

## INDIVIDUAL ARTIST AWARDS GUIDELINES

Rasmuson Foundation honors the merit and significance of a life dedicated to serious artistic exploration and growth. The Foundation believes that the artist's energy, ideas, and creative drive cannot bear fruit without periods of time devoted to experimentation, education, and personal reflection. We also acknowledge that artists need opportunities to explore at various stages of their artistic careers.

With these guiding principles in mind, Rasmuson Foundation has created three award programs for individual artists living and working in Alaska:

**Project Awards:** Awards of up to \$5,000 for emerging, mid-career, and mature artists for specific, short-term projects that have a clear benefit to the artist and the development of his/her work (page 3).

**Artist Fellowships:** \$12,000 awards for mid-career or mature artists to focus their energy and attention for a one-year period on developing their creative work. The Fellowship program awards rotate artistic disciplines on a two-year cycle (page 4).

**Distinguished Artist:** \$25,000 annual award for a mature artist of recognized stature with a history of creative excellence and accomplishment in the arts.

Rasmuson Foundation will fund individual Alaskan artists at various stages of their career whose work is defined by excellence and reflects any of the diverse cultural and aesthetic communities in Alaska.

These awards will provide artists the resources to concentrate and reflect on their work, to immerse themselves in a creative endeavor, and to experiment, explore, and develop their artistry more fully. It is our hope that these investments in individual artists will result in substantial contributions to the culture of Alaska, the vibrancy of our communities, and to art itself.

Please note: An artist may apply for only one of the three awards (above) per postmark deadline.

Artists who receive a Rasmuson Individual Artist Award must wait three (3) years from the award date before applying for another Individual Artist Award.

Previous Individual Artist awards may be reviewed on the Foundation's website, [www.rasmuson.org](http://www.rasmuson.org). You may search by year, location, or individual artist discipline.

Please contact the Foundation if you have any questions regarding the application process: (907) 297-2700; (877) 366-2700 toll-free in Alaska; or email [vlord@rasmuson.org](mailto:vlord@rasmuson.org).

### POSTMARK DEADLINES

March 1: ALL APPLICATIONS

**Late applications will not be considered.**

## Who May Apply

Artists may apply for an Individual Artist Award if they meet the following eligibility requirements:

- You must have been a full-time Alaska resident for the past two (2) years at the time of your application and remain one for the duration of the grant period.
- You must be 18 years of age or older.
- You must be an artist who is currently producing work.

Artists are *NOT* eligible to apply if they are:

- A student enrolled in any degree-seeking program at any educational level.
- A current board member, committee member, staff member, or consultant for Rasmuson Foundation, current panelist, or member of their immediate families.
- Individuals whose work or project is primarily of a research, scholarly, or commercial nature.

The Foundation defines the artist career stages as follows:

*Emerging Artists* are those in the early stages of their professional careers. Their work has begun to take shape and their output contains the seeds of further artistic development.

*Mid-career Artists* are those who have created an independent body of work and have made a recognized contribution to their discipline through public presentation of their work. They have been steady in their progression as an artist over a five (5) to ten (10) year period. They are challenging themselves to explore other avenues of expression as well as deepening the creative modalities that have brought them to this artistic stage.

*Mature Artists* are those who have created an extensive independent body of work representing a life-long investigation and maturation of their personal creativity. They demonstrate a high aesthetic level of artistic ability with a strong consistency of expression over at least a fifteen (15) year professional arts career.

## Criteria

Selection criteria for awards include:

- The quality of artistic work within the context of the individual's experience, training, and career stage.
- The artist's creative accomplishments and the promise of future artistic excellence.
- The impact an award at this time will likely have on the applicant's future artistic and career growth.

## Selection Process

Awards are granted on a competitive basis and selection will be made through a two-step process:

- Preliminary discipline-specific panels will review applications and select a pool of finalists.
- An interdisciplinary panel will review finalist applications and make the final selection decisions.

Decisions are final and are not subject to appeal. The selection process will take approximately 8 to 12 weeks, and all applicants will be notified of the panel's decisions after the selections have been made.

## Award Terms

Rasmuson Individual Artist Award recipients will sign a grant agreement before receipt of award funds. The one-year award period begins June 1 and ends May 31. At the end of the award period, awardees submit a short narrative describing what he/she has accomplished and its importance to his/her ongoing artistic and career development. Such accomplishments do not have to be solely in the form of artistic products, but may also include knowledge acquired, experience gained, personal growth achieved, and/or experiments undertaken that point the artist in new directions, whether successful or not.

