



TOP LEFT: *Night's Little Cake* (set design), Susie Lee, 2019 GAP recipient, BOTTOM LEFT: *Matao*, Dakota Alcantara-Camacho, 2019 GAP recipient, TOP RIGHT: *Underwater*, Jueun Shin, 2019 GAP recipient, BOTTOM RIGHT: *Eyes* (spread from *Issue 4*), Dhaba (Maggie Argiro and Sanwal Deen), 2019 GAP recipient.

2021 Grants for Artists' PROGRESS

GUIDELINES

DEADLINE: September 7, 2021

Online applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m.PST

www.artisttrust.org



ABOUT ARTIST TRUST

Artist Trust is a not-for-profit organization whose sole mission is to support and encourage individual artists working in all disciplines in order to enrich community life throughout Washington State. It has invested over \$15 million in Washington State artists since its founding in 1986. Visit artisttrust.org to learn more.

ABOUT GRANTS FOR ARTISTS' PROGRESS

For the 2021 award cycle, we have re-envisioned GAP as Grants for Artists' Progress, a hybrid merit-and-need-based award. The goal of this year's regionally focused program is to center artists from backgrounds and communities most deeply impacted by the pandemic and historically excluded from funding and resources. Two multi-disciplinary statewide artist panels will recommend sixty-five \$1,500 investments for working artists of any discipline who identify as Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) in five key regions across Washington State. 10 grants per region will be allocated to the West, North Central, South Central, and East regions and 25 grants will be awarded to the Puget Sound region.

The changes to the 2021 process are part of an overall strategy to reverse historic inequities in Artist Trust's funding programs, and move resources to Washington State communities without access to other funding for individual artists. This is a year of learning, growth, and transformation. 2021 GAP will not only broaden our reach, it will help us better understand our impact and inform future programs. For more information, please read our 2021 GAP Awards [FAQ](#).

The 2021 GAP Awards are made possible in part thanks to support from WarnerMedia, funded by AT&T. Deep appreciation to participants in our statewide artist focus groups and our thought partners the Tremaine Foundation, the Arts and Science Council of Charlotte, the NEA, the Artist Trust Strategic Vision and Racial Equity Committees, Board of Trustees, and staff.

SYNOPSIS

Grants for Artists' Progress (GAP), previously known as Grants for Artists' Projects, are hybrid merit- and need-based grants of \$1,500 to artists of any discipline residing in Washington State. 2021 GAP Awards will honor Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) for the merit of their artwork and the impact this award will have on their practice. In 2021, Artist Trust will award 65 GAP Awards, 10 grants per region will be allocated to the West, North Central, South Central, and East regions and 25 grants will be awarded to Puget Sound.

We define BIPOC artists as individuals identifying as one or more of the following ethnicities:

Alaskan Native, Asian/Asian-American/Pacific Islander or Hawaiian, Black/African/African-American, Latinx, Middle Eastern, Native American or Indigenous, or South Asian

For support with your application and a breakdown of the counties in each region, see page 5.





WHO IS ELIGIBLE

The 2021 GAP Awards are open to BIPOC artists residing in Washington State working in all disciplines. **Artist Trust COVID-19 Relief Fund recipients are eligible for this award.**

APPLICANTS MUST BE

- 18 years of age or older;
- Washington State residents at the time of application and payment;
- Individual artists (or artist teams) who are the originators of works of art.
- BIPOC (Alaskan Native, Asian/Asian-American/Pacific Islander or Hawaiian, Black/African/African-American, Latinx, Middle Eastern, Native American or Indigenous, or South Asian)

APPLICANTS MAY NOT BE

- A recipient of a GAP from 2016–2019;
- Previous recipients of the James W. Ray Distinguished Artist or Arts Innovator Awards;
- Recipients of another Artist Trust grant in the 2021 calendar year (including 2020 Fellowship).
- Current graduate or undergraduate students enrolled at the time of both application and payment (payment will be made December 2021)
- Applying on behalf of a company, nonprofit, organization, fiscal sponsorship, or community group;
- Current Artist Trust staff, Board of Trustees, honorary committee, current GAP panelists, or their immediate family.

