

The San Diego Foundation recognizes the value that artists contribute to our region's vitality, economy and quality of life. They are essential to the community-driven priorities identified in Our Greater San Diego Vision for how we work, enjoy, live and learn in the San Diego region. With this in mind, we developed Creative Catalyst: Individual Artist Fellowships (Creative Catalyst Program), for local artists to partner with community-based arts and culture organizations to foster new work and refine their craft. Over the course of their Fellowship, Creative Catalysts connect their art to community issues using music, film, theatre, dance and visual arts as well as for civic engagement and social change.

The Creative Catalyst Program (CCP) seeks to advance the professional careers of artists of all disciplines, elevate the profile of the artistic community and encourage creative expression in the region. CCP will enable the creation of new work, which will be artistically innovative in terms of the artist's own practice, and/or discipline. Our long-range goal is for the San Diego region to become a place where creativity and all makers of art can thrive.

The San Diego Foundation invites your participation in the 2016 Creative Catalyst Program, with grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$20,000 to support the creation and development of new work conceived by San Diego-based professional artists and focused on creating opportunities for community engagement through arts and culture. This year's program will be quite competitive as there will only be five grants awarded.

How the Process Works

The application process to the Creative Catalyst Program is as follows:

- San Diego-area artists submit an application to three of the Nonprofit Sponsors listed below in Appendix A, expressing interest in participating in the program. The Nonprofit Sponsors on the list have participated in a competitive application process to participate in this program. Every attempt has been made to ensure a balanced representation of qualified and capable Nonprofit Sponsors.
- The artist's application will provide background information and an overview of the project that the artist would like to complete as part of the Fellowship.
- The Nonprofit Sponsor will receive its pool of artist applications, from which it will select one artist who it would like to sponsor under the Fellowship.
- Once the Nonprofit Sponsor makes its decision, the Nonprofit Sponsor and the selected artist will work together to develop a proposal to be submitted to The Foundation for consideration.
- The written proposals are then reviewed by a panel of volunteers. The finalists and their Nonprofit Sponsors are invited to an in-person interview as the last step in the selection process.
- The review panel then sends its recommendations for funding to The Foundation's Board of Governors for final approval.
- If approved for funding, projects will begin **July 1, 2016 and end June 30, 2017**.

If the project is approved for funding by The Foundation, the Nonprofit Sponsor will serve as the artist's fiscal agent and advisor throughout the life of the grant. Once the Nonprofit Sponsor signs an agreement with The Foundation, a check will be released to the Nonprofit Sponsor to cover expenditures associated with the artist's project.

NOTE: Only artists who have submitted an application and have been selected by a Nonprofit Sponsor listed below are eligible to compete for a Fellowship. The list of Nonprofit Sponsors is final. The Creative Catalyst Program is competitive, which means that not all Nonprofit Sponsors and their selected artists will receive funding.

Selecting the Nonprofit Sponsors

To help determine which nonprofit might be the best sponsor for your project, artists are strongly encouraged to thoroughly research the organizations prior to making selections and submitting proposals. Visiting the organizations' websites or talking to other artists who may have worked with the nonprofits is a good place to start.

As you narrow your research, you may need to communicate with the nonprofit organizations directly to ask specific questions. Because each of the nonprofits is different with varying capacities in terms of administrative support, they have provided specific instructions regarding how they wish to be contacted during this period.

Please respect the wishes of the nonprofits and contact them only as indicated in Appendix A. You may contact Kim Fields at kimf@sdfoundation.org or (619) 235-2300 for guidance.

Application Guidelines

Creative Catalyst Program Goals

- ➔ To acknowledge and make more visible the talents and contributions of outstanding San Diego artists;
- ➔ To create job opportunities for artists and to encourage the advancement of their careers as creative entrepreneurs;
- ➔ To advance *Our Greater San Diego Vision* toward a region where all San Diegans can Work, Enjoy, Live and Learn.

Roles and Responsibilities of the Nonprofit Sponsor

The Creative Catalyst Program would not be possible without the participation of the Nonprofit Sponsor, which provides the following services:

1. Identifies individual artist candidates, reviews and selects one candidate and co-writes and submits a Foundation proposal with the candidate;
2. Attends the interview process with the artist candidate and responds to questions about the merits of the project;
3. Serves as a fiscal agent for the grant funds allocated by The Foundation on behalf of the artist;
4. Supports the artist throughout the Fellowship by providing project planning advice and access to organizational resources and expertise, including but not limited to financial management, space for the development and presentation of the project to the public, marketing assistance, artistic critique, etc;
5. Assists the artist with maintaining accurate records of project activity, including audience and visitor records, publicity, and community feedback;
6. Assists artist with the completion of the mid-year and final report;
7. Attends events and convenings where the artist's work is being showcased.

