

Emerging Artists Grant Program

A partnership program of the Durham Arts Council,
Orange County Arts Commission, Chatham Arts Council,
and Person County Arts Council.

Funded by The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation, the Durham Arts
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donations.

- These slides are available on the DAC website: <https://durhamarts.org/eap/>
- Questions and Answers will follow the presentation
- You can email with questions: mdemott@durhamarts.org

Information Opportunities

- Provide support to individual artists for career development projects
- The project must help the artist take their career forward



Purpose of the program

- **Eligible applicants** have lived in Durham, Orange, Chatham, Person or Granville Counties, NC, for at least one year before the application deadline.
- Are at least 18 years of age.
- Are not enrolled in a degree program in your art form.



Eligibility

- Strength of the artist's work and commitment of artist – 10 Points
- Feasibility of project – 10 Points
- Impact on the artist's career, as they define it in their career goals – 10 Points

**Criteria for
review**



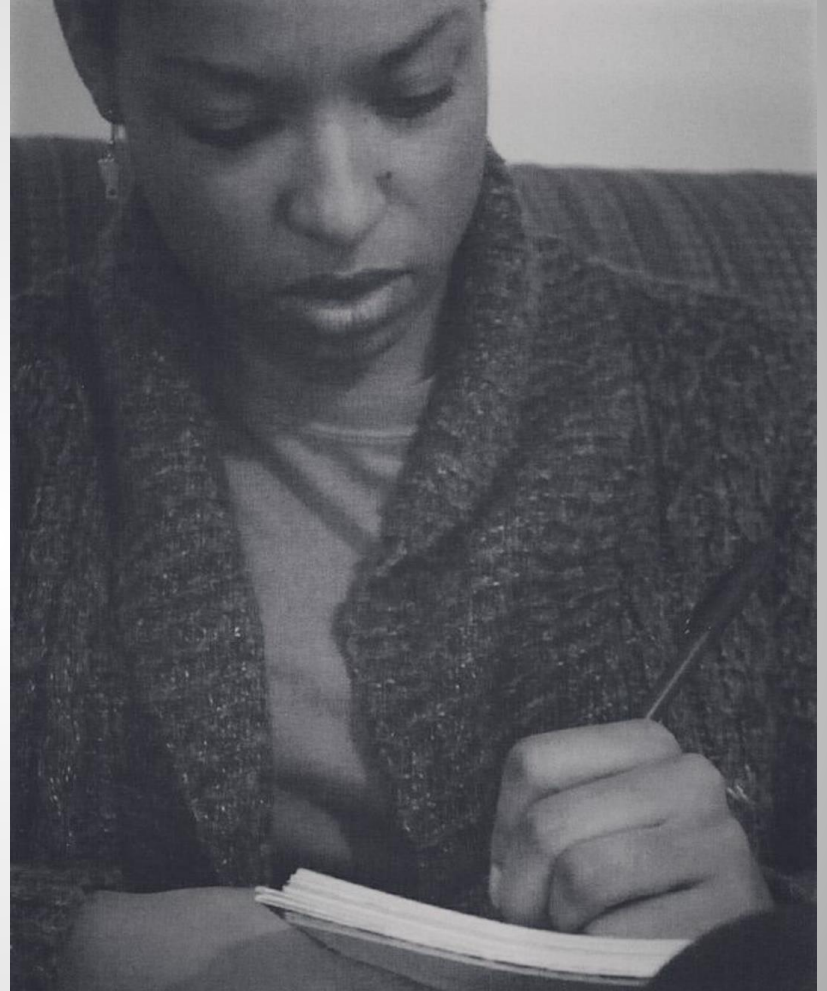
- An Emerging Artist is simply moving from one point to another to build their career.
- The “emergence” can be about the business of art (“I need a plane ticket to get to my audition”)
- Or the creation of art (“I need to rebuild my wood fired kiln”)

**What do you mean by
“emerging”?**

- Career is defined by long term commitment to mastering the skills of your art form and developing a voice.
- One path is not more convincing than another – you can be self-taught, have an MFA or learn from your grandmother.
- Making money with your art is not required to be considered a professional.

What do you mean by “career”?

The application is your chance to tell the reviewers who you are – as **an artist** and as **a project manager**.



Telling Your Story



- Your work sample
- your career goals
- your resume

help the reader
understand you as an
artist.

Your story as an artist

- Your project description
- timeline and
- budget

help the reader understand your ability to manage the project.



Your story as a project manager

- Make the effort to explain the impact of the project on your career – this is often a deal breaker if your application gets to the final round.

TIPS



- Submit a **coherent body of work** for your work sample. You can upload files or link to a recording.
- Your resume. . .or bio. . . or CV should explain **how you learned your skill** as an artist and **what you have accomplished**.
- **Check the math** in your budget. Include income and expense. **Income should equal expense.**
- You can include artist fees for yourself in the budget. **The grant is taxable income.**

MORE TIPS

- If you have a complicated project it will probably take more words to explain than a simple one.
- Provide enough information for the reader to understand what you are proposing, but don't drown them in detail.
- **Get a friend to read your narrative** and tell you what they understood – you are very close to your subject matter and may not express your self as clearly as you think.

Say enough but not too much



- Put yourself in the reviewer's place – how can you make it easy for them to understand your proposal?
- What will make them remember you?

Pretend you are the reviewer

We hope that completing this application will develop your skills to

- describe your work and your vision
- build a coherent budget
- curate work samples.

These skills will help you to write strong proposals for commissions, residencies, grants and jobs in the future.

Building for the future

- You can email Margaret DeMott with questions: mdemott@durhamarts.org



**Looking forward to your
application! Deadline Oct. 31,
2021**

- **DAC Arts Recovery Fund:** COVID loss, artists living in Durham County. Rolling deadline.
<https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=pqYAAW>
- **DurhamArtsNetwork.org:** online directory for artists, organizations, arts businesses. Set up free profile.

Other Resources

- The Emerging Artists Program is supported by:



The Mary Duke
Biddle Foundation



THANK YOU!