

# Fact Sheet: McKnight Artist Fellowships Program

## 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 \$87 million in 2016. Program interests include regional economic and community development, Minnesota's arts and artists, education equity, youth engagement, 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

### Arleta Little

Arts Program Officer  
 alittle@mcknight.org

The McKnight Foundation  
 710 South Second Street #400  
 Minneapolis, MN 55401  
 T 612-333-4220 F 612-332-3833  
 www.mcknight.org  
 @mcknightfdn  
 /mcknightfdn

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