

2017 James W. Ray Venture Project Awards NOMINEE GUIDELINES



Black Lives Matter
2015 JWR VP recipient Storme Webber
Photo: Naomi Ishisaka



Opposing Forces
2014 JWR VP recipient Amy O'Neal
Photo: Gabriel Biencycki

DEADLINE: August 7, 2017
Applications must be submitted by midnight PST.

About the Award

The James W. Ray Venture Project Awards (JWR VP) are two awards of \$15,000 each given to Washington State artists of any discipline whose work demonstrates exceptional originality. The awards are intended to support artistic excellence and the development of new ideas through individual and collaborative projects. Funding is generously provided by the Rainier Institute & Foundation, and administered by Artist Trust (AT) as a component of the AT/Frye Art Museum (FAM) Consortium. Artistic strength, feasibility, and potential impact of the proposed project, as well as professional capacity and the likelihood that the artists will benefit from support, will be key factors in the selection of recipients.

Eligibility

Artists must be nominated to be eligible for this award. Nominators are selected by AT with input from the FAM. The grant is open to individual generative artists and artist teams working in any creative discipline and residing in Washington State. Artist Trust will confirm applicant eligibility and make the final determination with regards to eligibility. Applications made in the name of collectives, companies, large groups, or organizations will not be accepted.

Nominees must be:

- Nominated by an authorized AT nominator;
- 18 years of age or older;
- A Washington State resident at the time of application and payment;
- Generative artists: those who are the originators of works of art.

Nominees must not be:

- A previous recipient of the award;
- A recipient of more than one AT grant per calendar year;
- A graduate, undergraduate, or matriculated student enrolled in any degree program at the deadline date of August 7, 2017;
- Current AT or FAM staff, Board of Trustees, honorary committee, consultants, contractors, current JWR panelists, or their immediate family;
- Affiliated with the Rainier Institute & Foundation.

AT will make the final determination in regard to eligibility.

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Artist Teams & Collaborations

Individual Artists versus Artist Teams

Applications made in the name of collectives, companies, bands, large groups, organizations, or ensembles will not be accepted. A team of two to five artists *may* apply as a team if they can demonstrate a documented history of creating and presenting work as a team for at least three consecutive years. **Artists applying as a team must contact AT to verify eligibility.** If eligible, one lead person will submit the application. Members of eligible teams may not be recipients of any other AT award within the same calendar year, and individuals from a team cannot apply for AT funding within same calendar year of receiving an award.

Collaborations

Collaborations consist of two or more artists having a vested interest in the completion of a project. Artists applying as a collaboration must contact AT to verify eligibility. Applications must be made in the name of a Lead Artist with collaborators listed as partners. Applicants must submit contact information and résumés for each collaborator. All collaborators must meet the eligibility requirements of this award. Collaborators must not be temporary workers, contractors, or consultants to a project. Collaborating artists may not submit additional applications to this award as individuals, team members, or collaborators on additional applications.

