The Funding Ecosystem: 
What You Should Know Before You Start Fundraising

FUNDING RESOURCES FOR INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS

The following list, organized by discipline, includes funders that offer one or more programs or awards that provide direct support to individual artists by application. This list is provided to facilitate the grant research process. Always read program guidelines and material provided directly from the funding institution to determine your eligibility to apply.

VARIED DISCIPLINES

Asian Cultural Council
www.asianculturalcouncil.org

The Awesome Foundation for the Arts and Sciences
www.awesomefoundation.org

Black Rock Arts Foundation
www.blackrockarts.org

Brooklyn Arts Council
www.brooklynartscouncil.org

Bronx Council on the Arts
www.bronxarts.org

CEC Arts Link
www.cecartslink.org

Cintas Foundation (Cuban descent only)
www.cintasfoundation.org

Creative Capital Foundation
www.creative-capital.org

Duke University: Center for Documentary Studies (film and photography)
documentarystudies.duke.edu
VARIED DISCIPLINES (CONT’D)

Foundation for Contemporary Arts
www.foundationforcontemporaryarts.org

Jerome Foundation
www.jeromefdn.org

John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fund
www.gf.org

Lower Manhattan Cultural Council
www.lmcc.net

Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation
www.midatlanticarts.org

National Association of Latino Arts and Culture (NALAC)
www.nalac.org

National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts
www.youngarts.org

National League of American Pen Women
www.nlapw.org

National Museum of the American Indian: Indigenous Contemporary Arts Program
www.nmai.si.edu

New York Foundation for the Arts
www.nyfa.org

New York State Council on the Arts: Individual Artists Program
www.nysca.org

Princess Grace Foundation – USA
www.pgfusa.com

Puffin Foundation, Ltd.
www.puffinfoundation.org

Queens Council on the Arts
queenscouncilarts.org

Six Points Fellowship
www.sixpointsfellowship.org

Staten Island Arts
www.statenislandarts.org

Sustainable Arts Foundation (visual arts and literature)
www.sustainableartsfoundation.org
VARIED DISCIPLINES (CONT’D)

Surdna Foundation: Thriving Cultures Program / Artists Engaging in Social Change
www.surdna.org

The Vilcek Foundation
www.vilcek.org

LITERARY ARTS

The Academy of American Poets
www.poets.org

American Literary Review
www.americanliteraryreview.com

Amy Lowell Poetry Travelling Scholarship
www.amylowell.org

The Astrea Lesbian Foundation for Justice: The Lesbian Writers Fund
www.astreaafoundation.org

Barbara Deming Memorial Fund (women artists only)
www.demingfund.org

The Christopher Isherwood Fund (fiction)
www.isherwoodfoundation.org

Elizabeth George Foundation
www.elizabethgeorgeonline.com/foundation.htm

Graywolf Press
www.graywolfpress.org

Hurston/Wright Foundation (African descent writers only)
http://www.hurstonwright.org

Lambda Literary Foundation
www.lambdaliterary.org

National Endowment for the Arts
www.nea.gov

Princeton University Hodder Fellowship
www.princeton.edu/arts/lewis_center/society_of_fellows

Speculative Literature Foundation
http://speculativeliterature.org/grants
MEDIA & FILM

The Arch Bruce Brown Foundation
http://aabbfoundation.org/grant-guidelines

Center for Asian American Media (CAAM)
www.caamedia.org

Cinereach
www.cinereach.org

Creative District
www.creativedistrict.com

The Fledgling Fund
www.thefledglingfund.org

Wave Farm
http://wavefarm.org/mag

From the Heart Productions
www.fromtheheartproductions.com

Independent Television Service (ITVS)
www.itvs.org

International Documentary Association: Pare Lorentz Documentary Fund
www.documentary.org/parelorentz

Latino Public Broadcasting
www.lpbp.org

National Endowment for the Humanities (Documentary)
www.neh.gov

National Geographic: All Roads Seed Grant Program
www.nationalgeographic.com/explorers

