



## Artist Development Grant – Sample Applications

### Taking a class, workshop, etc.

**Eligible expenses** (*excerpt from grant guidelines*): Eligible expenses include, but are not limited to: advanced study of technique or practice with a mentor.

**An example of a successful application** has been provided below, with commentary (*italicized in blue*) describing what worked, and how the artist's answers met the grant criteria.

**Project Description:** to support participation in an advanced training Media Art program.

#### Narrative Section:

**Question: Describe your status as an artist and your current goals.**

**Response** (*Artist provides a brief summary of their status as an artist along with relevant details that relate to their request*) I am an interdisciplinary artist, composer and performer. I experiment with technologies and methodologies to construct audiovisual instruments, sensor-based interfaces and computer generative processes. Collaboration, a key element in my work, is employed through partnerships with choreographers, performers, scientists and writers.

My work has been presented internationally at venues such as (names of institutes, galleries, etc.). Awards and residencies include (names provided).

(*Artist's current goals are clear, specific, and tie into the background that they have provided, as well as their funding request*) My goal as an artist includes continuing to experiment, explore and develop creative projects with the integration of contemporary technologies. In the near future (next two years) I plan to create four audiovisual performances based on personal experiences with the seasons in Vermont. These works will utilize video cameras, live drawings, found objects and digital processing via software I am currently developing. To realize these projects I need access to experts in the audiovisual world; specifically developers using the software language Max/MSP Jitter. Thus, I am applying for an Artist Development Grant to support attending an advanced training program at (name and place of institute hosting workshop). The technical skills I will learn from this program are an important step toward achieving my artistic goal of creating innovative and expressive media art projects.

**Question: Describe your proposed activity and how it will advance your craft or business.**

**Response:** I respectfully request funding to help cover costs of an advanced training program at (name and place of institute hosting workshop). The program, and accompanying certificate, includes learning the software (name of software). Mastery of the software is critical for creating interactive graphics,

sound and performances. While I have been using it for a decade, there are new major developments that I am unfamiliar with. These developments include Human Computer Interfaces, Data Visualization, and extended Open GL (rendering 3D vector graphics). These technologies are key to future developments of my custom coded audiovisual instruments used in performances and installations internationally.

*(Artist then provides specific details about how the workshop will address their needs/goals)*

Some specific goals of the instruction include:

- Receive feedback on current instrument to inform future directions of instrument and accompanying performance
- Learn methods of compositing live video (from cameras)
- Learn about Open GL including understanding shaders, jit.gl.pix, etc.
- Learn larger patch organization
- Discover other artists using live video

As part of the program I will receive twenty hours of one-on-one training sessions with senior experts, unlimited time in (name of institute) labs, and access to their assistant teachers for additional instruction. At the end of the program I will present work in a final showing hosted by (name of institute).

*(Artist demonstrates diligence in researching other, possibly closer and less expensive opportunities)* It is important to note that no person or institution in Vermont, or the surrounding region, offers such a training program. Thus, the program at (name of institute) is unique and flexible in that it offers individual expert lessons, as well as, work time in their digital media studios.

*(Artist explains why the workshop is not just desired, but necessary)* Learning this next wave of software is important so that I can continue to grow as an artist and discover new ways of creating with emerging technologies. There have been recent developments in graphics rendering that could take my artistic projects to the next level. However, these changes are beyond my technical knowledge and I need guidance from experts.

**Question: Why is this particular activity important to achieving your goals?**

**Response:** *(Artist sums up what they have addressed in greater detail in their previous two answers)*

Learning from experts of new media technologies at (name of institute) will change my art in many ways. As a media artist, one of the challenges is balancing creative expression with constantly emerging possibilities of new technologies. Rapid developments in technology are transforming many industries and certainly the media art landscape. Because the teachers at (name of institute) are some of the most experienced practitioners of media arts in this country, I am confident they will help me to both realize my current artistic goals, as well as, inspire new visions and directions.

**Key Individual Section:**

- **key individual #1**

(Name of instructor and bio provided)

- **key individual #2**

(Name of primary contact at institute hosting workshop and their job description provided)

**Budget Section:** *(Balanced budget provided: total expenses = total income. Has applied for additional sources of funding)*

**Anticipated Expenses**

Workshop fees - \$2,275

Travel/lodging - \$1,500

Expense Total \$3,775

**Anticipated Income**

Grant request - \$1,000

Applicant cash contribution - \$775

Other contributions - \$2,000

Income Total \$3,775

**Budget Narrative Section:**

**Question:** Explain how you arrived at each of the numbers in your budget.

**Response:**

Anticipated expenses include:

The advanced training program costs \$2,275

I estimate travel and lodging to be around \$1,500 with: travel including a roundtrip flight from (departure location) to (arrival location) around \$500, and lodging at \$1,000 for four nights (needed this timeframe to complete hours of program)

Anticipated income include:

\$1000 proposed for Artist Development Grant

\$2000 secured from (name of granting institution) mini-grant (see letter attached)

\$775 from personal funds

**Question:** The grant will pay for which specific expense(s) in the project budget?

**Response:** The grant will pay for part of the advanced training program at (name of institute hosting workshop) and most of the travel and lodging. *(All costs listed are eligible expenses and travel/lodging is within the United States).*

**Support Materials Section:** *(Artist provides evidence of costs, additional income, workshop description and artistic practice)*

- Artist's resume uploaded
- Copy of award letter for additional funding
- URL for workshop website is listed with description of workshop and costs
- URL for estimates of lodging and airfare costs provided