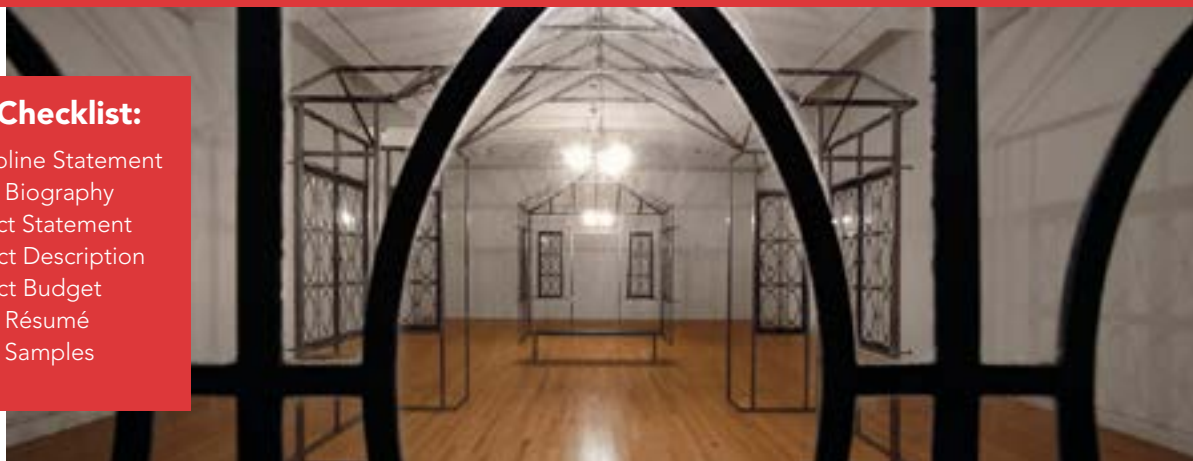


Wat'sa with a Pearl Earring
2015 JWR VP recipient Allison

Submitting an Application

Materials Checklist:

- Discipline Statement
- Artist Biography
- Impact Statement
- Project Description
- Project Budget
- Artist Résumé
- Work Samples



from *Others Who Were Here*
2014 JWR VP recipient Chris Bruch
Photo: Mark Woods

All applications are accepted through *Submittable*.

How to apply:

1. Only nominated artists may apply.
2. Nominees received an email from Artist Trust with a direct link to access the application.
3. If you have questions regarding nominations or have lost the email containing the direct link, reach out to Artist Trust staff:
 - Brian McGuigan, Program Director
brian@artisttrust.org | 206/467-8734 ext. 23
 - Owen David, Program Coordinator: Grants to Artists
owen@artisttrust.org | 206/467-8734 ext. 14

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Application Guide

1. Read the guidelines and instructions carefully.

2. Don't wait until the last minute. Don't wait until the day of the deadline to begin working on your application and don't wait until the last hour to submit it. In the hours leading up to the deadline, the number of applications coming in increases and Submittable slows down. Don't miss out because your files aren't uploading quickly enough!

3. Discipline Statement: Select from one of four discipline options in a drop-down menu and provide one sentence of **50 words or less** that describes your creative practice. For example, "I am a choreographer" or "I write experimental fiction."

LITERARY ARTS: Fiction, Creative Nonfiction, Experimental Works, Poetry, Graphic Novels, Experimental/Emerging Fields.

MEDIA ARTS: Animation, Film, Immersive Audio & Video Works, Screenplays, Teleplays, Video, Web-based Art, Experimental/Emerging Fields.

PERFORMING ARTS: Music, Music Composition, Dance, Costume Design, Set Design, Sound Design, Theater, Playwriting, Spoken Word or Storytelling, Traditional/Folk Performance, Performance Art, Experimental/Emerging Fields.

VISUAL ARTS: Drawing, Illustration, Painting, Photography, Printmaking, Sculpture, Installation, Interactive Installation & Sculpture, Environmental Design, Digital Arts, Traditional/Folk Art, Craft, Experimental/Emerging Fields.

4. Prepare biography. The artist biography is a brief snapshot providing background information that might not be found elsewhere in your application, such as where you were born or grew up, details about your training or work process, career development, etc. Limited to **200 words or less** and must be **written in the third person**.

5. Prepare impact statement. The impact statement addresses what the funding, recognition, and boost from a JWR VP would do for you, your creative practice, and your career. It may also describe how your work impacts or inspires individuals and groups around you (i.e. artistic communities, educational communities, neighborhoods, etc.). This is used by panelists to judge whether and how a JWR VP would make a difference both for you and your larger world. Limited to **200 words or less**.

6. Prepare résumé. The artist résumé includes dates and locations of exhibitions or presentations of work; dates and titles of publications that have included your work; recognition or awards received; bibliography; education; etc. Please limit résumé to **five pages**. Assume that panelists are unfamiliar with you and your past work. Résumé must be a .pdf, .doc, or .docx file.

7. Prepare project description. The project description gives panelists a sense of who you are, what you are doing, how you would use this funding, and how a JWR VP award would impact your career. A compelling project description conveys why your project is meaningful, makes an argument for why completing your project is critically important at this particular point in time, and outlines how you are allocating JWR VP funding. Limited to **400 words or less**. Proposed projects are to occur after JWR funds are awarded AND within a year of the award. Projects with dates outside of this timeframe will not be considered.