New York Women in Film & Television
www.nywift.org

San Francisco Film Society (National Programs)
www.sffs.org/Filmmaker360/Grants

Sundance Documentary Fund
http://www.sundance.org/programs/documentary-film#grants

Tribeca Film Institute
www.tribecafilm institute.org

The Women in Film Foundation
www.wif.org/foundation/film-finishing-fund
PERFORMING ARTS

Actors Fund
www.actorsfund.org

American Alliance for Theatre and Education
www.aate.com/?page=aatefunding

Association of Performing Arts Presenters (APAP): The Cultural Exchange Fund
www.apap365.org

Bossak Heilbron Charitable Foundation (dance)
Bhcf.grant@gmail.com

Chamber Music America
www.chamber-music.org

Dance Films Association (dance films only)
www.dancefilms.org

Dramatists Guild Fund, Inc.
www.dramatistsguildfund.org

Franklin Furnace Fund for Performance Art
www.franklinfurnace.org

The Fromm Music Foundation at Harvard University (composing)
http://frommmfoundation.fas.harvard.edu

Jerome Fund For New Music
https://composersforum.org/program/jfund

Jim Henson Foundation (puppet theater)
www.hensonfoundation.org

American Theater Wing: Jonathan Larson Grants (musical theater)
www.americantheatrewing.org

The Kleban Foundation, Inc. (musical theater)
www.newdramatists.org

The Multi-Arts Production Fund
www.mapfund.org

New England Foundation for the Arts
www.nefa.org

New Music USA
www.newmusicusa.org

Puppeteers of America
http://www.puppeteers.org/who-we-are/grants-scholarships
PERFORMING ARTS (cont’d)

Sparkplug Foundation (music)
www.sparkplugfoundation.org

Theater Communications Group
www.tcg.org

VISUAL ARTS

A Blade of Grass
www.abladeofgrass.org

Aaron Siskind Foundation (photography)
www.aaronsiskind.org

Adolph and Esther Gottlieb Foundation, Inc.
www.gottliebfoundation.org

The Aftermath Project (documentary photography)
www.theaftermathproject.org

Alexia Foundation (photo journalism)
www.alexiafoundation.org

The Astrea Lesbian Foundation for Social justice: Astrea Lesbian Visual Arts Fund
www.astraeafoundation.org

Barbara Deming Memorial Fund (women artists only)
www.demingfund.org

Center for Craft, Creativity, and Design
http://www.craftcreativitydesign.org

Emily Hall Tremaine Exhibition Award
www.tremainefoundation.org

En Foco New Works Photography Fellowship (photography)
www.enfoco.org

Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts
www.grahamfoundation.org

Harpo Foundation
www.harpofoundation.org

The Lillian Orlowsky and William Freed Foundation Grant (painters 45 or older)
www.paam.org/education/the-lillian-orlowsky-and-william-freed-foundation-grant
VISUAL ARTS (cont’d)

The National Sculpture Society
www.nationalsculpture.org

The Joan Mitchell Foundation
www.joanmitchellfoundation.org

NYC Department of Parks & Recreation: Clare Weiss Emerging Artist Award (public art)
www.nycgovparks.org/art-and-antiquities/clare-weiss-award

Pollock Krasner Foundation, Inc. (2D work)
www.pkf.org

The Ruth Chenven Foundation
www.chenvenfoundation.org

United States Institute of Technology (design)
www.usitt.org

Virginia A. Groot Foundation (sculptors)
www.virginiaagrootfoundation.org

The W. Eugene Smith Memorial Fund (photography)
www.smithfund.org

William H. Johnson Prize (early-career African American artists)
www.whjohnsongrant.org
FUNDRAISING FUNDAMENTALS
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INFORMATION RESOURCES FOR GRANTSEEKERS

