation of literary or dramatic work

Excerpts are acceptable and encouraged for longer works.

Information Required For Each Work Sample

- Work Sample Descriptions (in field provided - up to 40 words)
Briefly describe your role in the work sample provided and how this sample reflects your described artistic practice. For collaborative projects, identify your specific contribution.
- Work Sample Date (in field provided in format of Month/Year)
With each submission, include the date the work was completed or indicate that the work is in progress.

Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Work Samples

Applicants must disclose whether generative AI was used to develop, create, or refine any submitted work samples. A checkbox will be provided with each sample asking if the applicant used AI to develop any of the submitted work samples. If checked, additional fields/questions will appear that the applicant will need to respond to.

If AI was used, applicants must answer the following questions:

- *What AI tool(s) were used in the creation of the work depicted in the sample?*
- *Describe how the AI tools were used in this work and explain the artistic decisions and creative actions you took to shape, alter, or transform that material into the final artwork.*

Samples of work created with the support of AI tools are eligible for consideration when AI supports the artist's vision and creative actions, and the artist retains primary creative control. Work samples entirely generated by AI are not accepted. If the applicant's artistic practice involves AI as a creative tool and AI was used in the submitted work samples, applicants must respond to the additional prompts to help MSAC staff understand the applicant's contributions to the artwork and evaluate eligibility.