Rasmuson Foundation will also hold occasional informal artists' gatherings during the award period where award recipients, both present and past, will meet with each other and invited guests to exchange ideas and practical information, to discuss artistic issues and the progress of current creative activities, as well as other subjects of interest.

## INDIVIDUAL ARTIST AWARDS PROJECT AWARD APPLICATION

Artists may apply for an award of up to \$5,000 for a specific, short-term project that will have a clear benefit to the artist and the development of his/her work.

Artists at any stage of their life's work, from early to mature, may apply for project awards. Awards must be used for a specific activity or opportunity that will be accomplished within one year of the award date. Examples might include travel and fees associated with workshops and other advanced study opportunities; professional documentation of an artist's work for submission to juried shows or galleries; and costs associated with the creation/installation of work that is scheduled for public viewing.

Applicants will be asked to articulate a clear project description including a plan, budget, timeline, and the anticipated benefits of the project to his/her work. The project timeline must coincide with the one-year award period that begins June 1 and ends May 31. Applicants must submit supporting materials (images, recordings, scripts, etc.) that demonstrate their level of artistic accomplishment. Please refer to page 9, Appendix A - Work Sample Requirements (by discipline).

Please note: Artists who receive a Rasmuson Project Award must wait three (3) years from the award date before reapplying for any Individual Artist Award.

### POSTMARK DEADLINE

March 1

### Required Project Award Application Materials

*The original set of materials in this order:*

- Application coversheet (RF form)
- Project description including plan with specific outcomes
- Timeline
- Project budget
- Artist resume
- Artist statement/description of work
- Work sample identification form (RF form)
- Work sample(s)

*Four complete and exact copies of the original set of written materials*

Work samples: Follow work sample requirements (page 9) for each discipline.

*One copy of the following:*

- Checklist of all required materials (RF form)
- Return envelope – Only if you want your work samples returned, include an envelope with adequate postage

## INDIVIDUAL ARTIST AWARDS FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION

Mid-career or mature artists may apply for a \$12,000 Artist Fellowship (see page 2 for the definition of a mid-career or mature artist under Who May Apply). The awards are designed to encourage recipients to explore their creative instincts and focus energy and attention on the artistic process. It is the Foundation's desire that Fellowships free artists to advance their creative work.

Awards will be unrestricted and available for all types of activities that contribute to an artist's creative work including, but not limited to: workshops/residencies; training; individual projects; creative collaborations with other artists; exploration of and experimentation in other arts fields; costs of equipment, materials, studio space; travel expenses; and retreats.

While the awards are not tied to specific outcomes, applicants must articulate what they hope to experience, explore, or accomplish during their award period and how they propose to do so. Applicants should express the anticipated benefits of the Fellowship to his/her work. Applicants must submit supporting materials (images, recordings, scripts, etc.) that demonstrate their level of artistic accomplishment.

Please note: Artists who receive a Rasmuson Fellowship Award must wait three (3) years from the award date before reapplying for any Individual Artist Award.

### Fellowship Artistic Disciplines

The Fellowship program awards grants in nine artistic disciplines that rotate on a two-year cycle. Six Fellowships are awarded every year. For an explanation of what constitutes each discipline area, see page 6.

#### 2010 Fellowships

Media Arts  
 Multidiscipline/New Genre  
 Music Composition  
 Visual Arts

#### 2011 Fellowships

Choreography  
 Crafts  
 Folk and Traditional Arts  
 Literary Arts/Scriptworks  
 Performance Art

### POSTMARK DEADLINE

March 1

### Required Fellowship Application Materials

*The original set of materials in this order:*

- Application coversheet (RF form)
- Project description
- Artist resume
- Artist statement/description of work
- Work sample identification form (RF form)
- Work samples

*Four complete and exact copies of the original set of written materials*  
 Work samples: Follow work sample requirements (page 9) for each discipline.

*One copy of the following:*

- Checklist of all required materials (RF form)
- Return envelope – Only if you want your work samples returned, include an envelope with adequate postage

## INDIVIDUAL ARTIST AWARDS HOW TO APPLY - PROJECT AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

### STEP 1. Select your Artistic Discipline

Review the list below and identify the artistic discipline that best represents your creative work. The Foundation understands that your artistic output may not fit a specific discipline or may fit more than one. If this is true, apply under the discipline that best describes your creative work, has work similar to yours, or where a panel may be most knowledgeable of the work you do.

**Choreography:** Artists creating original work in ballet, jazz, modern, tap, traditional, and culturally specific dance forms.

