

AVPA Pandemic Innovative Arts Grant

Purpose

In order to enhance the arts at Texas A&M University and in light of the ongoing need for social distancing and similar measure to mitigate the risks of COVID-19 infection, The Academy for the Visual and Performing Arts (AVPA) is offering new Pandemic Innovative Arts Grants to support the development, production, and public presentation of original performance and visual art works on campus in the 2021-2022 academic year.

While works presented virtually or streamed online will be considered for Pandemic Innovative Arts Grants, priority will be given to projects that imagine new modes for delivering art to our audiences in pandemic times. Proposals must meet or exceed state, local, and University COVID-19 guidelines. Within these constraints we hope to encourage a wide variety of projects that may include:

- Outdoor performances and exhibitions for safely distanced audience pods;
- Works for limited and isolated audiences;
- Drive through or drive in art and performance presentations;
- Mail art projects, art on demand, pod-plays, and works for audiences at a distance;
- Soundwalks, alternate reality programming, and similar works that transform our spaces;
- Multimedia and intermedia artwork;
- And any other approach to making safe art for a pandemic world.

This list is not exhaustive: we seek proposals that take present circumstances as a creative condition for making exciting new work.

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 Pandemic Innovative Arts Grant. We encourage interdisciplinary proposals including faculty in Colleges not affiliated with the AVPA. We also encourage teams composed of faculty, students, and staff to apply. Graduate and undergraduate students, working with faculty mentors serving as PI, are also encouraged to apply. A faculty member's name may not appear on more than one application in a single grant cycle. No more than two Pandemic Innovative Arts 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 the AVPA Advisory Board will adjudicate grant applications. Board members who submit a grant proposal will be excused from the entire Pandemic Innovative Arts Grant review process.

Award Limit: \$7,500

Project Period

Grants are awarded for the 2021/2022 Academic Year. The granted projects must be presented publicly by 3 May 2022 (the last day of Spring Semester classes).

Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation of Pandemic Innovative Arts Grants will consider the following:

- 1) **Arts Enhancement and Innovation:** The potential of the proposed project to result in outstanding creative works, performances, or productions, available to Texas A&M University students, faculty, and community members, that take an innovative approach to overcoming the challenge of making art under pandemic conditions.
- 2) **Impact:** The potential of the proposed project to impact faculty, students, and the community. Impact will be evaluated through consideration of
 - a. Size and make up of potential audiences;
 - b. Involvement of students, faculty, and staff in the creative process;
 - c. Potential for integration with courses and curricula;
 - d. Potential to advance faculty research;
 - e. Potential to achieve international recognition for arts innovation.
- 3) **Budget:** The clarity and appropriateness of the proposed budget. Applications must include a complete and itemized budget of projected 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.
- 4) **Safety:** The proposal must demonstrate a clear and abiding commitment to maintaining strict measures to mitigate the risk of spreading COVID-19.
- 5) **Investigator:** The potential and previous qualifications for the proposal applicant(s) to successfully complete the proposed project.

Application 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 **Pandemic Innovative Arts Grant Cover Sheet**, including the appropriate department head signatures. In addition, proposals must include:

Abstract: A summary briefly describing the planned artwork; participating students, faculty, staff, and others; and plans for public exhibition. The abstract should not exceed 150 words and must use Times New Roman 12-point font, double-spaced with one-inch margins. List five keywords associated with this proposal listed directly underneath the abstract.

Project Description: A narrative description of up to 3 double-spaced page using Times New Roman 12-point font with one-inch margins. The project description should clearly describe the work that will be presented, its potential impact on the arts at TAMU (including direct impacts on TAMU students, faculty, and the wider community), COVID-19 safety plans, and the background and expertise collaborators bring to the project.

Collaborators' Curricula Vitae: Up to two pages listing recent publications or creative works by the project's leaders.

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.

Report Requirement

At the conclusion of the project period, awardees must provide a final report and a budget report to the AVPA. The final report should include a summary of the execution of the project and documentation of the project (such as texts, photos, videos, and/or recordings, etc.). The budget report should itemize expenses. In any materials produced by this grant (e.g. programs, liner notes, publications, etc.), the Academy for the Visual and Performing Arts should be appropriately acknowledged. Documentation of the project will also be posted on the AVPA website.

If supported activities take place in association with a specific course, the faculty member is required to provide an evaluative report with specific feedback from the students regarding the impact of the activities on their education.

If the awardee fails to submit a report on time, they will not be eligible to apply for any APVA grants for three academic years.

Award Details

The AVPA will provide up to \$7,500 to successful applicants. Grants may be used anytime during the 2021/22 Academic Year. Any unused funds at the end of the project period will be returned to the AVPA at the end of the grant period. Expenses beyond the amount of the grant will not be reimbursed by AVPA.

Granting Schedule

There are two granting periods per academic year.

Fall Submission

Opening date for the submission of proposals: **September 10**

Applications due: **October 25**

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

Spring Submission

Opening date for the submission of proposals: **February 4**

Applications due: **March 21**

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