

Creative Stimulus Project – Call to Artists

Applications due: Thursday, November 19, 2020

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: Jessica Baran, Martin Brief, Tate Foley, Cameron Fuller, Meghan Grubb, Emily Hemeyer, Sarrita Hunn, David Johnson, Asma Kazmi, Angela Malchionno, William Morris, Sarah Paulsen, Carlie Trosclair, Mel Watkin, Brett Williams, Ellie Balk, Addoley Dzegede, Amy Reidel, Sage Dawson, Kahlil Irving, Adrienne Outlaw, Edo Rosenblith, Steph Zimmerman, Yvonne Ose, Yowshien Kuo, Marina Peng and Janie Stamm. 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 career.

Selection Criteria

- Artistic excellence and innovation as evidenced by past work.
- The artist’s demonstrated commitment to career development as an artist.

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. 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 project year, recipients will 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

November 19, 2020– Applications due, 6:00 PM

December 2020 – Critical Mass Creative Stimulus recipients notified

Spring/Summer 2021 – Creative Stimulus exhibition

All applications must be submitted electronically to: stlcriticalmass@yahoo.com

Attachments can total no more than 10 MB 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.

The Creative Stimulus Project is supported 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/>.