

## AVPA THEME CALL: TECHNOLOGIES OF ART GRANT

### Purpose

Scientific and technological breakthroughs—from the pre-historic discovery of pigment, to the advent of the camera obscura in the renaissance, to a 20<sup>th</sup> century defined by the massifying technologies of radio and television, to a 21<sup>st</sup> century that sees digital innovations every day—have always informed new directions in art. Technology is woven into and constitutes each medium in which an artist works: silver plate, film, digital graphics and sounds, sensing, and kinetic systems, to name a small sample. Simultaneously, art enhances scientific and technological innovation: da Vinci's *Vitruvian Man* brings the artist's pen to bear on the study of anatomy; Hedy Lamarr (an actor) and George Antheil (a composer) invented a radio guidance system for torpedoes; and pioneers in video games and virtual reality also produce training simulators for the US Department of Defense and border surveillance systems for Homeland Security. These examples should remind us that at the intersection between art and technology we do not find only objects, but also people, bodies, and new avenues to think our social and political fields. These intertwining relationships prompt a number of important research questions including:

- 1) How do technology and the mediums and processes of art making define each other?
- 2) What are the consequences of technology's impact on art and art's impact on technology?
- 3) How do art and technology create, transform, and situate audiences?
- 4) What bodies are imagined or obscured where art and technology collide?
- 5) What networks can be mapped between scientists, technologists, and artists, and what do those terrains reveal?
- 6) How does thinking at or along, and through, the intersection of art and technology propel the arts in new directions?
- 7) In what new ways can art intervene in the trajectory of technological development?
- 8) Do new technologies add layers and complexity to the arts, or are they fundamentally transformative of our aesthetic systems?
- 9) Do advances herald new utopias or new nightmares?

The AVPA calls for projects that address these and other related questions which explore technology-oriented art endeavors in any historical or contemporary period. The goal of this call is to understand and contextualize artists and their works and to reflect on the fundamental questions raised by the changes technology wreaks. Proposals can be research based and/or practice based.

*Awardees of this call will potentially be invited to contribute to a journal publication in 2020.*

### ELIGIBILITY

Texas A&M University faculty from the Colleges of Architecture, Education & Human Development, and Liberal Arts are eligible to be the PI for the AVPA Technologies of Art Grant. We encourage interdisciplinary proposals including faculty in Colleges not affiliated with the AVPA. A faculty member's name may not appear on more than one application. No more than two Technologies of Art Grants may be awarded to any faculty member in any three-year period. Grant decisions are merit based. However, priority will be given to new applicants and/or

new projects when proposal quality is equal. The AVPA Director and a 3-person subcommittee drawn from the AVPA Advisory Board will adjudicate grant applications. Board members who submitted a grant proposal will be excused from the entire grant review process. Technologies of Art Grants may not be awarded to the Director of the AVPA.

### **Format**

All proposals must be submitted electronically in PDF format to AVPA Program Coordinator Eunice McCain-Davis (avpa@tamu.edu). Two or more PDFs must be combined into a single file. Proposals must include the Arts Technologies of Art Cover Sheet, including the appropriate department head signatures. In addition, proposals must include:

**Abstract:** A summary briefly describing the project's objectives, proposed methodology, and anticipated results in layman's terms. The abstract should not exceed 150 words and must use Times New Roman 12-point font, double-spaced with one-inch margins. List five key words associated with this proposal listed directly underneath the abstract.

**Project Description:** A narrative description of up to 3 double-spaced pages using Times New Roman 12-point font with one-inch margins. The project description should include any illustrations, figures, data, or other pertinent information and state the specific objectives of the project.

- 1) Discuss the research methodologies to be employed as well as the aesthetic frames through which the project will be evaluated.
- 2) Place this project within the larger context of your creative/scholarly work.
- 3) Provide background information about the project and discuss its potential impact on the Arts at TAMU; including the direct impact on TAMU students'
- 4) Describe the anticipated outcome(s) of the project expected within one year of the award.

