



# VIA Art Fund

## Artistic Production Grant Program Description, Eligibility Requirements, and LOI Guidelines

### Artistic Production Grant Program Description

VIA Art Fund's Artistic Production Grants are awarded twice annually to individual artists, nonprofit organizations, and institutions to support new artistic commissions that take place outside museum or gallery walls, within the public realm, or in non-traditional exhibition environments. Individual artists or producing organizations seeking production funding must have a confirmed exhibition venue or presenting partner. Artistic Production funding ranges from \$25,000 to \$100,000 per project, with grants at the upper levels of funding reserved for permanent installations or works that will be gifted to a U.S. public collection. Artistic Production Grants are awarded to projects that best exemplify VIA's three core values of Artistic Production, Thought Leadership, and Public Engagement:

#### I. Artistic Production

We champion the production of new work—from creation to exhibition, documentation, and dissemination—that reflects artistic excellence and innovation. When possible, VIA Artistic Production grants are made with the intention to gift the work to a US-based cultural organization, ensuring that VIA-funded artworks live on to encounter new audiences under the stewardship of public institutions.

#### II. Thought Leadership

We support the work of both established and emerging voices in contemporary art that bring new knowledge and dynamic avenues of understanding to the field. The creative output of these thought leaders generates entry points for dialogue and collaboration and fosters vital intellectual exchange.

#### III. Public Engagement

We promote work that penetrates social, cultural, geographic, and economic barriers to inspire and educate diverse and expanded audiences. These initiatives act as platforms for inquiry and investigation, generating meaningful collective experiences for the public.

### Eligibility Requirements

- VIA awards grants to artists, nonprofit organizations, and cultural institutions working in the field of contemporary art in the US and internationally.
- These grants are intended to support newly commissioned works of visual art presented in non-traditional exhibition venues and those mounted in the public realm. VIA does not fund museum or gallery exhibitions, curatorial projects, artist residency programs, performing arts presentations (theater, opera, ballet, musical compositions, etc.), or youth education programs.
- Projects must have a confirmed artist at the time of LOI submission.
- Project must have a confirmed exhibition venue at the time of LOI submission.
- If the project takes place in the US, the featured artist may be based in the US or internationally. If the artist is based internationally, then the project must take place in the US. If the project venue is outside the US, the artist must be based in the US.
- Projects must open to the public after the date stipulated for each grant cycle (see current dates and deadlines at [viaartfund.org/apply](http://viaartfund.org/apply)).
- Organizations applying must provide proof of nonprofit status.

#### VIA Art Fund

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- Applicants must have a letter of support from hosting venue.
- Previous grantees must wait three full years from the date of their last grant award to re-apply for funding. Previous applicants who were invited to submit a full application but did not receive support must wait one full year to re-apply. Previous applicants who did not progress past the LOI stage may not submit an LOI for the same project; they may, however, submit an LOI for a different project in the next cycle.

### LOI Guidelines

Please see VIA's website for current and upcoming LOI deadlines and the link to the submission portal at [www.viaartfund.org/apply/](http://www.viaartfund.org/apply/)

You may apply directly to VIA as an artist **OR** as an organization.

**1) Artists will be prompted to include the following in their LOI:**

- Your full name, address, phone number, and email.
- A two-page description of the project written in the form of a letter, with details of the exhibition/project venue(s); an artist statement related to the proposed project; and the amount of your request.
- A balanced project budget.
- A project timeline.
- An updated CV and link to your website.

**2) Organizations will be prompted to include the following in their LOI:**

- Their full name, address, phone number, and email.
- A two-page description of the project written in the form of a letter, with details of the exhibition/project venue(s); identified artist(s); a description of the proposed commissioned artwork; and the amount of your request.
- A balanced project budget and organization's current annual operating budget (not a P&L balance sheet).
- A project timeline.
- Proof of nonprofit status.

### Artistic Production Grant Award Process

The application process for Artistic Production Grants unfolds in four stages:

1. If you are eligible for an Artistic Production grant, then you may submit a Letter of Inquiry (LOI) for either our Fall or Spring grant cycles.
2. Projects of interest are invited to submit a full application.
3. Applications from invited artists and organizations will be reviewed by staff and VIA Partners.
4. The artist and curator representing the Finalist projects will be invited to present at our semi-Annual Partners Meeting and final award decisions will be made by democratic vote by VIA Partners. Grant award notifications will be sent no more than two weeks following the Partners Meeting and funds dispersed according to the funding timeline outlined in the project's grant agreement.

### FAQs

If you have any additional questions regarding VIA's Artistic Production Grants, please consult our FAQs.

