



Artists Up

Mentorly Scholarship

Application Guidelines



OFFICE OF ARTS & CULTURE
SEATTLE



CULTURE

ARTSWA

WASHINGTON STATE
ARTS COMMISSION

As of April 2023

ABOUT ARTISTS UP

Artists Up, a collaborative effort between 4Culture, ArtsWA, and the Seattle Office of Arts & Culture, advances the work of artists through research, experimentation, and initiatives. We strive to uplift artists of color, LGBTQ+ artists, artists with disabilities, artists who are new to the U.S., mature artists, and low-income artists—all of whom have historically had little access to resources.

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ABOUT MENTORLY SCHOLARSHIPS

Mentorly is an *online arts mentorship platform* providing opportunities to connect with emerging and professional artists from around the world.

Artists Up is pleased to offer *Mentorly Scholarships*—funded by the Seattle Office of Arts & Culture, 4Culture, and ArtsWA—to artists living in Washington State who would like to elevate their practice, learn more about a certain skill, or explore a new field by receiving peer-to-peer mentorship from another artist.

Mentors:

- are experienced artists vetted by Mentorly and/or Artists Up
- can offer information gained from their experiences that can help advance an artist’s creative career on topics such as international touring, financial organization, grantwriting, work-life balance, social media, and more
- represent all creative disciplines.

Funding is awarded primarily on a first come, first served basis. Priority is also given to artists working in disciplines that have not yet received funding, as well as to artists residing in under-served and/or under-resourced areas of Washington State.

If you receive a scholarship, you will receive *four one-hour-long sessions* with an Artist Up-recommended mentor.

HOW TO APPLY

ELIGIBILITY

To qualify for this opportunity, you must:

1. Be an artist residing in Washington State
2. Be over the age of 18
3. Not be currently enrolled in a degree program (ex: pursuing a high school, college, or graduate degree)
4. Practice in one or more of the following artistic disciplines
 - Arts Administration
 - Arts Education
 - Craft
 - Dance / Choreography
 - Film / Media
 - Folk / Traditional / Heritage
 - Literary
 - Multi-disciplinary
 - Music / Composition
 - Public Art
 - Theater / Opera
 - Visual / Design
5. Not have received an Artists Up Mentorly Scholarship in the past 12 months

APPLICATION

To apply, go to the Artists Up Mentorly Scholarship page to get the link to fill out your application in Submittable: <https://www.artistsup.org/mentorly-scholarships>

If you need to submit a hard copy or emailed copy of the application, please contact helloartistsup@gmail.com.

Application Questions:

Required questions are denoted with an asterisk ()*

Eligibility

- Are you an artist residing in Washington State?*
- Are you over the age of 18?*
- Have you received a Mentorly scholarship in the past 12 months?*
- Are you currently enrolled in a degree program (ex: pursuing a high school, college, or graduate degree)?*
- Are you an artist currently practicing in one (or more) of the following disciplines?*

 - Arts Administration
 - Arts Education
 - Craft
 - Dance / Choreography

- Film / Media
- Folk / Traditional / Heritage
- Literary
- Music / Composition
- Public Art
- Theater / Opera
- Visual / Design

Contact Information

- First Name:*
- Last Name:*
- Email Address:*
- Phone Number:*
- City:*
- Zip:*
- County:
- (Optional) Website or Social Media Profile:

Artistic Discipline

- Primary Artistic Discipline*
 - Arts Administration
 - Arts Education
 - Dance / Choreography
 - Film / Media
 - Folk / Traditional / Heritage
 - Literary (including Spoken Word)
 - Multi-Disciplinary (more than one discipline yourself)
 - Music / Composition
 - Public Art
 - Theater / Opera
 - Visual / Design / Craft / Installation
- Secondary Artistic Discipline*
 - Arts Administration
 - Arts Education
 - Dance / Choreography
 - Film / Media
 - Folk / Traditional / Heritage
 - Literary (including Spoken Word)
 - Multi-Disciplinary (more than one discipline yourself)
 - Music / Composition
 - Public Art
 - Theater / Opera
 - Visual / Design / Craft / Installation
 - No secondary artistic discipline

Program Questions

- In a few sentences, what are you hoping to gain from your mentorship experience?*
- Have you ever APPLIED for funding or substantial support (grants, residencies, etc.) to support your artistic practice?*

 - Yes
 - No

- Have you ever RECEIVED funding or substantial support (grants, residencies, etc.) to support your artistic practice?*

 - Yes
 - No

- (OPTIONAL) Have you personally been disproportionately impacted by systemic racism or other structural inequities? If so, please briefly describe.

