



About the Fulcrum Fund

The Fulcrum Fund, a grant program of 516 ARTS in partnership with The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, is now in its second year and will award a total of \$60,000 this year. The Fulcrum Fund serves as an essential support structure to enable artists to expand existing work and explore new directions in creating and showcasing projects that inspire curiosity, engagement and dialogue. The Fulcrum Fund offers grants to unincorporated artists and collectives whose work centers around visual arts and who are based within an 80-mile radius of Albuquerque (including Santa Fe). Grants from the Fulcrum Fund are for non-501c3, self-organized artistic activity that is open to the general public. The awards serve as a springboard for artistic processes that are innovative, experimental and forward thinking, while celebrating projects that do not fit into conventional museum and gallery systems.

Emphasis on Visual Art

The Fulcrum Fund awards grants to artists and projects expressly working in the visual arts. Works and projects created with and involving performance or media are eligible provided visual art is a major portion of the finished project. Prospective artists are encouraged to apply for funding in support of projects that embrace experimentation and utilize innovative, risk-taking approaches that seek to expand conceptions regarding contemporary visual art production in the greater Albuquerque area.

Frequently Asked Questions

Who is eligible?

Visual artists and collectives living and working within an 80-mile radius of Albuquerque are encouraged to apply. Commercial businesses and non-profit arts organizations are NOT eligible.

Do you have to be a U.S. citizen to apply?

No, but the artist/lead organizer must have a social security number in order to receive payment of the award. Additional collaborators and/or participants do not need to be U.S. citizens or have social security numbers.

What kinds of projects will the Fulcrum Fund support?

The Fulcrum Fund is expressly interested in *visual art* including: public art projects/site specific installations, the publication of writing directly related to the visual arts including printed matter and online publications, artist residencies, film screenings, curatorial projects and exhibitions that highlight unconventional artistic practice, workshops, multimedia, video and photo projects.

What types of projects are NOT eligible?

Projects for which the lead artist lives outside of the 80-mile radius of Albuquerque, an individual artist's studio practice, projects that are a part of a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization's programming, projects proposed by students, and projects that do not have a public component will not be considered.

What is the maximum funding amount I can request for my project?

You may request any amount between \$2,000 and \$5,000.

How many grants will you give out?

Funding will be awarded to between 12-20 applicants.

How will the awards be selected?

516 ARTS is inviting three jurors (comprised of regionally and nationally recognized curators and arts professionals), who will review the submissions and select the grantees.

If my proposal is selected, how will I receive the money?

A check will be distributed directly to the applicant in his or her name, or in the case of a collective or group, a lead artist/organizer. All applicants will be responsible for any taxes associated with the award. 516 ARTS does not provide tax advice.

In the case that multiple individuals are affiliated with the project collectively, who should be designated as the lead artist?

The lead artist will be the primary contact and the main administrator for the grant application in the event of an award. Since the lead artist will be responsible for receiving the check, she/he will also be responsible for the additional dispersal of funds to collaborators and paying any income taxes owed as a result of receiving the grant. The lead artist does not need to be a U.S. citizen, though must have a social security number and reside within 80 miles of Albuquerque.

Is it possible to apply for a grant to purchase equipment?

Equipment purchase or rental can be included as an expense in the project budget as a part of a larger project; however, applications submitted for the sole purpose of acquiring equipment will not be considered.

Can I apply for a grant to fund general operating expenses for a new or existing art space?

Yes. Examples of general operating expenses associated with the launch of a new arts space or the support of an existing arts space include: rent, utilities, artist/designer fees, materials, supplies, administrative fees and promotional materials.

Can I apply for a project that has already started?

Yes, projects that seek to expand their reach or are considered “ongoing” can be considered. Keep in mind that the Fulcrum Fund will not allocate resources to finished projects or support individuals looking to document pre-existing or finished projects.

Should artist fees be factored into my budget?

Yes. If your project requires you to compensate your collaborators, participants or yourself, you should include those expenses in your budget.

Can I apply for funding to cover my total budget, or am I expected to secure matching or additional funding?

You may apply for a grant for full or partial funding of your overall budget. Additional funding sources are great, though not required.

Can I apply to support a web-based project?

Yes, web-based projects are eligible, as long as the artist applying for funding lives within an 80 miles of Albuquerque. Additional collaborators can be from anywhere.

If I'm proposing a project or exhibition that requires a venue space, does it need to be confirmed by the time I submit an application?

No, but it would be helpful to describe the kinds of spaces that you envision would be appropriate for your project. The venue cannot be 516 ARTS and the project cannot be part of another venue's exhibition program.

What kinds of projects will the Fulcrum Fund recognize?

The Fulcrum Fund recognizes a wide range of projects and activities such as: a new exhibition or exhibition series, the ongoing work of an arts venue or collective, a public art project, a one-time event or performance, publications directly related to the visual arts, an online project, an artist residency, a series of film screenings and more. In general, the Fulcrum Fund seeks to create opportunities for the development and presentation of artist-led projects and programs that foster collaboration and are open to the public.

I don't have any images that are representative of my proposed project. What kinds of visual aids should I include as part of my application?

Applicants should submit work samples that represent the plans for realizing the proposed project. This could include previous work samples of artists who will be presented, mock-ups, plans and schematics for a site-specific project or documentation of past projects that are similar.

What are the requirements for reporting?

Grantees will be expected to submit documentation upon the completion of the proposed project and complete an evaluation of the project.