

2017 Arts Innovator Award

Funded by the Dale & Leslie Chihuly Foundation

artist|TRUST

SUPPORTING ART AT ITS SOURCE



2016 AIA recipient Elissa Washuta.
Photo: Andrew J. S.



Now I'm Fine
2016 AIA recipient Ahafele Oluo.
Photo: Joseph Lambert.

DEADLINE: November 14, 2016

Online applications must be submitted by midnight

The Arts Innovator Award

The Artist Trust (AT) Arts Innovator Award (AIA) recognizes artists who demonstrate innovation in their art practice. This unrestricted award of \$25,000 is given annually to two Washington State artists of any discipline who are originating new work, experimenting with new ideas, taking risks, and pushing the boundaries of their respective fields.

Funding for the award is generously donated by the Dale and Leslie Chihuly Foundation. Dale recalls receiving grants that supported experimentation early in his career, adding credibility, opening doors, and enabling new connections for him as an artist. Today Dale remembers the importance of this support, and he and Leslie would like to help artists in a similar way.

Who is Eligible

The grant is open to individual artists and artist teams with a history of working together as a unit, 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.

Applicants must be:

- 18 years of age or older by application deadline;
- Washington State residents at the time of both application and payment (payment will be made February 2017);
- Generative artists (those who are the originators of works of art) with a minimum of five years in professional art practice; and
- Available for finalist interviews on January 19, 2017. Applicants who will not be interviewed as finalists will be notified on January 16, 2017.

Applicants may not be:

- Recipients of more than one AT grant per calendar year;
- Previous recipients of the James W. Ray Distinguished Artist Award or Arts Innovator Award;
- Current graduate or undergraduate matriculated students at the time of both application and payment (payment will be made February 2017);
- Current AT staff, Board of Trustees, honorary committee, consultants, contractors, AIA panelists, or their family.
- Affiliated with Chihuly Studio, Dale and Leslie Chihuly Foundation, Portland Press, or family of Dale or Leslie Chihuly.

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. It has invested over \$10 million in Washington State artists since its founding in 1986. Visit www.artisttrust.org to learn more.

Apply at <https://artisttrust.submittable.com/submit> - DEADLINE: November 14, 2016 at midnight PST.

Application Process

Support Materials

Support materials are required as part of the application and serve to introduce you and your work to the panel. Only materials requested and submitted online will be reviewed. All samples should be clear, legible, and/or audible. Do not send magazine articles, reviews, catalogs, etc.

Materials to submit:

- ❑ Artist Biography: 150 words;
- ❑ Impact Statement: 150 words;
- ❑ Artist résumé: 8-page limit;
- ❑ Artist Essay: 350 word limit;
- ❑ Letter of Recommendation; and
- ❑ Work samples: See detailed work sample guidelines on page 4.

Individual Artist versus Artist Team

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.** 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 the same calendar year of receiving an award.

HOW TO APPLY

Find the 2017 Arts Innovator Award application online at Submittable: <https://artisttrust.submittable.com/submit> (application live by 12:00pm on September 26, 2016)



2014 AIA recipient Clyde Petersen.
Photo: Courtesy of the artist.

2011 AIA recipient Pat Graney (center).
Photo: Haley Young.

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Tips & Hints

- 1. Read the guidelines and instructions carefully.**
- 2. Prepare biography.** The artist biography is a brief snapshot providing background information that might not be found elsewhere in the application, such as where the applicant was born or grew up, details about their training or work process, career development, etc. The biography is limited to **150 words or less** and must be **written in the third person**.
- 3. Prepare impact statement.** The impact statement addresses what the funding, recognition, and boost from an AIA would do for the artist, their career, and creative practice. This used by panelists to judge whether and how an AIA would make a difference for each applicant. The impact statement is limited to **150 words or less**.
- 4. 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. Assume that panelists are unfamiliar with you and your past work or accomplishments. Please limit résumé to **eight pages**. Name with your last name (example: "Naha 2016 AIA Resume") and upload as a .pdf, .doc, or .docx to your Submittable application.
- 5. Prepare artist essay.** This award recognizes artists who demonstrate innovation in their art practice. In a statement of **350 words or less**, describe how your work is innovative. Consider how your work is developed, experiments with new ideas, takes risks, and/or pushes the boundaries of your respective form.
- 6. Solicit a letter of recommendation.** A Letter of Recommendation is required for this award. Select someone who is familiar with your recent work and overall career. Ask the recommender to describe how your work is innovative and why they think you should receive the award. The recommendation should be **500 words or less**, uploaded as a .pdf, .doc, or .docx to your Submittable application.
- 7. Prepare your work sample(s).** Artistic excellence and demonstrated innovation are the foremost criteria that panelists use during the selection process. Much of the decision is based on the work sample(s), which should be the strongest possible representation of your work. A strong work sample is legible and/or features high quality images/video/audio, foregrounds craft, demonstrates focus, and supports creative vision or thematic concerns raised in the artist essay. Multiple sample formats are allowed but only one is required; see page 4 for details.
- 8. 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 (dates below, details TBA).
 - Office Hours:**
 - September 16 in Sequim
 - October 24 in Seattle
 - November 9 in Seattle
 - November 12 in Spokane
 - AIA Webinar:** October 6, free online.

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>.

Applications submitted by October 17, 2016 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 to give you the chance to make changes and resubmit before the final deadline.

- 9. Have a peer or colleague review the support materials before submission.**

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Work Sample Guidelines

Submit materials online:

- Multiple file formats are allowed but only one is required.
- 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 20 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 20 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.



2013 AIA recipient John Grade.
Photo: Ron Blunt.



2011 AIA recipient Eyvind Kang.
Photo: Daniel Sheehan.

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Selection Process

Selection Criteria & Process

Applications are reviewed by one panel consisting of five individuals working in and around each disciplinary category of literary, media, performing, and visual arts. Panelists review all eligible applications and advance finalists based on:

- advancement of the artist's practice as evidenced by their body of work;
- panelists' subjective judgment of creative excellence and demonstrated innovation as presented in the work submitted in the supporting materials; and
- the professional background of the artist.

After the initial online adjudication, panelists participate in a live panel at the AT office discussing and recommending recipients. Recommendations 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

The AIA selection panel is multidisciplinary and consists of five panelists: four representing each disciplinary of the categories of literary, media, performing, and visual arts, plus one multidisciplinary panelist. Panelists are selected from a variety of creative disciplines, ages, genders, geographies (within and outside Washington State), ethnicities, and stages in their careers. Panelists' names are released at the end of the confidential review process when award recipients are announced.

Live panels are open to the public; space is limited to two observers per panel and visitors may not observe a panel in which they have an application under consideration. Contact AT for availability.

Misc.

Announcement and Payment

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

Ownership

Works created with AIA funding belong to the artist. AT keeps the recipients' applications 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 to the deadline of November 14, 2016).

ARTIST TRUST:

Owen David // Program Coordinator: Grants to Artists
owen@artisttrust.org :: 206/467-8734 x14

and

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/>



2014 AIA recipient Rodrigo Valenzuela.
Photo: Max Cleary.

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