ARTIST TEAMS

A team of two or more artists may apply if they have a documented history of creating and presenting work as a team for at least three consecutive years. Artists applying as a team must contact Artist Trust to confirm eligibility before applying. If eligible, one artist will submit the application and list team members in the application. All team members must meet the eligibility requirements.

DISCIPLINARY CATEGORIES

Choose the category that best suits your practice and use the discipline statement to provide additional context.

Disciplinary categories may include the following practices:

Literary Arts: Fiction, Creative Nonfiction, Experimental/Hybrid Works, Poetry, Graphic Novels, Zines.

Media Arts: Animation, Augmented Reality, Film, Immersive Audio & Video Works, Podcasts, Screenplays, Sound Art, Teleplays, Video Art, Virtual Reality, Web-based Art.

Performing Arts: Costume Design, Dance, Music, Music Composition, Musical Theater, Performance Art, Playwriting, Puppetry, Set Design, Sound Design, Spoken Word, Storytelling, Theater, Traditional/Folk Performance.

Visual Arts: BioArt, Craft, Digital Arts, Drawing, Ecological Art, Environmental Design, Furniture Art, Illustration, Installation, Interactive Installation & Sculpture, Painting, Photography, Printmaking, Public Art, Sculpture, Traditional/Folk Art.

Application Process

HOW TO APPLY

The 2021 GAP Award application is available online starting August 2, 2021. Visit artisttrust.submittable.com/submit to submit.

DEADLINE: Tuesday, September 7, 11:59 PM PST

MATERIALS TO SUBMIT

- Discipline statement—(50 words)
- Biography—(150 words or up to 3 minutes of audio or video)
- Artist Statement (350 words or less or up to 5 minutes of video/audio)
- Work samples—(details on page 5)
- Progress statement—(150 words)

Applications are only accepted through Submittable.

VIDEO GUIDELINES FOR YOUR BIOGRAPHY AND ARTIST STATEMENT

Materials submitted in video format should be low-tech. Low-tech videos are unedited, without filters, scene changes, or multiple clips. The video should be a straight and clear shot of the applicant. The video can show the applicant's full body, from the waist or shoulders up. The video cannot contain any of the applicant's artwork.

THE VIDEO SHOULD BE

- Clear and focused footage of the applicant
- Up to 3 minutes long for the biography and up to 5 minutes long for the artist statement
- Easy to see and hear the applicant
- Footage of the applicant speaking clearly

THE VIDEO SHOULD NOT BE

- Footage of more than one person
- Multiple clips and/or reels or edited in any way
- A video with voiceovers
- More work samples or have the applicant's work in view
- Longer than the maximum time – up to 3 minutes for the biography and up to 5 minutes for the artist statement

AUDIO GUIDELINES FOR YOUR BIOGRAPHY AND ARTIST STATEMENT

Materials submitted in audio format should be clear and easy to hear without any additional audio including music, white noise, other voices, and/or any background noise that is not the applicant's own voice.

THE AUDIO SHOULD BE

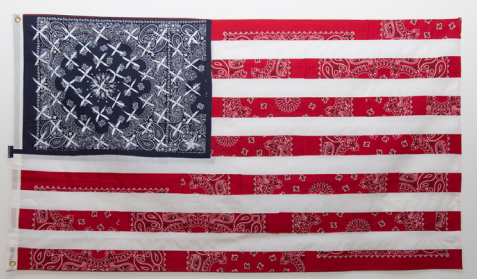
- Clear and easy to hear the applicant's voice
- Up to 3 minutes long for the biography and up to 5 minutes long for the artist statement
- The applicant's voice only

THE AUDIO SHOULD NOT BE

- More than one person's voice
- Edited audio of the applicant including auto-tune, sped up or slowed down manipulation, and/or higher or lower pitched
- More work samples
- Longer than the maximum time- up to 3 minutes for the biography and up to 5 minutes for the artist statement minutes for the artist statement

Glowing and Growing Home, Soo Hong, 2019 GAP





HELP WITH YOUR APPLICATION

Applying for grants can be hard, and we want to help you. Artist Trust offers the following support services and resources to guide you through the application process:

How to Apply for 2021 GAP: A brief walkthrough of how to apply, the process, and selection criteria. Click [here](#) to view this pre-recorded webinar.