**Crafts:** Artists working in all forms of functional and nonfunctional crafts including, but not limited to ceramics, glass, wood, metal, fiber, textiles, and recycled materials. Traditional craft artists may choose to apply in the Folk and Traditional Arts category.

**Folk and Traditional Arts:** Artists whose work is rooted in and reflects a community's shared cultural values, history, and experiences. These art forms can take the shape of performing traditions in music, dance and drama; traditional storytelling; traditional crafts; and visual arts. These arts are usually passed down from one generation to the next.

**Media Arts:** Artists creating narrative or animation time-based original works using audio, digital, and/or film, as well as installations in which these expressions form the major artistic element.

**Music Composition:** Composers creating original works in a range of genres including classical, jazz, folk, bluegrass, musical theatre, pop, blues, gospel, traditional, and world music.

**Multidiscipline/New Genre:** Artists whose work is experimental, pioneering work that is not grounded in any one discipline. Artists pushing the boundaries that define their art, using non-conventional materials and approaches to the artmaking process. *If you are considering applying in this discipline, please call the Foundation to discuss your application.*

**Literary Arts/Scriptworks:** Artists writing fiction, creative non-fiction, poetry, screen plays, and scripts for the stage.

**Performance Arts:** Artists creating and performing original, theatre-based work or whose work provides new contexts for live performance. This includes, but is not limited to: clown, mime, vaudeville and cabaret artists, puppetry artists, and other solo artists who write and perform their own material (music composers should apply in the Music Composition category).

**Visual Arts:** Artists creating original work in two- and three-dimensional forms including painting, drawing, printmaking, collage, photography, illustration, watercolor, etching, computer graphics, fiber art, and mediums associated with artists' books. The visual arts also include sculpture, installations, glass, metal works, ceramics, etc.

## STEP 2. Prepare Application Materials

**Give yourself adequate time to complete the application. Make sure that all materials have been included and are presented in the best manner possible. Applications submitted that are incomplete or do not follow the instructions will not be considered. Also, if work samples (CD, DVD, or digital photographs) cannot be opened or played, the application will not be considered.**

**Carefully review the required application materials for each award (page 3, 4, or 5) and the application requirements for your artistic discipline (page 6).**

*General Instructions for application materials:*

- Descriptions, resumes, and other written material should be typed with a font no smaller than 12 pt., on single sided white 8.5" x 11" paper with 1" margins.
- If handwritten, make sure materials are legible. Print if necessary.
- Send only materials that are specifically requested in this application. Other information will not be forwarded to the panelists.
- Paperclip each set of application materials (the original and each of the four photocopies).
- Do not use staples, binders, or folders when submitting materials.
- Label each page with your name on top right corner for proper identification.

### A. Complete and sign the Individual Artist Awards Application Coversheet

#### B. Project Description

Provide a narrative of no more than one (1) page describing your project plan or what you hope to accomplish by responding to the following questions:

1. What specific activity do you plan to do if you receive a Project Award? Include a proposed timeline. The project should begin after June 1 (March 1 deadline) and end May 31.
2. How will your plan advance/enrich your artistic development and/or career?
3. Why is it important for you to undertake this opportunity at this point in your career? Express your ideas clearly and succinctly. Remember that panelists will not be familiar with you or your work. Describe your project in a way that will be meaningful to panelists, including those outside your artistic discipline.

#### C. Project Budget (Submit only if applying for a Project Award)

Include a detailed budget listing the expenses directly related to your proposed project. Your budget may include materials, travel, contracted services, fees, and other project related expenses.

#### D. Artist Resume

Submit an artist resume of up to two (2) pages describing your artistic accomplishments. Include training, honors, exhibitions, commissions, performances, awards, grants, collaborations, community work, residencies, tours, and other relevant activities. Do not include general employment history or other information unless it is pertinent to your art experience.

#### E. Artist Statement/Description of Work

Provide no more than a one (1) page statement describing why you make your art, how you make your art, and what your art means to you. Keep your artist statement short and clear. Your statement is about you, so personalize it.

#### F. Work Sample Identification Form

Complete the discipline appropriate work sample identification form provided in the grant application.

**G. Work Sample(s)**

Artistic excellence is the major criterion that panelists will use to judge the merits of your application. Submitted work samples are the primary way panelists will evaluate an applicant's work. Include work samples that demonstrate your ability to carry out your project. Applicants are encouraged to submit samples of their strongest current work in the most appropriate format possible.

