

Should I Apply for the Guggenheim Fellowship?

The purpose of the Guggenheim Fellowship is to provide Fellows with **blocks of time** in which they can work with **as much creative freedom as possible**. As such, grants are made freely, without any special conditions attached to them; Fellows may spend their grant funds in any manner they deem necessary to their work.

Am I ready?

Am I at a stage in my career that I meet the requirements?

The Foundation understands advanced professionals to be artists, playwrights, filmmakers, photographers, composers, or the like, who have a **significant record of exhibition or performance of their work**.

Do I want to start practicing the application even if I am not confident that I am an “advanced professional”?

The 2023 Guggenheim Fellows range in age from **31 to 85**.

Am I a fit for the Guggenheim Fellowship?

Does my work align with the organization's priorities?

The Foundation centers the talents and instincts of the Fellows, whose passions often have **broad and immediate impact**.

Have I looked through the previous artist fellows to see how my work compares?

<https://www.gf.org/all-fellows/>

How prestigious is the opportunity? How competitive?

In 2023, they awarded 175 fellowships in 48 scholarly disciplines and artistic fields. The Fellows were chosen from a rigorous application and peer review process out of almost 2,500 applicants.

What is involved?

How complex and time-consuming is the application process?

The primary components of the application are:

- **Application form** with:
 - Positions Held (if applicable)
 - Education
 - Organizations you are a member of (if applicable)
- **Four references** (name and contact only, make sure the info is correct and you have asked their permission. Your references will be contacted!)
- **Narrative of your career** - brief prose account, no maximum length however most are 3-4 pages
- **List of work** (Similar to a CV: list Exhibitions, Collection, if you are an artist, performances if performer, etc.)
- **Statement of plans** for the period of the Fellowship: a concise description of the project you plan to work on during the Fellowship period. (3 Pages Max)

Do I have a project in mind for this application?

Applicants in the arts will be asked to submit a brief statement of plans describing the proposed artistic project, not exceeding three pages in length. Financial considerations will not play a part in their evaluations.

Other Benefits to consider:

Will this look good on my CV?

The Guggenheim Fellowship is highly recognizable as one of the most prestigious national grants for US artists.

If I do not apply, will I be missing an opportunity to support my work, its potential, and my goals?

If I am not selected as a Guggenheim Fellow, will my time and resources spent on the application still be a useful investment?

Am I excited about this opportunity?

GRANT COMP STATS:

Guggenheim Fellowship: 2,500 Applicants in 2023; 175 Fellows in all disciplines, award varies; (National. Scientists, writers, scholars, and artists.) Career and project-based.

In 2023: In all, **48** scholarly disciplines and artistic fields, **72** different academic institutions, **24** states and the District of Columbia, and two Canadian provinces are represented in this year's class of Fellows, who range in age from **31 to 85**. Close to **50** Fellows have no current full-time college or university affiliation. Many Fellows' projects directly respond to issues like the lasting effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, democracy and policing, scientific innovation, climate change, and identity.

Creative Capital Award: 5,000+ applicants in 2023; 50 projects \$15,000 to \$50,000 plus \$50,000 in advisory services (National); Project Based.

Harpo Foundation Grants for Visual Artists: 1,600 applicants in 2019; grants up to \$10,000, average grant is \$8,000 (National); Average 7 grantees each cycle.

Ellis Beauregard Foundation: 300 Applicants in 2023; \$50,000 Fellowship, 1 grantee each year.