All of the above functions will be formalized with The Foundation under an agreement.

Roles and Responsibilities of the Artist

In addition to completing the project itself, The Foundation expects that the artists will use the Fellowship to explore ways to grow and deepen their practice as creative entrepreneurs. It is important that the artist takes time to learn the business of art. To that end, the artist will be expected to participate in networking convenings with other Fellows and to attend workshops offered by The Foundation that focus on fundraising, marketing and other skills that will enable the artist to thrive financially. The artist will also be required to maintain accurate records that account for spending and audiences served and to complete a mid-year and final report.

Eligibility Criteria

The Foundation invites applications from “professional” artists who...

1. Are working at all stages of their career development - early, mid-career and established;
2. Have a history of artistic achievement and high quality work given their years of practice;
3. Have a history of imagining and conceiving new and original work that comes to life through their own creativity;
4. Are current residents of San Diego County, have resided in the area for the past two years, and are expected to retain residence through the completion of the Fellowship;
5. Work in one or more artistic discipline of visual, performing, media or literary arts;
6. Are at least 18 years old.

For the purposes of Creative Catalyst Program, “professional” artist is defined as follows:

A **“professional artist”** is anyone who can provide evidence of regular public exhibition, performance or publication of works of art; offers work for sale or public consumption; eligible for or has been awarded a government grant; selected for awards or prizes; has secured work or consultancies on the basis of professional expertise; has had work commissioned or acquired for public or private collections; or, is a member of a professional association on the basis of his/her status as an artist.

Who is not eligible to Submit an Application?

Artists who...

- Perform or reproduce the original work of others, such as actors, dancers, singers, musicians, etc.;
- Are working toward any degree program - arts or non-arts related - at the time of application or planning to work toward a degree during the course of the Fellowship, with the exception of ABD (all but dissertation) status Ph.D. candidates.
- Practice their art primarily as a hobby or avocation;
- Are immediate family members of The Foundation staff or Board of Governors;
- Are immediate family members or staff of the Nonprofit Sponsor if they intend to apply for a Fellowship with said Nonprofit Sponsor.

Application Review & Selection Process

The Foundation requires that each Nonprofit Sponsor ensures that its selection process is fair and open and that each artist is given an equal opportunity to compete. Any attempt on the part of the Nonprofit Sponsor to pre-determine the selection of an artist without giving full consideration of all applicants in the pool is strongly discouraged and may result in the disqualification of the Nonprofit Sponsor from participation in the program.

Application Information

All submissions must be formatted as a word document or PDF File.

Artist Biography – Provide a brief biography that summarizes the highlights of your professional career as an artist. Word limit: 100 words.

Artist Statement – Please provide a statement that explains, justifies and contextualizes your current work as an artist. It will help the reader understand how and why you do what you do, from your own perspective. Word limit: 250 words.

Project Concept – Provide a summary of the project you are envisioning for the Creative Catalyst Program. Limit the project concept to no more than two pages.

1. What is your project and what does the Creative Catalyst Program offer you at this stage of your career?
2. In what ways is this project risk-taking or an innovation for you?
3. In what ways does your project connect to issues people care about? How is it relevant to community life?
4. If it is a work in progress, what phase of the work is proposed for this project?
5. How much money will you need to do the project? If you think your budget will exceed the funds available through this grant, how do you intend to make up the difference?

Work Samples – Please include up to three (3) links to websites where the reader can see samples of your work. **Do not send hard copy work samples to The Foundation or the Nonprofit Sponsor unless requested.**

Nonprofit Sponsor Selections – Select up to three (3) Nonprofit Sponsors that you would like to have sponsor your project.

Artist Resume – Your resume should include standard information about the specific talents, abilities, educational background and professional expertise attained within the last ten years of your artistic career. Include three (3) names of individuals who can serve as references and their email addresses. Limit the resume to no more than two (2) pages.

Submission – Send your application and your full resume in the same email directly to your chosen nonprofit sponsor organizations. (See Appendix A for participating nonprofit sponsor organizations) Include your name and 2016 CCP Application & Resume in the subject heading: (John Doe 2016 CCP Application & Resume).