*General requirements for all submitted work are as follows:*

**1. Discipline Requirements.** Each discipline has specific requirements as to length, numbers of samples, and how they are to be presented in this application. Discipline specific requirements must be followed in order for your application to be considered. Refer to Appendix A, page 9.

**2. Work Sample Specifications.** Review the Work Sample Specifications (Appendix B, page 10) for instructions on how to prepare digital photographs, manuscripts, CDs, and DVDs.

**3. Work must have been created in the last five (5) years.**

**4. Do not submit original works of art, printed reviews, promotional tapes, brochures, or catalogues.**

**H. Return envelope.** If you want your work samples returned, include a self-addressed envelope with adequate postage. For packages weighing more than 13 ounces, the U.S. Post Office requires metered postage, not stamps.

Although the Foundation will take reasonable care in handling your materials, we cannot be held responsible for damage or loss of these work samples.

**STEP 3. Application Mailing and Questions**

*Mail or hand-deliver your completed application by the stated program deadlines to:*

Rasmuson Foundation  
301 W Northern Lights Blvd., Suite 400  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

**Faxed or emailed applications will not be accepted.**

If you have questions about any part of the Rasmuson Individual Artist Awards program or the application process, please call (907) 297-2700; (877) 366-2700 toll-free within Alaska; or email [vlord@rasmuson.org](mailto:vlord@rasmuson.org).

*Forms provided by Rasmuson Foundation:*

- Application Coversheet
- Application Checklist
- Work Sample Identification Form

**INDIVIDUAL ARTIST AWARDS****APPENDIX A - PROJECT AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS****WORK SAMPLE REQUIREMENTS** (by discipline)**Choreography**

Submit a maximum of three (3) different works presented on a DVD(s). Follow DVD work sample specifications.

**Crafts**

Submit a CD with up to ten (10) digital photographs representing your work. Follow Digital Photograph work sample specifications.

**Folk and Traditional Arts**

Artists working in visual traditions may submit a CD with up to ten (10) digital photographs representing your work. Artists working in performing traditions may submit up to three (3) different samples of their work on DVD or compact disc, as appropriate to their form of expression. Follow DVD, CD, or Digital Photograph work sample specifications.

**Literary Arts/Scriptworks**

Fiction, creative non-fiction, scriptworks, and story telling: Submit up to fifteen (15) pages of writing samples. Applicants are urged to submit the first chapter for book-length fiction or creative non-fiction, or the first 15 pages of a play or script. If applicants choose to submit excerpts from different chapters, they are required to provide a context statement for each of their work samples. Poetry: Submit between four (4) and eight (8) poems of no more than fifteen (15) pages total. Follow Manuscript work sample specifications.

**Media Arts**

Submit up to three (3) different examples of your work on DVD or CD. Follow DVD or CD work sample specifications.

**Multidiscipline/New Genre**

Artists should submit up to three (3) different work samples that best reflect their form of expression. Follow DVD or CD work sample specifications.

**Music Composition**

Submit a maximum of three (3) different examples of your work on CD. Include three copies of the score for each work submitted. Follow CD work sample specifications.

**Performance Art**

Submit up to three (3) different examples of your work on DVD(s). If relevant, manuscripts may also be submitted for each work. Follow DVD and Manuscript work sample specifications.

**Visual Arts**

Submit a CD with up to ten (10) digital photographs representing your work. Follow Digital Photograph work sample specifications.

**INDIVIDUAL ARTIST AWARDS****APPENDIX B - PROJECT AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS****WORK SAMPLE SPECIFICATIONS**

**Make sure that your digital/electronic work samples are universally formatted so that they can be accessed by all computers.**

**Digital Photographs/CD**

*Complete a Digital Photograph Work Sample Identification Form.*

- Submit up to ten (10) digital photographs.
- Jpeg or Tiff format with a minimum resolution of 300 dpi (dots per inch) is preferable. Image size should not exceed 670 x 1024 pixels.
- CD must be PC compatible. No floppy disks will be accepted.
- Submit one (1) copy of CD.

**Manuscripts**

*Complete a Manuscript Work Sample Identification Form.*

- Submit five (5) copies of each submitted manuscript.
- Use 12-pt font on single-sided 8.5" X 11" paper with 1" margins.
- Bind with binder clips (no staples, folders, magazines, or books.)
- Include your name, title of the work, and the date of its completion or publication at the top right corner of the manuscript.

