

Financial Support For Art Projects by Armenia Art Foundation Guidelines (November 2016 – December 2017)

Part 1

General Terms

1. Armenia Art Foundation (AA Foundation) provides financial support to artists working in the field of contemporary art, to stimulate the development of contemporary art in Armenia.
2. Financial Support to Artists (hereinafter referred to as the “Financial Support”) are designed for artists or collectives, working in the field of contemporary art in different media, including performance arts (intervention, action, performance, happening), visual arts (photography, painting, installation, sculpture, artist book, mixed media), audio-visual arts (sound art, video art), digital and media art, and art in public spaces. The program is open for graduate students and professional artists alike.
3. Financial Support is considered as a form of compensation for research and production of artworks. However, while research on the project may be conducted before applying for a Financial Support For Art Projects, the production of a new work at the end of the project is a mandatory requirement.

Part 2

Financial Support Objectives

4. To support the creation and production of new artwork, to stimulate artists in pursuit of their artistic practice and professional development, to contribute to the growth of a vibrant contemporary art scene in Armenia.

Part 3

Eligibility

5. Individual artists and art collectives (two or more artists working together) are eligible to apply for the Financial Support.
6. Two types of Financial Support are available, depending on the age of the applicant: -

grants for younger artists aged 18 to 25; - grants for artists aged 26 and above.

7. To be eligible, all applicants should:

- either be based in Armenia, or be from Armenian Diaspora;
- produce the artwork in Armenia,
- not have already been awarded funding under this program in the same calendar year;
- have satisfied the reporting requirements of any previous AA Foundation funding program.

8. Applications will be deemed ineligible if:

- the application form is incomplete or incorrect;
- the projects or activities do not have a clearly defined artistic component;
- the project has already been completed.

Part 4

Amount and Distribution of the Financial Support

9. The recommended amount of the Financial Support is equivalent of \$4.500, calculated in AMD. Provided funds are calculated according to exchange rates of the Central Bank of RA, actual on the transfer day. However the final amount may be higher or lower, as in each case the applicant should determine the sum they request based on the needs of the project.

10. The applicant might not be awarded the full amount requested; the Foundation reserves the right to recommend the final amount of the Financial Support.

11. The financial Support covers research activities and production of the artwork.

12. In case of funding research, the applicant should explain how the proposed activity will develop their artistic practice and the evolution of the idea of artwork to be produced.

13. The application may or may not include the expenses for research activities, whereas the production of new artwork is a mandatory requirement.

14. Priority will be given to the projects that will be presented in confirmed public exhibitions in Armenia or abroad. Co-financing is welcomed.

15. Eligible costs for the Financial Support include:

- Living costs to a equivalent of max \$700 per month, calculated in AMD
- research activities, including:
 - o expenses related to art residency
 - o specialized capacity-building activities (non-academic)

o collaborations with other artists, curators, critics, and theorists (incl. collaborator's fee, travel, and accommodation if needed)

o mentorships (incl. mentor's fee, travel, and accommodation if needed)

- production costs for the artwork: materials, equipment (incl. rental), technical services, studio rental
- production costs for the artwork confirmed to be presented at public exhibitions in Armenia or abroad

16. Ineligible costs for the Financial Support include:

- activities that have already been completed or expenses that have occurred before the confirmation of the Financial Support and signing of Contract.
- student and educational projects
- academic training in the arts, including undergraduate and postgraduate studies
- studio or business set-up
- administrative and other organizational costs and investments not directly related to the project
- fundraising activities, awards, competitions, prizes, charity events
- publications (catalogues and monographs)
- exceeding equipment costs (for instance, purchase of vehicle, real estate, etc.)
- activities with a predominantly touristic character with no practical use for the project (travel, museum visits, etc.)

Part 5

Application Procedure & Assessment

17. Applications for AA Foundation funding are peer assessed by members of the Advisory Board of the Foundation.

18. At first stage, applications are reviewed by the staff of the Foundation to confirm the eligibility of the applicant, and ensure that the application form is complete and accompanied by the required set of documents.

19. In cases of inaccuracies in the application form or supporting documents, the Foundation provides guidance on how to proceed with the application, and the applicant can make the necessary corrections before the deadline.

20. At the second stage, members of the Advisory Board will receive and review copies of all eligible applications, supporting documents, and other attachments. Board members will discuss each application at appointed day either in a personal meeting, or via conference call. They will select successful applications based on the application forms and supporting documents, and according to assessment criteria and availability of funds. They can request additional information.

21. The Advisory Board advises the management of the Foundation on grant candidates; the management of the Foundation does not award grants without positive recommendations from the Board.

22. All applicants will be informed of the outcomes of their applications approximately two months after the application deadline.

23. Assessment Criteria

- artistic merit of the proposed project
- artistic merit of work previously produced by the applicant
- significance of the proposed project for the professional development of the applicant, its capacity to advance their artistic practice
- possible contribution of the proposed project to building the capacity of contemporary art scene in Armenia
- skills and artistic ability of the people involved in the proposed project and their relevance to the proposed activity
- roles of any partners involved, and confirmation of their involvement
- realistic and achievable planning, resource use, and evaluation.

24. Application Schedule & Procedure

Open Call #1- November 7, 2016 Deadline: February 22, 2017 Selection & Announcement of Grantees: April 2017

Open Call #2- July 3, 2017 Deadline: September 30, 2017 Selection & Announcement of Grantees: November 2017

Open Call #3- January 10, 2018 Deadline: March 12, 2018, Selection & Announcement of Grantees: April 2018

25. The application form and supporting documents have to be written or in Armenian or English and submitted via e-mail.

26. The applicant should make sure that the application clearly demonstrates how the proposed project will meet the funding criteria.

27. Applicants can submit only one application for Project Grants for Artists at any given time. Applicants can participate in the Financial Support for Art Projects multiple times, but can only be awarded Financial Support once per calendar year. **Applicants cannot apply with the same project for the second time.**

Part 6

Validity Dates and Payment Procedures of the Financial Support for Art Projects

28. The Financial Support program is valid for the period of up to 6 months, which should be indicated in the application (the applicant should designate the start and end period in the application). By the end of this period, the proposed artwork should be produced.

29. Successful applicants should mention the Foundation (name and logo) in all their publications, exhibitions, and other public presentations of the artwork funded by the Financial Support for Art Projects of AA Foundation.

30. The created artwork(s) is/are artist's property.

31. The Foundation does not take liability, storage, insurance or transportation costs for the produced artworks belonging to the artist during and after the end of Financial Support program.

32. The amount of awarded Financial Support cannot be paid by one-time payment, and is distributed in installments as follows:

- 45 % is paid after signing the contract;
- 40% is paid in the middle of the project period;
- 15% is paid after the approval of the substantive and financial reports, which should confirm that the amount of awarded Financial Support was expended in accordance with the budget provided.

The distribution percentage of Financial Support provided by the Foundation and specified in the 1st and 2nd phases to this clause can be a subject to change. However, the amount provided in the last stage of Financial Support, cannot be less than 15%.

To learn more, please download our Visual Guideline (available only in Armenian).