Office Hours: 20-minute consultations with our staff, provided in-person via Zoom or by phone, on [August 12 & 26](#). Make an appointment at [artisttrust.org](#).

Study Hall: Pop into this open Zoom session on Wednesday, August 4 and Tuesday, August 31, from 1-3 p.m. to work on your 2021 GAP Awards application. During Study Hall you can speak with a program manager, work through your application on mute or request a breakout session with another applicant for support. This is not a private session, but rather a space for information sharing and work time. Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84037409447>

Reference Guide: [Review examples](#) of successful applications from past year's awardees at [artisttrust.org](#).

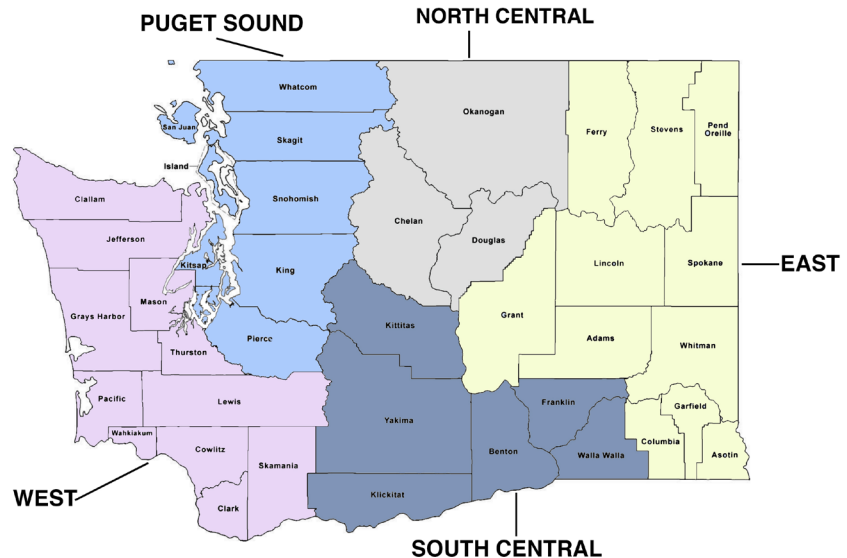
Resources: Visit [artisttrust.org](#) for toolkits, tips, and other information.

Contact Us: We are happy to answer questions about your application. Our contact information is on page 8. Please note: it's hard for us to answer questions on the day of the deadline. Start your application early and don't wait to contact us with questions.

Please note, if you require a translator to complete your application or have other accessibility needs, please get in touch. Our contact information is on page 8.

ARTIST TRUST DESIGNATED REGIONS

The 2021 GAP Awards will be distributed and adjudicated by region to five regions across Washington State: West, Puget Sound, North Central, South Central, and East. Depending on which county you live, you will only be considered with other artists located in your region for funding. Please reference the map below to see the breakdown of our five funding regions and their counties. If you're not sure which county you live in, [click here](#).



Tips & Hints

1. **Read the guidelines and instructions carefully and follow them.**

2 **Start your application at least a week before the deadline** and give yourself plenty of time to prepare your materials. Don't wait until the last minute to submit. Submittable slows down from high traffic in the hours before the deadline. We do not accept late applications.

3. **Write and save your application in a word processing program.** Copy and paste the text into Submittable when you are ready to submit.

4. A **discipline statement** (50 words or less) describes your artistic practice. It can be as simple as "I am a poet" or give a more detailed explanation of your practice. You will also be asked to select a disciplinary category (literary, media, performing, and visual).