8. Prepare your project budget. The project budget is used to judge the feasibility of completing your project. Use the project budget to illustrate overall estimated project costs and additional funding sources (if applicable). Your project need not be funded solely by JWR VP support. Access the JWR VP budget form and example budgets as a Google Sheet at goo.gl/WxINfs - you may duplicate the form to your own Google Drive or download to Microsoft Excel to complete. Name with your last name (example: "Djabate 2017 JWR VP Budget") and upload as a .pdf to your submission. Applications with incomplete or unbalanced budgets will not be accepted. Contact AT if you have any questions about the budget.

9. Prepare your work sample(s). Artistic excellence is the foremost criterion that panelists use during the selection process. Much of the decision is based on your work samples, which should be the strongest possible representation of your work. A strong work sample foregrounds craft, demonstrates focus, and supports the vision or thematic concern(s) in the project description.

10. Use Artist Trust as a resource. Give us a call to discuss your application; visit our offices to view sample successful grant applications; register for one of our free Webinars; bring questions to our free grantwriting support program, Office Hours.

- **Office Hours:** June 21 and July 31, 2017. Free at the Artist Trust office or by phone.

- **Webinar:** June 28, 2017. Free online.

Applications submitted by July 10, 2017 are eligible for preliminary review and feedback from AT staff, by request. Complete your application in Submittable and check the box for preliminary review. AT staff will review your submission, provide comments, and return editing permissions for you to make changes and resubmit before the final deadline.

11. Have a peer or colleague review the support materials before submission.

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Work Sample Guidelines

Submit materials online:

- Applicants may submit up to a **total of 20 files across all file formats** (choose between audio, images, video, and/or a manuscript).
- Music and Music Composition: No scores please.

File format details:

AUDIO

- Maximum of 10 minutes total for all audio work samples combined.
- Begin each sample where you want the panel to begin.
- Choose a selection that will make the panel want to see/hear more (avoid long intros, etc.).
- Do not submit work samples designed for promotional purposes (such as a performance reel).
- Submit an individual file for each distinct work (for 3 pieces, have 3 individual files and not one file with 3 work samples edited together).
- Format: .aiff, .mp3, .wav.

IMAGES

- Maximum of 20 images.
- Recommended no smaller than 1920 pixels on the longest side.
- Recommended 72 ppi/dpi (standard web resolution).
- Submit one piece per file (do not collage several angles or multiple pieces within one image).
- Backdrops should be neutral (white, black, or gray), with each piece well lit and focused.
- The images should constitute a cohesive body of work.
- Format: .gif, .jpeg, .tiff.

MANUSCRIPT

- One manuscript with a maximum of 15 pages. All manuscripts must be double-spaced with a 12-point font size or larger (except poetry or experimental works).
- One additional synopsis page is allowed to provide background information about your manuscript selection(s). Include it as the first page of your overall work sample (one synopsis page + maximum 15 manuscript pages). If the work sample consists of multiple excerpts, please use the single synopsis page to give information for all of them.
- A synopsis page typically includes details such as original or anticipated publication dates, whether the selections are from a larger series, additional description, etc.
- Format: .doc, .docx, .pdf.

VIDEO

- Maximum of 10 minutes total for all video work samples combined.
- Do not submit work samples designed for promotional purposes (such as a filmography or choreography reel).
- Submit an individual file for each distinct work (for 3 pieces, have 3 individual files and not one file with 3 work samples

edited together).

- Begin each sample where you want the panel to begin.
- Choose a selection that will make the panel want to see/hear more (avoid long intros, etc.).
- Resolutions: recommended minimum 640 x 480, maximum 1920 x 1080.
- Aspect Ratio: 4:3 or 16:9.
- Bit Rate: recommended above 240 kbps.
- Frame Rate: recommended minimum 12 fps, maximum 30 fps.
- Format: .avi, .m4v, .mov, .mpg, .wmv.

