

## Creative Stimulus Project – Call for Applications

### Applications due: June 15, 2017

Since 2008, Critical Mass for the Visual Arts has recognized the needs of outstanding local visual artists through the Creative Stimulus Project. Building upon the mission of Critical Mass to promote and initiate contemporary visual art in St. Louis, the Creative Stimulus Project provides up to three artists or artist collaborations with \$1,500 of unrestricted operating capital, the opportunity to exhibit their work in a group exhibition, and participation in the Critical Mass “Five Questions” podcast. Recipients are also eligible to curate future Creative Stimulus exhibitions.

Award recipients will receive stipends based on the outstanding nature of their work and their commitment to advancement and career development. Submissions will be reviewed by a jury panel comprised of local artists, arts professionals, and former Creative Stimulus Award winners. Past recipients include: Ellie Balk, Jessica Baran, Martin Brief, Addoley Dzegede, Tate Foley, Cameron Fuller, Meghan Grubb, Emily Hemeyer, Sarrita Hunn, David Johnson, Asma Kazmi, Angela Malchionno, William Morris, Sarah Paulsen, Amy Reidel, Carlie Trosclair, Mel Watkin, and Brett Williams. For a full list of past recipients please visit the Critical Mass website: <http://criticalmassart.org/the-creative-stimulus/>

Artists may use the non-matching stipends in any way to assist in the creation of new work or to contribute to the growth of their artistic career.

#### **Selection Criteria**

- Artistic excellence and innovation as evidenced by past work.
- The artist’s demonstrated commitment to career development as an artist.
- The award makes possible an experience or project that the artist would otherwise be unable to pursue.

This call is open to established and emerging artists who live within a 100-mile radius of St. Louis.

#### **Submission Requirements**

1. A single electronic document (Microsoft Word or PDF) containing:
  - A letter (2-page maximum) that presents a strong, clear artist statement and explains how you would use this stipend to advance your career.
  - A resume/cv no longer than 3 pages including current contact information and email address.
  - An image list providing image number, title, medium, dimensions, date of work, and a brief description for each image submitted.
2. Up to 10 images of previous works. Or, artist may choose to submit 5 images and up to three websites and/or videos. Preferred format for video is a website link or youtube, vimeo or similar web-based link.

Applications from collaborations/teams of two or more artists will be accepted. Artist teams may submit a resume/cv for each team member and a total of 15 images of past work or 8 images and four websites and/or video clips.

Image File Format: Images must be submitted as JPG files and be less than 1 MB each. “High quality” files at 300 dpi, no more than 1920 pixels on the longest side, are recommended for best viewing by the jury.

Image File Labeling: Files must be titled with a number indicating the viewing order, followed by the artist’s last name. Use “0” in front of single digit numbers. Do not use more than 30 characters; use only letters, numbers and underscores. Example: 01\_Smith; 02\_Smith. Mac OS users: Image files must be in JPEG format and include “.jpg” at the end of each image title. Example: 01\_Smith.jpg.

**Reporting Requirement**

Upon completion of the award year, recipients must provide Critical Mass with a follow-up artist statement/letter so that the organization can track and evaluate how funds are being used.

**Selection Dates**

June 15, 2017 – Applications due, 6:00 PM

July, 2017 – Critical Mass Creative Stimulus recipients notified

**All applications must be submitted electronically to:** [stlcriticalmass@yahoo.com](mailto:stlcriticalmass@yahoo.com)

Attachments can total no more than 5MB in a single e-mail. If necessary, please divide images into multiple e-mail messages or use a file sharing service. Call or email Meridith McKinley with any questions: 314-735-9268 or [mckinley@viapartnership.com](mailto:mckinley@viapartnership.com).

The Creative Stimulus Project is supported in part by a grant from the Regional Arts Commission and by generous donations from individuals who believe that supporting and promoting local artists makes St. Louis a better place to live.

More information about the Creative Stimulus Project and Critical Mass can be found at <http://criticalmassart.org/>.