To Assist Us in Our Mission - Part 1

- How confident do you currently feel using the following skills to advance your artistic practice, with 1 being not very confident and 5 being very confident?
 - Advocacy through Art, Social Practice, and Civic Engagement*
 - Budgeting, Contracting, and Financial Management*
 - Creating Application Materials (resumes, biography, artist statements, etc.)*
 - Raising Money, Crowdfunding, and Grantwriting*
 - Locating Specific Resources (grants, space, equipment, editors, teaching opportunities, etc.)*
 - Marketing, PR, Social Media, Branding, and Audience Development *
 - Networking and Building Partnerships*
 - Project Planning, Management, Strategic Planning, and Goal Setting*
- How did you learn about this opportunity? (Please select all that apply)*

To Assist Us in Our Mission - Part 2

- Please indicate the race(s) and/or ethnicity(ies) you most strongly identify with OR select “different identity” and use the open-ended box if you wish to add more information. (Please select all that apply)
 - Asian / Asian American / Asian diasporic
 - Black / African American / Afro-Caribbean / African diasporic
 - Hispanic / Latina/o/x diasporic
 - Middle Eastern / Arabic / North African diasporic
 - Native / Alaskan Native / Indigenous
 - Native Hawaiian / Samoan / different Pacific Islander
 - white / European
 - Decline to state
 - Different identity (please elaborate below)

- Please indicate the gender identity you most strongly identify with or select “different gender identity” and use the open-ended box if you have more than one gender identity, or a gender identity not described here.*
 - Woman
 - Gender non-binary / non-conforming
 - Man
 - Decline to state
 - Different gender identity (please elaborate below)
- Do you identify as transgender?*
- Yes
- No
- Decline to state
- Which of the following would you use to describe your sexual orientation?*
- Asexual
- Bisexual
- Gay or lesbian
- Heterosexual or straight
- Pansexual
- Queer
- Decline to state
- Different sexual orientation (please elaborate below)
- How long have you lived in Washington State?*
- 1 year or less
- 1 - 3 years
- 3 - 5 years
- 5 - 10 years
- 10 years or more
- Decline to state
- In which of these languages are you fluent? (Please select all that apply)*
 - Amharic
 - Cambodian / Khmer
 - Cantonese
 - English
 - Japanese
 - Korean
 - Laotian
 - Mandarin
 - Oromo
 - Russian
 - Sign Language
 - Somali
 - Spanish
 - Tagalog
 - Tigrinya

- Thai
- Vietnamese
- Decline to state
- Different language(s) (please elaborate below)
- Do you have experience living with a life-changing disability?*
- Yes
- No
- Decline to state
- What is your current age?*
- 18 - 29
- 30 - 39
- 40 - 49
- 50 - 59
- 60 - 69
- 70 - 79
- 80+
- Decline to state
- (OPTIONAL): Through our conversations with artists, we have heard that some want more space to describe their multiple and intersecting identities. Please use this space to tell us more about who you are.

APPLICATION TIPS

- Look at the mentor profiles on the Mentorly site for more ideas about what types of coaching might help your practice.
- Read and follow the online instructions carefully and give yourself time to answer each question.
- Keep your responses brief. A few sentences or about 250 words is sufficient to answer the narrative questions.

FUNDING

Awarded artists will receive four one-hour-long sessions with a mentor of their choice. Awardees can select from a list of Artist Up-recommended mentors,.

The value of these sessions is \$340. You will not receive a check, only access to the online platform to book your prepaid sessions.

Artists Up is not responsible if you are not able to access or complete the sessions or you are dissatisfied for whatever reason with the mentor or the platform.

DEADLINES AND NOTIFICATION

The application opens two times each year. Submissions will only be accepted within the pre-announced application windows.

Applications must be submitted by 11:59 pm PST on the final day to be considered.

Applicants will be notified if they receive a scholarship approximately one month after the deadline.

HOW YOUR APPLICATION WILL BE EVALUATED

All applications will be reviewed by one or more members of the Artists Up team, who represent ArtsWA (Washington State's arts agency), 4Culture (King County's arts agency), and the Seattle Office of Arts & Culture.

Funding is awarded based on the following criteria (in order of point values):

- **Value of Mentorship to Applicant:** artists who provide clear, compelling answers to the questions on the application about what they want to gain through mentorship will receive priority.
- **Current/Past Funding:** funding will prioritize artists who have not received significant support for their work or who have yet to apply for funding.
- **Residence in Under-Resource and/or Under-Served Area of Washington State:** artists who live in areas that typically receive less government investment (generally and in the arts) will be prioritized. A list of these areas is available on the Artists Up website.
- **Discipline Representation:** additional points will be awarded to artists who practice disciplines that have not yet received funding.

Per the Washington Administrative Code (Title 30 > Chapter 30-02 > Section 30-02-010), under-served and under-resourced are defined as follows:

- **Underserved** means populations whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, historical exclusion and marginalization due to race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, economics, disability, or other social or institutionally imposed barriers.
- **Under-resourced** means a lack of access to specialized, professional, financial, or institutional expertise and communal knowledge, and/or working with neglected or dated infrastructures and limited or absent assets and resources resulting in lack of recognition, competitiveness, and cyclical absent or diminished funding.