WORK SAMPLE DESCRIPTIONS (audio, images, video)

- Work sample descriptions should include: title, materials, dimensions or time, and the year work was completed. Also, use the description to clarify your role (cinematographer, lighting designer, "I'm the second to the left," etc.). Enter this information as metadata for each media file in Submittable.

WORK SAMPLE ORDERING

- Submittable will automatically order your files alphanumerically by file name. For example, files with the following names would be ordered [01, 13, 2, 3Beta, Alpha] *and not* [01, 2, 13, 12, Alpha, 3Beta]. Name your files according to the order that you would like them appear.



FIN (The End of the Line)
2016 JWR VP recipient Juventino Aranda
Photo: Tara Graves

2016 JWR VP recipient Juventino Aranda
Photo: Courtesy of artist



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Selection Process

Selection Process and Criteria

A single multidisciplinary panel will review all eligible applications and advances them based on:

- Artistic strength;
- Feasibility of the project;
- Impact of the award on advancing the artist's work.

Proposed projects are to occur after JWR funds are awarded AND within a year of the award. Projects with dates outside of this timeframe will not be considered.

After an initial online adjudication, panelists move on to a live panel at the AT office discussing and recommending recipients. Selections are presented to the AT Board of Trustees for final approval.

Equity

Ensuring artists of all backgrounds and identities are included in our cultural narrative is central to having an accurate and fair depiction of our society. Artist Trust exists to bolster the work of all artists throughout Washington State. We do this by providing funding, business practice trainings, and other resources to artists of all disciplines regardless of their socioeconomic status, race, ethnicity, nationality, geography, language, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, religion, mental and physical status, or age.

Artist Trust recognizes and is committed to addressing historical and ongoing disparities in access to institutional funding, recognition, business practices, and job opportunities. In an effort to create equitable outcomes for all, we especially invite artists of African diasporic, Latinx, Asian, Arab, and Native American identities to apply for our grants, participate in programs, and engage us as partners in building competitive applications, navigating their careers, and making lives as professional artists. We encourage panelists to review all applications through a lens of equity.

Panelists and Nominators

Panelists and nominators are selected from a variety of disciplines, ages, genders, geographies (within and outside Washington State), ethnicities, and stages in their careers. Panelist and nominator names are released at the end of the confidential review process when award recipients are announced.

Announcement and Payment

Awards will be announced and disbursed in **December 2017**.

Ownership

Works created with award funding belong to the artist. AT keeps the recipients' application and submitted work samples for promotional and archival purposes as well as in educational materials such as sample applications.

Liability

AT is not responsible for loss or damage of the submitted application or support materials due to technological failure or unforeseen circumstances.

Questions?

Contact Artist Trust:

- with questions about application requirements, guidelines, eligibility, etc.;
- if you need to access or edit a submitted application (if it is still prior August 7, 2017).

ARTIST TRUST:

Brian McGuigan, Program Director
brian@artisttrust.org | 206/467-8734 x23

Owen David, Program Coordinator
owen@artisttrust.org | 206/467-8734 x14

Katy Hannigan, Artist Liaison
katy@artisttrust.org | 206/467-8734 x25

Monday–Friday: 9:30am–5:00pm PST

Contact Submittable with:

- website access issues;
- questions about uploading or formatting images;
- other technical support needs.

<http://help.submittable.com/>

Artist Trust is a not-for-profit organization whose sole mission is to support and encourage individual artists working in all disciplines in order to enrich community life throughout Washington State.

We have invested over \$10 million in Washington State artists since our founding in 1986.

Visit www.artisttrust.org to learn more.

For updates, sign up for our newsletter at <http://artisttrust.org/index.php/newsletter>, visit our events page at <http://artisttrust.org/index.php/events>, and follow us on social media at <https://www.facebook.com/ArtistTrust> or <https://twitter.com/artisttrust>.

2016 JWR VP recipient Quenton Baker
Photo: Courtesy of artist



**AWARD
ANNOUNCEMENT:
December 2017**

DEADLINE: August 7, 2017 at midnight PST.