

# Artists Future Info Session will begin soon

- Please keep your microphone muted through the presentation, unless asked to unmute.
- If the presentation video or audio becomes choppy, turn off your video and that may improve the connection.
- Today's workshop is going to be recorded and shared online for those who were unable to attend the live version.
- You can turn on live automated captioning using the CC button at the bottom of the screen.

# Virtual Meeting Norms

- We prefer that you use the chat for questions as we go along
- We will pause several times for Q & A to cover questions from the chat
- Use “Re-name” to add pronouns to your name if desired

# Artists' Futures Important Details

Virtual Q&A Session: August 29, 2022, 12:00pm

Submission Deadline: October 3, 2022, 11:59pm

Notification Date: February 22, 2023

Financial Support: \$35,000 (unrestricted)

Additional resources: \$2,000 for professional development

# Today's Agenda

- About MRAC
- About Artists' Futures
- How to prepare a submission
- How awardees are selected
- Q&A

# MRAC Staff



Program Directors  
Masami Kawazato  
Jovan Rebollar  
Scott Artley  
Mirella Espino



Executive Director Kathy Mouacheupao  
Director of Administration Becky Franklin  
Panel & Programs Manager Sam Stahlmann

# MRAC's Mission

The Metropolitan Regional Arts Council improves arts access for communities in the seven county metropolitan area through support to artists and organizations.

# Seeding Cultural Treasures Initiative

- Phase 2 of a larger regional initiative made possible by the Ford, Bush, Jerome and McKnight Foundations
- "The Seeding Cultural Treasures program will award grants to grow the future of Black, Indigenous, Latinx, and Asian American artists and cultural organizations in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and the 23 Native Nations that share the same geography. "
- So far, Propel Nonprofits has awarded 32 MN organizations between \$40,000-\$70,000

# Program Development

- Artists' Futures was developed by a diverse group of artists and culture bearers
- 11 advisors engaged with artists across backgrounds, experiences and cultures in several intimate focus groups.
- One-on-one meetings were held to engage key communities
- Nearly 100 individual artist voices informed the development of Artists' Futures



# Goals of Artists' Futures

- Selected artists have the resources they need to take risks, and creatively challenge themselves during the program.
- Selected artists broaden their networks to include relationships and strategies that could provide long-term support.
- MRAC will provide resources that are significant enough to shift the selected artists' presence, practice, and life.
- For MRAC to test new strategies to become a more equitable grant maker.

# Artists' Futures Important Details

Financial Support: \$35,000 (unrestricted)

Unrestricted - money that can be used for any purpose. It may be spent on anything the recipient decides (i.e. rent, groceries, travel, research, art, health care, self-care, debt, etc.).

Additional resources: \$2,000 for professional development (i.e- Continuing education or training opportunities, or services to help develop new skills, or implement new strategies)

# Artists' Futures Important Details

## Participation Requirements:

- Attend a 90min Zoom meet & greet event to meet the cohort of selected artists, network and learn how to access the available resources. A financial advisor/tax professional will join us for a portion of this meeting to talk about tax requirements and answer questions.
- Attend six (6) scheduled networking lunch hour meetings. These events will focus on expanding the network of selected artists by building relationships to other makers, arts professionals and arts organizations. These meetings will be coordinated in partnership with selected artists to best accommodate schedules and meet the needs of the cohort.

Number of Selected Artists: 10

# Artists' Futures Eligibility

- Individual artists and culture bearers of African, Afro-Latinx, Afro-Caribbean, Latinx, Chicanx, Asian/Pacific Islander, and SWANA (South West Asian and North African) descent residing in the 7-county metropolitan area, and artists who are Native American/American Indian/Native Alaskan residing in Minnesota and the 11 Tribal nations that share the same geography are eligible for Artists' Futures.
- Artists must live in the eligible region for at least 1 year prior to the deadline and during the entire contract period (Feb 2023 -Feb 2025).

