



## **Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) Artist Fund**

### **Program Overview**

The WESTAF Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) Artist Fund is a fund designed in partnership with members of [WESTAF's Leaders of Color Network](#) and facilitated by consultant [Margie Reese](#). The fund provides resources to and for BIPOC artists living in the 16 states and jurisdictions in the [WESTAF region](#) in order to advance their own artistic practice and goals.

The program emphasizes self-determination for BIPOC artists and their communities. WESTAF will invest in the wellbeing and safety of BIPOC artists, cultural practitioners, and collaboratives by providing no-strings-attached funding and support.

The Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) Artist Fund opens for individuals to apply on January 25, 2023 and closes February 12, 2023. In 2023, funds will be distributed from a pool of \$160,000. Our intention is to distribute one award to each of the 16 states and jurisdictions in the WESTAF region. While all budget requests will be reviewed, we anticipate distributing up to \$10,000 per awardee.

### **Eligibility**

- Applications are open to any BIPOC artists, cultural practitioners, and collaboratives that are based in [WESTAF's region](#) — regardless of immigration status — and are at least 18 years of age. See the FAQs for details if you are applying on behalf of a collaborative.
- Applicants must be in good standing with WESTAF, with no overdue or delinquent reports or documentation.

### **Program Description and Aspirations**

WESTAF will invest in the wellbeing and safety of BIPOC artists, cultural practitioners, and collaboratives by providing no-strings-attached funding and support. The BIPOC Artist Fund support is available for, but not limited to, any of the following:

- Salary support
- Technology/software
- Materials or other resources
- Holistic health

### **Support Sessions**

All artist awardees will participate in group sessions with Margie Reese to provide support to artists in their creative process. Session times are as follows for each time zone:

4 p.m., Pacific Time / 5 p.m. Mountain / 7 p.m. Eastern. Session topics and dates:



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- April 13, 2023 – Personal Commitments
- June 8, 2023 – Process and Progress/Self Authorship
- August 11, 2023 – Sunlight and Shadows/Self Authorship
- October 12, 2023 – Closing Session

### **Additional Reporting/Supplemental Materials**

Applicants are not required to provide supplemental information, and selected artist awardees will not be required to submit a final report in addition to the request for funding. Shifting towards relationship-based reporting, with this opportunity, WESTAF aims to minimize hurdles so artists can focus on their creative practice and together we can reflect on award impact, successes and challenges, and strategies for the future. If awarded, regular check-ins will occur.

### **Scoring Methods**

In the spirit of liberatory grantmaking and trust-based philanthropy, this application focuses more on the artist than the artwork. We welcome applicants to respond to the prompts to the best of their ability, sharing their most authentic self — as a person and not just an artist. Applicants are not constrained to a certain medium; alternative forms of response are welcome.

Reviewers will use a 1-10 scale to assist in the selection process with the following questions guiding application review:

- Does the candidate have a strong sense of how identity relates to their creative practice?
- Has the candidate articulated their specific needs?
- Can the candidate strongly express their practice and how they plan to further develop it?
- Does the candidate have a strong and thoughtful connection to community?