

## 2025 NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellowship Application Tips

Before you begin, be sure to read the Application Guidelines and Discipline Specific Guidelines thoroughly! [You can view this year's guidelines here.](#)

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### Eligibility Checklist

**Ensure you and any of your collaborators meet all Eligibility requirements:**

- You are at least 25 years or older by the application deadline.
- You are a current resident of New York State and/or one of the Tribal Nations located therein.
- You have maintained New York State residency, and/or residency in one of the Tribal Nations located therein for the past two consecutive years: all of 2023 & 2024.
- You have not received a NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellowship in the last five years, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024.
- If you are a past NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellow, none of the work samples you have submitted have previously been awarded for a NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellowship
- You are not currently enrolled in a degree-seeking program of any kind.
- You are the originator of the artwork submitted.
- If you are applying as a collaboration (up to 3 artists working together on a regular basis) all names are listed in your application form.

- If you have applied in more than 1 category (applicants can apply in up to 2 categories each cycle), you have indicated this in your application form.
  - You are not a NYFA employee, a member of the NYFA Board of Trustees or Artists' Advisory Committee, an immediate family member of any of the above, or an immediate family member of a 2024/2025 panelist.
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## Work Sample Checklist

### Before providing any Work Samples, keep the following in mind:

- Your name is not present anywhere in your descriptions or file names as the first round of review is an anonymous round
- Your files are uploaded in the order you want them to be reviewed
- You've added descriptions to your work samples where necessary in your application

### **Visual Arts Work Samples**

*Disciplines: Architecture/Environmental Structures/Design, Craft/Sculpture, Interdisciplinary Work, Painting, Photography, Printmaking/Drawing/Book Arts*

### Before you upload your VISUAL ARTS Work Samples ensure that:

- Image files are .jpg
- Your images are not pixelated, and they are in focus
- All of your work sample files are less than 4MB
- Any detail images are clearly labeled as "detail" in the title of the image

### **Literary Work Samples**

*Disciplines: Fiction, Nonfiction Literature, Playwriting/Screenwriting, Poetry*

### Before you upload your LITERARY Work Samples, ensure that:

- Your work sample file is a .pdf
- You have included up to 20 pages, 12 point font, double spaced (poetry submission can be spaced at the artist's discretion)
- You have included one title page with the title of the work and the date of completion
- You have not included any scanned excerpts from books or periodicals in published form

- Your manuscript is in English
- Ensure that the work you have selected is your strongest, remembering you don't need to include all 20 pages if your work is represented with fewer
- Do not** include a Résumé or CV in your .pdf

### **Media Work Samples**

*Disciplines: Choreography, Digital/Electronic Arts, Folk/Traditional Arts, Interdisciplinary Work, Music/Sound, Video/Film*

#### **Before you upload your MEDIA Work Samples, ensure that:**

- Image files are .jpg, Video files are .mp4, and/or Audio files are .mp3/.m4a/.wav/.aiff
- Video links and passwords (if applicable) should remain accessible until Summer 2025
- Your images are not pixelated, and they are in focus
- All of your images work sample files are less than 4MB & Videos and/or Audio are less than 2GB
- Any detail images are clearly labeled as "detail" in the title of the image

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## **Support Statement Checklist**

### **When providing your SUPPORT STATEMENTS (*Artist Statement, Synopsis, Character Sheet, etc.*), review your application to ensure:**

- Your artist statement is concise, referencing only the work in your application
- You use simple clear language, with concrete descriptions
- You avoid quoting or referencing other artists by name
- You do not use speculative language such as "I am trying to, or I seek to..." but rather, "I am."
- You describe how your work would be produced in its intended medium
- You explain whether your work should be viewed or interacted with in a certain way.
- If your work uses specialty equipment, explain why and how it was used
- If need be, you have itemized each work or group of works to better explain your work samples

- You have explained the work samples submitted and contextualized their placement within your larger work
  - Your synopsis does not repeat your artist statement
  - If you submit a Cultural Statement:** This statement should outline how your work is connected to a cultural community. You should only use this statement if you feel it is integral to the interpretation of the work.
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## Top Reads Before Submitting Your Application

### [How to Write a Strong Application](#)

Submitting an application for a NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellowship for the first time can be challenging. Read this post for tips that will make your application process smoother.

### [The Artist Statement: 5 Do's and Dont's](#)

An Artist Statement is unique to every artist. Read this post for tips on what to consider or avoid when crafting your Artist Statement.