THE McKNIGHT FOUNDATION

Fact Sheet: McKnight Artist Fellowships Program

McKNIGHT ARTIST FELLOWSHIPS

About the Foundation

Founded in 1953 by William and Maude McKnight, the Minnesota-based family foundation had assets of approximately $2.2 billion and granted about $88 million in 2014. Program interests include regional economic and community development, Minnesota's arts and artists, early literacy, youth development, Midwest climate and energy, Mississippi River water quality, neuroscience research, international crop research, and rural livelihoods.

Mission

The McKnight Foundation, a Minnesota-based family foundation, seeks to improve the quality of life for present and future generations. We use all our resources to attend, unite, and empower those we serve.

Contact

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Artists are essential to a healthy and vibrant community. Minnesota's artists are innovators, organizers, and leaders — as critical to our state's quality of life as other professionals working in business, health, technology, government, education, and other sectors. They are the primary drivers of our heralded arts and cultural community, and live and work in every corner of the state. Minnesota thrives when its artists thrive.

The arts cannot flourish or enhance community life without the ideas, energy, and drive of individual artists, and artists cannot make these contributions without unfettered creative time. A fellowship can help an artist set aside periods of time for study, reflection, experimentation, and exploration; take advantage of an opportunity; or work on a new project.

The McKnight Artist Fellowships Program is a key strategy in our support for working artists in Minnesota. McKnight partners with eight discipline-specific arts organizations to administer 38 fellowships of $25,000 each per year to selected Minnesota artists. Artist fellows may also participate in residencies, retreats, exhibitions/performances, and other professional development opportunities through the McKnight Artist Fellowships Program.

Since the program's inception in 1982, McKnight has funded more than 1,500 artist fellowships. Currently, McKnight gives nearly $2 million per year via its fellowships program.

How to apply

Artists interested in applying to the McKnight Artist Fellowships Program should contact one of the organizations indicated on the right for guidelines, application deadlines, and further information. For general questions about the McKnight Artist Fellowships Program, contact arts program officer Arleta Little at The McKnight Foundation.

Ceramic Artists
Northern Clay Center
612-339-8007
www.northernclaycenter.org

Choreographers
The Cowles Center
612-206-3645
www.mcknightdancechoreo.org

Composers
American Composers Forum
651-228-1407
www.composersforum.org

Dancers
The Cowles Center
612-206-3645
www.mcknightdancechoreo.org

Media Artists
IFP Minnesota
651-644-1912
www.ifpmn.org

Musicians
MacPhail Center for Music
612-767-5586
www.macphail.org

Playwrights
The Playwrights' Center
612-332-7481
www.pwcenter.org

Theater Artists
The Playwrights' Center
612-332-7481
www.pwcenter.org

Visual Artists
Minneapolis College of Art and Design
612-874-3667
www.mcad.edu

Writers
The Loft
612-215-2575
www.loft.org