NYC Women’s Fund for Media, Music and Theatre Frequently Asked Questions:

GENERAL FAQs:

Q: I am planning to finish my project before March 31st, 2021. Can I still apply?
A: Yes. We understand that projects are at different stages of post production and may finish before March 31st, 2021. Please be aware that applicants will be notified of application outcome by February 2020 and funds cannot be applied retroactively. All projects need to be completed by March 31st, 2021.

Q: Do I need a Fiscal Sponsor to apply?
A: No. Applicants do not need to have a Fiscal Sponsor for their project. If you project already has a Fiscal Sponsor and you wish to include this organization in the funding process, you can.

Q: When will I be notified about the outcome of my application?
A: All applicants will be notified about the outcome of their application via email March 2020.

Q: I am working on more than one project, can I apply in multiple categories?
A: No. Applicants can apply in only apply in one category with one project.

Q: Can artists apply as a team for the project?
A: We understand that there are times when artists work together on projects and that can be explained in the project narrative, but there should be only one lead applicant for the proposal.

FILM-SPECIFIC FAQs:

Q: Can I provide Work Samples that are not from the project from which I am seeking support?
A: No. You should have begun principal photography when you apply and all Work Samples must be from the project you plan to use the NYC Women’s Fund to complete. We understand that this may be unfinished footage.

Q: Do my Work Samples need to be one continuous length of footage?
A: No. Work Samples don’t have to be one continuous sequence, but can be made of several shorter scenes. Each Work Sample should clearly communicate important moments and be representative of the scope and overall arc of the project. If you have multiple scenes, we suggest having a black screen or some other way to indicate that a new scene is starting.

Q: Do I need to supply both a link to my longer format Work Samples and also upload the files to the application form?
A: No. Please only choose one format, either upload your long format Work Samples directly to your application form, OR supply a link (included access information) in the available field(s) in
the application form. As noted, recipients will be notified about the award in March 2020, if your Work Sample is password protected, please do not change the password before then.

Q: May I provide a link for my short Work Sample?
A: No. We ask that short work samples be uploaded directly into the application.

Q: How do I supply further information to the panel about my Work Sample?
A: You have the option of including notes and comments about your Work Samples in the metadata field. Once you have selected and uploaded your file, an additional, metadata field, will appear in the application form. Please include additional information about the Work Samples here.

Q: I am working on a webseries and have completed some episodes, and am seeking funding to make additional episodes, can I provide work samples from the existing episodes?
A: Yes, since it is an ongoing project, you can, but you must explain in the synopsis the direction for the new episodes and how they will build on or differ from those submitted.

Q: Can I apply for distribution and festival fees?
A: Yes, but no more than 20% of the grant may be used for these expenses.

Q: What are the specific shooting and budget criteria?
A: Either 75% of its total shooting days take place in New York City, or (ii) 75% of its production costs are “qualified production costs”. “Qualified production costs” means the below-the-line production costs only to the extent such costs are incurred directly in New York City and are attributable to the use of tangible property or the performance of services within New York City directly and predominantly in the production (including pre-production and post-production) of a qualified film.

Q: I am making a documentary - does it need to be about New York to qualify?
A: No, the project can be about any subject, set anywhere, but it needs to be the budgetary restrictions outlined above.

Q: Are there specific stipulations regarding acknowledging the grant?
A: Yes.

Closing Credits should include the following: “With support from: The NYC Women’s Fund for Media, Music and Theatre by the City of New York Mayor’s Office of Media and Entertainment in association with The New York Foundation for the Arts”.

Social Media: Within the 2-week period following the grant award and the 2-week period following the release of the project, grantees must post a minimum of five (5) social media posts acknowledging the support from The NYC Women’s Fund for Media, Music and Theatre by the City of New York Mayor’s Office of Media and Entertainment in association with The New York
MUSIC-SPECIFIC FAQs:

Q: What are some examples of projects which might be funded?
A: Below are some examples, but these are only examples; if you have a specific question, please email NYCWomensFund@nyfa.org.