5. A **biography** (150 words or less or up to 3 minutes of video/audio) tells your story as an artist. It provides details about you and your work, such as where you were born or grew up, your training, career development, accomplishments, or other information that may not be found elsewhere in the application. This can be written, video, or audio format

6. An **artist statement** (350 words or less or up to 5 minutes of video/audio) is an introduction to your work or a specific body of work. It gives an overview of its concepts, ideas, and themes. It may include information about how your work developed, why you have created it, your vision, influences and inspirations, your philosophy of art-making, and other details that introduce your work. A strong artist statement is clear and specific, captures your speaking voice, and avoids clichés and jargon. This can be written, video, or audio format.

7. **Work samples** are the most important part of your application. Include your strongest work. Make sure your work samples are well-

documented, cohesive with your artist statement, and follow the work sample guidelines on page 7. Upload your work samples in the order you'd like the panel to review them.

8. The **progress statement** (150 words or less) explains how this award will impact the progress of your artistic practice. How will this funding progress your work forward? Please feel free to address your financial need and how this award will impact other parts of your artistic progress and/or life.

Artists' merit and need will be weighed equally and panelists will be encouraged to nominate recipients at various career stages as it relates to merit and need.

9. **Take advantage of our support services and resources** listed on page 5. You can find examples of some of the GAP Award application in the [reference guide](#) at [artisttrust.org](#).

10. **Watch the How to Apply to 2021 GAP Awards** pre-recorded webinar [here](#).

11. **Have a friend, colleague, or another artist review your application** before you submit. If you have questions about your application, the guidelines, your eligibility, or anything else, give us a call or email. Our contact information is on page 8.

TOP to BOTTOM: *Forbidden Nights* produced by *The Shanghai Pearl*, Angel Alviar-Langley, 2018 GAP recipient, *Jersey Avenue*, Pamela Awana Lee, 2019 GAP recipient



Work Sample Guidelines

PLEASE KEEP IN MIND:

You may submit work samples in audio, video, image, and manuscript formats. The works in your samples should have been created within the past 5 years. Review the guidelines for information on file types, sizes, lengths, and total number of samples. We do not accept physical artwork in any format, slides, or files sent via email. All work samples must be submitted within your Submittable application.

If you are submitting multiple file formats, you may submit no more than 10 files. One image is equal to one minute of video, audio, or manuscript page. For example, you can submit a single 10-minute video, or 10 images, or 10 manuscript pages. Or you can submit a combination. For example, you can submit 2 minutes of a video, 5 pages from a manuscript, and 3 images—this equals 10 work samples.

The total amount submitted must equal no more than 10, which may not necessarily be how many files you upload.

To respect the panelists' time, samples submitted over the maximum allowed will not be considered. Links to third party websites, such as SoundCloud, Vimeo, and YouTube, are not accepted.

FILE FORMAT DETAILS:

AUDIO

- Maximum of 10 minutes total.
- Begin and end each sample where you want the panel to begin and end.
- Do not submit samples with cue times.
- Choose a selection that will make the panel want to see/hear more (avoid long intros, etc.).

- Do not submit work samples designed for promotional purposes (such as a performance reel).
- Submit an individual file for each song or work.
- File type(s): .aiff, .mp3, .wav.
- Music and Music Composition: No scores please.

IMAGES

- Maximum of 10 images.
- Recommended no smaller than 1920 pixels on the longest side.
- Recommended 72 ppi/dpi (standard web resolution).
- Submit one piece per file (do not collage several angles or multiple pieces within one image).
- Backdrops should be neutral (white, black, or gray), with each piece well-lit and focused.
- File type(s): .gif, .jpeg, .tiff

MANUSCRIPT

- One manuscript with a maximum of 10 pages, plus one synopsis page.
- All manuscripts must be double-spaced with a 12-point font size or larger (except poetry, plays, or experimental works).
- Multiple poems, stories, pieces, or excerpts should be combined into one file.
- One synopsis page is allowed. Include it as the first page of your work sample (one synopsis page + maximum 10 manuscript pages). If the work sample consists of multiple excerpts, use the synopsis page to give information for each. A synopsis page can include publication dates, whether the selections are from a larger series, additional description, or details about where the piece fits within a larger body of work. It can be single- or double-spaced.
- File type: .pdf.

