2020 Inside/Outside Fellowship Program

KEY DATES
- Application opens: June 1, 2019
- Deadline to apply: August 24, midnight
- Applicants notified of decisions: October 31, 2019
- Fellowship period: Jan. 10–Nov. 28, 2020

PROGRAM OVERVIEW
Created to serve artists living in the Omaha-Council Bluffs metropolitan area, the Inside/Outside Fellowship program is an opportunity for deep immersion in both studio practice and community engagement: Fellows explore materials and ideas to advance their creative careers while developing community art projects that contribute positively to this place we call home. Where in traditional residencies artists often work on their own in seclusion, Fellows at The Union are encouraged to be active participants in the civic life of North Omaha, recognizing the potential of art and artists to spark social change.

Every year, a jury comprising local and national voices selects five artists to participate in the Fellowship program. The successful applicants receive a free, 400 sq. ft. studio at The Union and a complimentary one-year membership to The Co-Op with equipment to support ceramic, textile, print, film photography, and digital media. Studio visits, peer-led critiques, a regional field trip, public events, and a final project presentation serve to further support artists' creative growth.

In addition to providing space in which to create new work and connect with a group of peer artists, the Fellowship program is a place for critical dialogue and reflection on community-engaged art practices. Central to the program are monthly dinner workshops facilitated by national arts and culture workers. The workshops provide avenues for thinking critically about how artists and communities can work together in mutually meaningful ways and how social issues, be they local or global, can inform an artist's work for traditional gallery spaces or outside in public space.

The workshops are complemented by direct interaction with community members: All Fellows contribute 50 hours of experiential learning at a nonprofit or social service

organization, getting out of the studio to build relationships with neighbors and gain deeper understanding of community challenges and celebrations. Artists in the 2019 cohort were paired with Heart Ministry Center, Lutheran Family Services, Charles Drew Community Health Clinic, Heartland Workers Center, and Omaha Public Library to explore such issues as food insecurity, mental health, sex education, and refugee resettlement. These experiences are meant to inform Fellows' final projects, which are presented to the public at the end of the year. Overall, the Inside/Outside Fellowship program seeks to inspire the creation of imaginative, socially conscious, and culturally sensitive work in, for, and with communities.

We accept applications from artists and artist duos working in any creative discipline and at any career level. A BFA or MFA degree is not required to apply. Ideal applicants have a practice that allows them to take full advantage of a private studio, as well as genuine interest in getting outside the studio to engage with the community. Applicants must be based in the Omaha-Council Bluffs metropolitan area or plan to relocate to Omaha at their own expense. At this time, we are unable to support relocation expenses or provide housing.

ARTIST ELIGIBILITY
- At least 21 years of age
- U.S citizen or permanent legal resident
- Reside in the Omaha-Council Bluffs metropolitan area
- Available to participate in all 11 months of the program
- Not enrolled in a college or university during the program

PROGRAM BENEFITS
- ❏ a free private studio
- ❏ $1,800 materials stipend
- ❏ $500 final project stipend
- ❏ complimentary one-year Co-Op membership (supplies not included)
- ❏ one-on-one technical assistance
- ❏ studio visits with arts and culture workers
- ❏ catered dinner workshops
- ❏ experiential learning placement
- ❏ a peer mentor
- ❏ critique sessions
- ❏ and more!

Applications are accepted via Submittable only. Please read the [Application FAQs](#) + [Work Sample Guidelines](#) before starting your application.