- An album produced by a female or female-identified producer and/or engineer;
- A classical music album written by a living female or female-identified composer;
- An album by a female or female-identified singer/songwriter;
- A jazz album featuring a woman in a prominent musical role, such as vocals, guitar, or drums;
- A hip hop album by a male-female performing duo; or
- Any other type of recording that meets the objectives of the grant.

Q: What expenses are eligible?
A: Among the expenses which can be covered are:

- Studio rental fees and related costs.
- Instrument and equipment rental fees.
- Production session fees for musicians, songwriters, composers, arrangers, music producers, programmers, engineers, and/or 3 technicians.
- Mixing and mastering services of qualifying music productions.
- Production of a music video.
- Marketing, promotion and distribution of the recording (no more than 20% of the total grant award).

Q: What musical genres are eligible?
A: The grant funds projects in any musical genre, including, but not limited to: Alternative; Americana; Blues; Classical; Country; Dance; Electronic; Experimental; Folk; Gospel; Hip Hop; Jazz; Latin; New Music; Opera; Pop; Rap; R&B; Rock; and Soul.

Q: Can I apply for distribution, marketing and other promotional costs?
A: Yes, but no more than 20% of the grant may be used for these expenses.

Q: How do I supply further information to the panel about my Work Sample?
A: You have the option of including notes and comments about your Work Samples in the metadata field. Once you have selected and uploaded your file, an additional, metadata field, will appear in the application form. Please include additional information about the Work Samples here.

Q: Are there specific stipulations regarding acknowledging the grant?
Digital Distribution: For all projects distributed digitally, grantees will be required to post in their artist biography on all digital distribution sites from time of award until a minimum of a year after the release of the project, as well as in liner notes and credits on an appropriate page of their web sites that acknowledge grant funding as follows: “With support from: The NYC Women’s Fund for Media, Music and Theatre by the City of New York Mayor’s Office of Media and Entertainment in association with The New York Foundation for the Arts”.

Physical Distribution: For all projects distributed in physical form, grantees will be required to include the following phrase in the project’s liner notes: “With support from: The NYC Women’s Fund for Media, Music and Theatre by the City of New York Mayor’s Office of Media and Entertainment in association with The New York Foundation for the Arts”.

Social Media: Within the 2-week period following the grant award and the 2-week period following the release of the project, grantees must post a minimum of five (5) social media posts acknowledging the support from The NYC Women’s Fund for Media, Music and Theatre by the City of New York Mayor’s Office of Media and Entertainment in association with The New York Foundation for the Arts. Please note, this is a minimum of five (5) across various channels, not per channel.

Theatre-Specific FAQs:

Q: Who can apply in the “Theatre Project” category?
A: Applicants can be:
   - A playwright with a completed script looking to self-produce;
   - An independent producer;
   - A theatre company;
   - Any other entity, either commercial or non-profit, committed to producing the work by March 31, 2021.

Q: Is an opera project eligible in the Theatre category?
A: Yes, but this cannot be a recital or concert version, all productions need to be fully-staged by March 31st, 2020 and have a minimum of five performances.

Q: We make devised, company-created work, can we apply if the work has yet to be created?
A: Yes. You can submit a work sample from the last created work and give a detailed description of your prompts, research, work methods or other materials which will give the panel of clear sense of the upcoming project.

Q: Are there specific stipulations regarding acknowledging the grant?
A: Yes.
Programs (whether physical, digital or both) should include the following: “With support from: The NYC Women’s Fund for Media, Music and Theatre by the City of New York Mayor’s Office of Media and Entertainment in association with The New York Foundation for the Arts”.

Social Media: Within the 2-week period following the grant award and the 2-week period following the release of the project, grantees must post a minimum of five (5) social media posts acknowledging the support from The NYC Women’s Fund for Media, Music and Theatre by the City of New York Mayor’s Office of Media and Entertainment in association with The New York Foundation for the Arts. Please note, this is a minimum of five (5) across various channels, not per channel.