In a separate email send your full resume with the names of the nonprofit sponsor organizations you selected to creativecatalystgrants@gmail.com. Include your name and 2016 CCP Resume in the subject heading: (Jane Doe 2016 CCP Resume). **Do not submit your application to this email address.**

If you have questions or difficulty with the application process, please contact Community Impact Coordinator Kim Fields at kimf@sdfoundation.org or (619) 235-2300.

Dates to Remember

Friday, December 11, 2015 - Sponsor Organization LOI Due by 4:00pm

PHASE 1: Artists Apply to Nonprofit Sponsors

Friday, January 8, 2016 - Creative Catalyst application released.

Thursday, January 28, 2016 - Artist Application Workshop from 5-6pm in the Hoffman Boardroom of The San Diego Foundation, 2508 Historic Decatur Road, Ste. 100, San Diego, CA 92106 (RSVP to kimf@sdfoundation.org by January 26 to attend)

Friday, February 19, 2016 - Artist application deadline at 5:00 pm.

PHASE 2: Selection Process

Thursday, March 24, 2016 - Nonprofit sponsors complete review and make selections

Friday, April 22, 2016 by 4:00 p.m. - Proposals due from nonprofits & artists

Monday, May 2, 2016 - Review panel receives proposals

May 9 - 12, 2016 - Candidate Interviews and Ranking

Tuesday, May 31, 2016 - Final selections for review and approval by The San Diego Foundation Board of Governors

PHASE 3: Project Implementation

Friday, June 22, 2016 - Nonprofit Sponsor Agreements signed

Wednesday, June 29, 2016 - Convening - Announcement of 2016 Fellows/Grantees

Early July 2016 - Checks released.

Early July 2016 - 2016 Creative Catalyst projects begin.

For background on our previous round of Creative Catalysts [go here](#).

For additional information contact Kim Fields at kimf@sdfoundation.org or (619) 235-2300.

Appendix A

Nonprofit Sponsors and Communication Information

Before contacting Nonprofit Sponsors with your questions, please visit their website and refer to the chart below for communication and submission information.

Nonprofit Sponsor	Project Contact	Application Submission
Casa Familiar casafamiliar.org	Luz Camacho Arts & Culture Officer luzc@casafamiliar.org David Flores Community Development Officer davidf@casafamiliar.org	Luz Camacho Arts & Culture Officer luzc@casafamiliar.org David Flores Community Development Officer davidf@casafamiliar.org
Jean Isaacs San Diego Dance Theater sandiegodancetheater.org	Matt Carney Executive Director matt@sandiegodancetheater.org	Matt Carney Executive Director matt@sandiegodancetheater.org
La Jolla Playhouse lajollaplayhouse.org	Gabe Greene Director of New Play Development ggreene@ljp.org	Gabe Greene Director of New Play Development ggreene@ljp.org
Malashock Dance & Company malashockdance.org	John Malashock Artistic Director johnmala@malashockdance.org	John Malashock Artistic Director johnmala@malashockdance.org
Mojalet Dance Collective mojalet.com	Faith Jensen-Ismay Executive Artistic Director faithis@cox.net	Faith Jensen-Ismay Executive Artistic Director faithis@cox.net
MOXIE Theatre moxietheatre.com	Delicia Turner Sonnenberg Executive Artistic Director artistic@moxietheatre.com	Delicia Turner Sonnenberg Executive Artistic Director artistic@moxietheatre.com
Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego mcsd.org	Kathryn Kanjo Deputy Director of Art and Program kkanjo@mcsd.org	Kathryn Kanjo Deputy Director of Art and Program kkanjo@mcsd.org

Nonprofit Sponsor	Project Contact	Application Submission
Oceanside Museum of Art oma-online.org	Julia Fister Director of Education julia@oma-online.org	Julia Fister Director of Education julia@oma-online.org
Playwrights Project playwrightsproject.org	Cecelia Kouma Executive Director ckouma@playwrightsproject.org	Cecelia Kouma Executive Director ckouma@playwrightsproject.org
San Diego Ballet sandiegoballetedancecompany.org	Javier Velasco Artistic Director artistic@sandiegoballet.org	Javier Velasco Artistic Director artistic@sandiegoballet.org
San Diego Writers, Ink sandiegowriters.org	Kristen Fogle Executive Director programs@sandiegowriters.org	Kristen Fogle Executive Director programs@sandiegowriters.org
The Old Globe Theatre theoldglobe.org	Eric Louie Associate Producer elouie@theoldglobe.org	Eric Louie Associate Producer elouie@theoldglobe.org
Young Audiences of San Diego yasandiego.org	Tara Graviss Executive Director tara@yasandiego.org	Tara Graviss Executive Director tara@yasandiego.org