Applications must demonstrate the capability and credibility of the principal investigator to perform the research. If graduate students are to take part, describe their work's relevance to their graduate study and the supervision planned for their participation.

**Investigator Curriculum Vitae:** Up to two pages listing recent publications or creative works for all investigators.

**Current and Pending Support:** List the source, title, date, and amount of relevant internal and external funding support received and pending, as well as for applications submitted but not funded during the previous three years (for all investigators).

**Budget and Justification:** Up to one page, specifically itemizing each budgeted item. Justify each item in the budget in terms of the goals of the project.

### **Criteria**

The Grant Subcommittee will consider the following:

**Performance and/as Research:** The potential of the proposed project to result in outstanding creative works, performances, or productions; scholarly research; high impact educational experiences; education based research; or performance and production work that combines

theory with practice and contributes to an understanding of performance or visual arts as a form of research and analysis.

**Impact:** The potential for significant scholarly or creative outcomes from the proposed project. Applicants are required to state the impact of the activity for which they seek support and how/by what metric that impact is to be assessed (series of peer-reviewed articles in major journal; a book manuscript published by a major academic press; performance, exhibition or installation in nationally prominent venue; enhance the classroom experience to expand the students' exposure/knowledge in the visual or performing arts; recording/publication and national distribution of creative work).

**Budget:** The clarity and appropriateness of the proposed budget. Applications must include a complete and itemized budget of projected expenses. These expenses may include but are not limited to publication/recording subventions; research-related travel; graduate or undergraduate research assistance; purchase of equipment, materials, and data for the completion of the project; and other normally reimbursable expenses. If equipment is to be purchased, a detailed explanation of why the equipment is integral to the project and a plan for the future use of the equipment must be provided.

*\*Expenses beyond the amount of the grant will not be reimbursed by AVPA.*

**Investigator:** The potential and previous qualifications for the proposal applicant(s) to successfully complete the proposed project.

**Award Limit: Up to \$7,500**

#### **Project Period**

Grants are awarded twice a year and for a maximum of 12 months. One ninety-day, no-cost extension may be requested. Any unused funds at the end of the project period will be returned to the AVPA.

Dissemination of project results is expected to be in appropriate scholarly form, such as applications for external grants, articles in journals, presentations at professional meetings, scholarly books and peer-reviewed creative work, or performance or exhibition in competitive venues. Results of these activities must be summarized in an annual AVPA Final Report, to be publicly available and posted on the AVPA website. If these activities take place in accordance with a specific course the faculty is required to provide an evaluative report with specific feedback from the students regarding the impact on their education.

#### **Granting Schedule**

There are two granting periods per academic year.

#### **Fall Submission**

*Opening date for the submission of proposals: **September 9***

*Applications due: **October 15***

*Notification of awards and grants: **November 15***

#### **Spring Submission**

*Opening date for the submission of proposals:* **March 7**  
*Applications due:* **April 1**

#### Project Period

Grants are awarded once a year and for a maximum of 12 months. One ninety-day, no-cost extension may be requested. Any unused funds at the end of the project period will be returned to the AVPA.

Dissemination of project results is expected to be in appropriate scholarly form, such as applications for external grants, articles in journals, presentations at professional meetings, scholarly books, and peer-reviewed creative work, or performance or exhibition in competitive venues. The results of these activities must be summarized in an annual AVPA Final Report, to be publicly available and posted on the AVPA website. If these activities take place in accordance with a specific course, the faculty is required to provide an evaluative report with specific feedback from the students regarding the impact on their education.

**Academy for the Visual and Performing Arts  
Technologies of Art Grant Cover Sheet**

**Title of Project:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Abstract (150 words):**

**Principal Investigator:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Department:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail Stop:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Co-Investigator:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Department:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail Stop:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Amount Requested:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**PI Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Co-Investigator Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_

**PI Department Head Signature**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Date**

Submit complete application (project description, investigator(s) CV, current and pending funding sources, budget and justification) as a pdf to [avpa@tamu.edu](mailto:avpa@tamu.edu)