VIDEO

- Maximum of 10 minutes total.
- Do not submit work samples designed for promotional purposes (such as a filmography or choreography reel).
- Submit an individual file for each distinct work.
- Begin and end each sample where you want the panel to begin and end.
- Do not submit samples with cue times.
- Choose a selection that will make the panel want to see/hear more (avoid long intros, fade-ins/outs, etc.).
- Resolutions: recommended minimum 640 x 480, maximum 1920 x 1080.
- Aspect Ratio: 4:3 or 16:9.
- Bit Rate: recommended above 240 kbps.
- Frame Rate: recommended minimum 12 fps, maximum 30 fps.
- File type(s): .avi, .m4v, .mov, .mpg, .wmv.

WORK SAMPLE DESCRIPTIONS

You may add Work Sample Descriptions when uploading each file. Work sample descriptions should include: title, materials, dimensions, time, or pages, and the year work was completed. Also, use the description to clarify your role (e.g. cinematographer, lighting designer, "I'm the second to the left in this image."). You may include a short (1-2 sentence) description of the work.

WORK SAMPLE ORDER

Submittable orders your files in the order that you upload them.

Selection Process

SELECTION CRITERIA

The panel nominates recipients based on:

- Artistic excellence;
- Clarity of vision and purpose;
- The potential progress and impact the award would have on the artist's life;
- Geographic location in Washington State

Applications are reviewed by two multidisciplinary panels of BIPOC working artists from across the state. Each panel will have one BIPOC artist from one of the five regions (West, Puget Sound, North Central, South Central, and East). The application pool will be evenly divided between the two panels for review. Panelists review their assigned list of applications. Each panel will nominate a minimum of 5 recipients from West, North Central, South Central, and East (totaling 10 recipients from each region), and 12-13 recipients from Puget Sound (totaling 25 recipients from Puget Sound). There will be a total of 65 recipients combined. Panelists are required to review applicants through a lens of racial equity and are encouraged to highlight a range of discipline and practices. 2021 panels are held virtually via Zoom.

Artist Trust recognizes that Black and Indigenous people experience more barriers and less opportunities than other people of color. We use the term BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) to acknowledge this reality.

Throughout the 2021 GAP Awards adjudication process, panelists will be asked to prioritize Black and Indigenous artists, as well as discuss marginalized identities within BIPOC communities.

RACIAL EQUITY BACKGROUND

Artist Trust is a nonprofit organization that helps Washington State artists of all disciplines thrive through direct support, connections, and advocacy. We believe a fair and just society ensures artists of all backgrounds and identities are included in its cultural narratives.

ARTIST TRUST RACIAL EQUITY STATEMENT

Artist Trust is committed to becoming an anti-racist organization, and to working against the systems of racism we have inherited, upheld, and perpetuated. We know we are not there yet. Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) have

been systemically oppressed, and we are committed to partnering with them to eradicate white supremacy throughout our organization and to support historically marginalized artists across Washington State.

Read more about our work towards racial equity at artisttrust.org.

SELECTION PANELISTS

Selection panelists are chosen by Artist Trust staff and represent a range of disciplines, ages, genders, and stages in their careers. Panelists are BIPOC working artist and represent one of the five regions (West, Puget Sound, North Central, South Central, and East) of Washington State.

Panelists are kept confidential until the announcement of the awards.

SCHEDULE

- Application opens August 2
- Application deadline September 7
- Panel review mid-September to mid-October
- Notification late-November
- Award announcement December 13

QUESTIONS?

CONTACT ARTIST TRUST:

- with questions about application requirements, guidelines, eligibility, etc.;
- if you need to access or edit a submitted application (if still prior to the deadline of September 7, 2021).

CONTACT SUBMITTABLE:

- with website access issues;
 - with questions about uploading or formatting images;
 - with other technical support needs.
- <http://help.submittable.com/>

ARTIST TRUST

Monday–Friday: 9:00AM–3:00PM PST

Lydia Boss // Program Manager
lydia@artisttrust.org: (206) 467-8734 x25
and

Luther Hughes // Program Manager
luther@artisttrust.org: (206) 467-8734 x20