**Audio CDs**

*Complete a CD Work Sample Identification Form.*

- CDs: Multiple works may be included on a single compact disc. Identify each work by track in listening order. CD should be a standard format that will play on all CD players.
- Label each CD with your name, title and length of work, and the track number.
- Panelists will listen to between three (3) and ten (10) total minutes of the submitted CDs.
- Submit five (5) copies of each CD.

**DVDs**

*Complete the DVD Work Sample Identification Form.*

- Choose samples that give the viewer the essence of your work. Avoid using film techniques that are not part of the essence of your work and are done merely for their own sake.
- DVDs: Include information on required software required to view your work.
- Identify the order in which you want the panelists to watch submitted material.
- Label DVDs with your name and the title of the work to be viewed.
- Panelists will view between three (3) and ten (10) total minutes of the submitted DVDs.
- Submit five (5) copies of each DVD.

**INDIVIDUAL ARTIST AWARDS**  
**APPLICATION COVERSHEET** - PROJECT AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

Last Name	First Name	Middle
Mailing Address		
City	State	Zip Code
Home Phone	Daytime Phone	
E-mail Address	Web Site Address	
Duration of full-time residency in Alaska _____ years	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Ms.	

**Award Category** (choose one)

- Project Award  
     \$ \_\_\_\_\_ amount requested
- Artist Fellowship
- Distinguished Artist

**Artistic Discipline** (choose one)

- Choreography
- Crafts
- Folk and Traditional Arts
- Literary Arts/Scriptworks
- Media Arts
- Multidiscipline/New Genre
- Music Composition
- Performance Art
- Visual Arts

**Career Stage** (choose one)

- Emerging
- Mid-Career
- Mature

**Return of Work Samples** (check one)

- I have enclosed a self-addressed envelope with sufficient postage and adequate packaging for return of work samples. The Foundation is not liable for any damage that may occur in return mailing.
- Please discard my work samples after the review process.

By signing this application, I certify that I am a legal resident of the state of Alaska. I meet the eligibility requirements specified in the application guidelines and, to the best of my knowledge, the statements in this application are true.

Signature	Date
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**INDIVIDUAL ARTIST AWARDS**  
**APPLICATION CHECKLIST - PROJECT AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS**

Applicant Name \_\_\_\_\_

Check each box in the appropriate category to ensure your application is complete. Present your application in the order listed below.

Project Award		Artist Fellowship Application	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Application Coversheet	<input type="checkbox"/>	Application Coversheet
<input type="checkbox"/>	Project description	<input type="checkbox"/>	Project description
<input type="checkbox"/>	Timeline	<input type="checkbox"/>	Artist resume
<input type="checkbox"/>	Project budget	<input type="checkbox"/>	Artist statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Artist resume	<input type="checkbox"/>	Work Sample Identification form
<input type="checkbox"/>	Artist statement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Work sample(s)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Work Sample Identification form	<input type="checkbox"/>	Return envelope
<input type="checkbox"/>	Work sample(s)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Return envelope		

- I have signed the coversheet.
- Each page after the coversheet has my name on top right corner for proper identification.
- I have enclosed five application sets (the original set of the above application materials and four exact photocopies).
- Each of the five sets is complete and ready to present to a panelist.
- Each set of materials is held together with a paperclip.
- There are NO staples, binders, or elaborate packaging.
- Only materials specifically requested have been included.
- I have kept a copy for my own records.
- I have included work samples. Number of work samples submitted \_\_\_\_\_.
- I have tested electronic samples (CDs or DVDs). Number of disks submitted \_\_\_\_\_.
- Work samples are labeled and identified according to application instructions.
- Return envelope with sufficient postage to return work sample(s) is included.

**WORK SAMPLE IDENTIFICATION FORM**  
**CD/DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHS**

Applicant Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Work Sample Description**

Title	Year completed	Dimensions	Mediums Used
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			

Above Digital Photograph numbers must correspond to the order you want your work samples viewed.

**WORK SAMPLE IDENTIFICATION FORM**

**AUDIO CD**     **DVD** (Choose one)

Applicant Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Work Sample Description** Depending on artistic discipline, list details including title of work, instrumentation, number of performers, date(s) performed or produced, and any other information that will help panelists understand this sample.

1. CD/DVD

2. CD/DVD

3. CD/DVD

Above CD/DVD numbers must correspond to the order you want your work samples viewed or listened to.

**WORK SAMPLE IDENTIFICATION FORM  
MANUSCRIPT(S)**

Applicant Name

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**Work Sample Description** List details including title of work, date(s) published, produced or read, and any other information that will help panelists understand this sample.