

Center for Performance and Civic Practice's
Learning Lab Supported by **Cuyahoga Arts & Culture**

CUYAHOGA COUNTY ARTISTS. A new artist training program can help you learn skills to collaborate and co-design with community.

With support from Cuyahoga Arts & Culture, **The Center for Performance and Civic Practice (CPCP)** is offering Learning Lab, a professional development program designed to train artists in civic, social, public and placemaking practices. The program also connects artists to local nonprofit partners and provides funding to explore and implement collaborative, project-based work. Learn more about Civic Practice at thecpcp.org.

ABOUT CPCP'S LEARNING LAB

12 artists from Cuyahoga County will be selected through an application process to participate in CPCP's Learning Lab. Participating artists must commit to three day-long training sessions followed by the opportunity to partner with a participating local nonprofit to develop a collaborative civic practice project. In-person and online coaching sessions support the conceptualization of projects. In addition to fully covering the cost of the Learning Lab program, CAC will offer \$500 to each artist for their participation. Starting in November 2018, artists and civic partners:

- Explore civic, social, and public artistic practices;
- Examine how to build equitable and authentic community partnerships through a practice of listening;
- Engage community partners in change efforts reflecting community-defined needs;
- Learn how to successfully further expand their studio practice to include social and civic practices; and
- Explore how their artistic tools can be utilized for community change processes.

Representatives of up to 12 Cuyahoga County-based nonprofits with a focus on community development will participate in trainings and sessions alongside selected artists. A cohort of local mentor arts organizations will bring additional local expertise and provide thought-partnership for participating artists and partners.



Artists who complete the training will be **eligible for up to \$7,500 in funding** develop public projects in partnership with a nonprofit and informed by Learning Lab's practices. Projects must take place between March and November 2019.

WHO

Selected participants will be artists who are interested in moving their practice into community-based work and exploring partnership and collaboration. No prior public or civic practice work is required. Applicants may identify as any discipline. To be eligible, applicants must:

- Live in Cuyahoga County;
- Be at least 18 years of age;
- Actively be pursuing a career as an artist, creative, scientist or naturalist*; and
- Not currently be enrolled in a full-time degree-granting program related to their creative practice.

CAC strongly encourages applicants who have been historically marginalized or underrepresented. Priority funding goes to artists that foster artistic expression deeply rooted in and reflective of historically marginalized or underrepresented communities. Informed by the Grantmakers in the Arts' "Racial Equity: Statement of Purpose," these communities include: African and African American; Latino/a; Asian and Asian American; Arab; Native American; Pacific Islander; lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer; transgender and gender variant people; people with disabilities; and women.

*CAC defines artists as individuals whose practices include but are not limited to literature, theater, music, dance, ballet, painting, sculpture, photography, motion pictures, architecture, archaeology, history, natural history, or the natural sciences.

SELECTION PROCESS

Artists will be selected by CPCP. The application process will be informed by the cohort of local mentor organizations. Participants will be selected using the following criteria: expressed interest in community and/or experience working in a community setting; openness to collaboration; demonstration of an established artistic practice; and commitment to equity. Selected artists will be notified by November 19.

WHEN

To apply, artists must complete and submit the online application form along with examples of previous work by **Monday, October 22 at Midnight ET**. Selected artists must attend all Learning Lab training sessions, no exceptions. Please make sure prior to applying that, if selected, you will be able to attend during the following dates and times:

- Wednesday, November 28, 9 am - 4 pm (Session 1)
- Tuesday, December 18, 9 am - 4 pm (Session 2)
- Thursday, January 10, 2019, 9 am - 4 pm (Session 3)

Artists will also need to be available for phone and in person coaching sessions and meetings with their community partners between January and June 2019. These meetings and coaching sessions will be scheduled at a convenient time for all parties. Artist project funding opportunities will be made available after January 10, 2019, but are not directly connected to the Learning Lab sessions.

LEARN MORE

Learn more at an informational workshop, open to the public, at **9 AM on October 11, 2018 at Trinity Commons**, 2333 Prospect Ave. E, Cleveland, OH 44115. If you need assistance or have questions, please contact Jake Sinatra at jsinatra@cacgrants.org or 216-515-8303 x103. Our office hours are Monday-Friday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.

Due Monday, October 22 by Midnight ET

First Name

Last Name

Date of Birth

Home Address

Street

City

Zip

Phone Number

Email

Optional Demographic Profile

Gender

Preferred Gender Pronoun

Race/Ethnicity

Age Range

Disability

How long have you been working as an artist?

Narrative Questions

1. Describe your creative process. (100 word maximum)
2. Community-engaged work often involves time, deep listening, challenging conversations and a comfort with uncertainty. How does your artistic approach align with these needs? (300 words maximum)
3. What is your experience in artistic collaborations with partners who do not identify as artists? What interests you about this type of collaboration? (400 words maximum)

If you don't have prior experience in this type of collaboration, please tell us why this idea feels compelling to you.

Support Materials

In addition to your completed application, please provide the following items:

1. Required - Three Work Samples: Provide any combination of the following options:
 - Digital Images: Select images that best represent your current work. Acceptable file formats include PDF and JPEG files. File size should not exceed 3 MB (per file).
 - Audio or Video: Sample should not exceed 3 minutes. Acceptable file formats include MOV, MP4 and WAV files.

Please be sure to indicate the title, media, dimensions, description and year of each sample when uploading.

2. Optional - Current Resume or Artist CV (No more than 3 pages)
3. Optional - Please provide URLs to your website, social media or other digital content

Participation Agreement

Selected artists will be required to attend all Learning Lab training sessions, no exceptions. Please confirm that, if selected, you will be able to attend during the following dates and times:

- Wednesday, November 28, 9 am - 4 pm (Session 1)
- Tuesday, December 18, 9 am - 4 pm (Session 2)
- Thursday, January 10, 2019, 9 am - 4 pm (Session 3)

[x] I certify that all of the information in this application is true and if selected, I commit to attend ALL of the Learning Lab sessions.