ONLINE DATABASES OF GRANTS AND RESOURCES

NYFA Source, New York Foundation for the Arts
NYFA Source is the most extensive national directory of awards, services, and publications for individual artists. Listings include over 12,000 awards, services and publications for individual artists and art professionals across the country. More programs are added every day to this online database. Tutorials on using the system are offered periodically by NYFA staff.
source.nyfa.org

The Foundation Center
Established in 1956, Foundation Center is the leading source of information about philanthropy worldwide. Foundation Center maintains the most comprehensive database on U.S. and, increasingly, global grantmakers and their grants—a robust, accessible knowledge bank for the sector, including more than 108,000 foundations, corporate donors, and grantmaking public charities in the U.S. and over 3 million of their recent grants. It also operates research, education, and training programs designed to advance knowledge of philanthropy at every level. Thousands of people visit Foundation Center’s website each day and are served in its five library/learning centers and at more than 470 Funding Information Network locations nationwide and around the world. The website features Foundation Directory Online, an extensive search engine for finding grantmakers, available for free and at subscription levels that offer increased information access—including a dedicated search engine for individual artists. The New York grants library is at 79 Fifth Avenue.
www.foundationcenter.org

PEN American Center
PEN's Grants & Awards database is available for a low annual subscription, and contains more than 1,500 listings of domestic and foreign grants, literary awards, fellowships, and residencies. Grants & Awards is a comprehensive online database available to writers of all income brackets, at work in all genres, and at various levels of achievement. Search by keyword, genre, organization, or deadline. Updated every month, Grants & Awards is assured to offer the most current listings online.
www.pen.org

Content updated June 2015
NONPROFIT/PHILANTHROPIC PUBLICATIONS
Find out what grantmakers, development officers and nonprofits are thinking and talking about by subscribing to nonprofit and philanthropic publications. Requests for proposals, new programs, trends and research are available that might help your fundraising efforts.

The Grantmakers in the Arts (GIA) Reader
Anyone can subscribe to the *GIA Reader*. Artists, grantmakers, arts managers, cultural critics, and historians contribute to GIA’s periodical, the *Grantmakers in the Arts Reader*, which features readings on arts and culture, reports from arts grantmakers, and summaries of recently published reports, books, and studies. [www.giarts.org](http://www.giarts.org)

The Chronicle of Philanthropy
*The Chronicle of Philanthropy* is the newspaper of the nonprofit world. It is the No. 1 news source, in print and online, for charity leaders, fundraisers, grantmakers, and other people involved in the philanthropic enterprise. Note: this publication covers multiple philanthropic sectors and is not arts-specific. [www.philanthropy.com](http://www.philanthropy.com)

Philanthropy News Digest
*Philanthropy News Digest (PND)*, a daily news service of the Foundation Center, is a compendium, in digest form, of philanthropy-related articles and features culled from print and electronic media outlets nationwide. PND offers listings of RFPs, jobs and classifieds for the sector, with a dedicated arts and culture RFP listing. [philanthropynewsdigest.org](http://philanthropynewsdigest.org)

ARTS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS: LINKS & NEWSLETTERS
Subscribe to newsletters and follow the work of arts and arts service organizations that best fit your needs, discipline, and community to learn about new opportunities. A few to get you started:

- Aljira, a Center for Contemporary Art
- Asian American Arts Alliance
- Chamber Music America
- Creative Capital
- CUE Art Foundation (visual arts)
- Dance NYC/ Dance USA
- Eyebeam (new media)
- Fractured Atlas
- Harlem Arts Alliance
- Harvestworks (new media)
- Independent Feature Project (film)
- The Laundromat Project
- Lower Manhattan Cultural Council
- Made in NY Media Center
- New Music USA
- New York Live Arts
- New York Foundation for the Arts
- Northern Manhattan Arts Alliance
- The Actors Fund (performing arts)
- The Field (performing arts)
- Theater Communications Group
- Tribeca Film Center
- Women Make Movies

FUNDER LISTS AND CREDITS
Pay special attention to the supporters named in performance programs, brochures, catalogues, wall texts and promotional material for projects or artists whose work has an affinity to your own.