In the event of a tie, funding will be awarded based on staff's ratings of respondents' answers to the question asking applicants to talk about their lived experience with structural racism.

ACCESSIBILITY

All mentor sessions will be conducted online via Mentorly's video conference platform, *which requires access to a computer with internet and a webcam.*

If you do not have access to such a computer, or you do not have experience using video conference technology, you can make an appointment to complete your mentor sessions at the 4Culture, ArtsWA, or Seattle Office of Arts & Culture offices or another convenient location during normal business hours.

4Culture

101 Prefontaine Pl S
Seattle, WA 98104

ArtsWA

711 Capitol Way S.
Suite 600
Olympia, WA 98504

Seattle Office of Arts & Culture

303 S. Jackson Street
Top Floor
Seattle, WA 98104

If you have questions or concerns about the accessibility of these sessions, please email the Artists Up team at helloartistsup@gmail.com.

QUESTIONS AND ASSISTANCE

If you have any questions about the application or scholarship program, or if you have any accessibility needs, please contact the Artists Up team at helloartistsup@gmail.com.

APPEALS

Applicants may appeal Artists Up funding decisions by sending an email to helloartistsup@gmail.com within 14 days of receiving notification. A member of the Artists Up team that did not originally review the application will review the applicant's submission and notify the applicant of their decision within one month. This decision is final and ends the appeal request.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Who is eligible for a Mentorly Scholarship?

Mentorly scholarships are open to all artists who live in Washington State, are over the age of 18, are not a currently enrolled student, and who are practicing in one (or more) of the following disciplines:

- Arts Administration
- Arts Education
- Craft
- Dance / Choreography
- Film / Media
- Folk / Traditional / Heritage
- Literary
- Music / Composition
- Public Art
- Theater / Opera
- Visual / Design

You may only receive one Mentorly Scholarship once per year (once every 12 months).

2. What is the deadline to submit my application?

Please check the Artists Up website for upcoming deadlines.

3. Does the application require work samples or a resume?

No, you do not have to submit a resume or work samples.

4. How should I determine which topics I want to explore with my mentor?

Here are some ways of determining what would be helpful to you:

- Look at this [list of potential mentorship topics](#)
- Look at [Artists Up's recommended mentors](#).
- Think of other artists and practitioners you admire - what do they do well that you wish you could emulate?

5. Who are the Artists Up mentors?

You can find out more about Artists Up's recommended mentors at www.artistsup.org/mentorly-scholarships/mentors. They are all based in Washington State and come from a wide range of backgrounds and disciplines.

6. Can someone from the Artists Up team review a draft of my application?

Unfortunately, the Artists Up team does not have the capacity to review draft applications.

7. When will I be told whether or not I received a scholarship?

Notification typically occurs within one month of each cycle deadline.

8. Can I find a mentor who is bilingual or can conduct our sessions in a language other than English?

Several of our mentors speak a language other than English. If you need assistance locating a mentor who speaks a particular language, please let Artists Up know.

COMMITMENT TO RACIAL EQUITY

Artists Up commits to an anti-racist work practice that centers the creativity and leadership of people of color - those most impacted by structural racism - to move toward systems that benefit us all.

We also acknowledge that we are on Indigenous land, the traditional territories of the Chehalis, Chinook, Colville, Cowlitz, Duwamish, Hoh, Jamestown S’Klallam, Kalispel, Lower Elwha Klallam, Lummi, Makah, Muckleshoot, Nisqually, Nooksack, Port Gamble S’Klallam, Puyallup, Quileute, Quinault, Samish, Sauk-Suiattle, Shoalwater Bay, Skokomish, Snoqualmie, Spokane, Squaxin Island, Stillaguamish, Suquamish, Swinomish, Tulalip, Upper Skagit, Wanapum, and Yakama peoples.

We envision a state where peoples’ success, safety, and health are not pre-determined by their race. A state where all artists, performers, writers and creative workers have the freedom, agency and platform to share and amplify their stories, art, cultures and experiences.

At the same time, we acknowledge that our actions - both conscious and unconscious, past and present - have benefited some communities while limiting opportunities and for communities of color. We work toward our vision by addressing and working to eliminate institutional racism in our programs, policies and practices.

We will continue to break barriers and build arts-integrated tools that challenge the status quo, and push us toward the inclusive society we envision.

PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

4Culture, ArtsWA, and the Seattle Office of Arts & Culture are all public agencies subject to public disclosure under the Washington State Public Disclosure Act (PDA:RCW 42.56).

Personal data collected by Artists Up will be managed in a manner which shall be lawful, fair, and to the extent possible, with the knowledge and consent of the individual. More Information: <https://www.atg.wa.gov/obtaining-records>.

To request a copy of the act by phone, contact the State of Washington Code Revisers’ Office in Olympia at (360) 786-6777.