# Eligibility

- Artists must have an active artistic practice. Meaning artists must have been creating their own artwork during the past 5 years, and must be able to provide work samples that were created between 2017-2022.
- Artists must be available to participate (virtually or in-person) in cohort meetings during the two year cohort period. Note: If you have doubts about your ability to commit to a cohort experience, or are not interested in expanding your artistic community, pursuing professional development opportunities, or sharing knowledge and resources, this program may not be a good fit for you.

# Eligibility

- Selected artists must have an ITIN (Individual Tax Identification Number) or SSN (Social Security Number), as the financial award is taxable income and will be reported on a 1099 form.
- Artists must be at least 18 years of age on the deadline date (October 3, 2022).
- Artists currently enrolled (or with plans to be enrolled before 2025) in a traditional arts degree program to pursue a BFA or similar degree are not eligible.

# Questions/Answers

- **Questions**
  - **MRAC**
- **Artists' Futures Program Development**
  - **Award details**
    - **Eligibility**

# Application Accessibility



- MRAC requests that all applicants apply online unless a disability prevents them from doing so
- Contact us to begin a conversation about how to make sure you have an equal opportunity to apply



# Submission Process

## Two Types of Submission

- Artist Submission
- Artist Advocate Submission

# Be an Advocate for an Artist

MRAC recognizes that individuals often come across opportunities that they would like to recommend people for and we encourage this type of support through our submission process. If you would like to submit an artist's name for consideration, or, if you are an artist and would like someone to submit on your behalf, they may submit as an "Artist Advocate". Advocates do not need to get permission from the artist you are advocating for or notify the artist. Artists will have the opportunity to opt out of consideration if they do not wish to participate. Note: Advocates may only create one submission.

# Prepare a Submission

Tell us about your artwork and creative process in a short letter, video or audio file. Recommended length for the letter is 1-3 paragraphs or 2-5 mins for video and audio files. Please only choose one of the submission types.

# Submission Questions

1. What is your artistic practice? (What do you make/create?)
2. Describe your artistic interests.
3. How long have you been pursuing art and presenting your work?
4. What creative projects are you currently working on?

# Submission Questions (Continued)

5. Share any recently completed projects?
6. Tell us about any upcoming projects you will pursue over the next 2 years?
7. Why do you want to participate in the Artists' Futures program?
8. Is there anything else you would like to share? (optional)

# Work Samples

MRAC requires that artists submit links or upload work samples of their artwork so that we can confirm artists have a current artistic practice. Work samples should be original creations produced between 2017 - 2022.

\*If the work you are including in a work sample is a product of a collaboration, please describe your role in the creative and decision making process.

# Work Samples

- Links to artist's website
- Links to images
- Links to written works
- Links to audio or video
- Links to interviews and/or press
- Links to published work
- Uploads of images, video, audio, and written works

# Other Considerations

If you were a FY2022 Next Step Fund finalist or recipient and you meet the eligibility requirements you do not have to complete a submission. Your name will automatically be placed into consideration. If you do not wish to be considered you will have an opportunity to opt out.



# Questions/Answers

- Submission Type
- Submission Questions
  - Work Samples

# Selection Process

- After the deadline a panel of Readers will review each submission for eligibility. If questions arise or additional clarity is needed, we may reach out to you.
- All submissions that meet the eligibility criteria will be entered into one or more priority eligibility groupings as well as the 'General Artist Pool' and randomly selected.
- One name from each grouping will be selected at random.

# Groupings

- Focus Group Participants - 1
  - Artists Experiencing Unstable Housing - 1
- Nonbinary/Gender nonconforming/Trans Artists- 1
  - Artists with Disabilities/Disabled Artists - 1
    - Emerging Artist - 1
  - General Artist Pool - 5

Final Questions?

# Additional Questions

Please read the guidelines first.

Meeting request form: [mrac.org/grants/artists-futures/](https://mrac.org/grants/artists-futures/)

or

[jovan@mrac.org](mailto:jovan@mrac.org) or 651-523-6381