



2020 Inside/Outside Fellowship: FAQs

How much does it cost to apply?

There is no cost to apply.

Do I have to be a visual artist to apply?

No. The Fellowship program is meant to support visual and performing artists, writers, filmmakers, fashion designers, musicians, graphic designers, architects, and others creative individuals.

How are artists selected for the program?

A shortlist is determined through online scoring by a three-person jury comprising an alumnus of the Fellowship program, a community member, and an arts and culture worker living outside of Omaha. Applications are evaluated on the basis of artistic merit (demonstration of creative vision and skill); potential benefit at this moment in the applicant's career; feasibility to support the applicant's needs; and demonstrated commitment to or passion for community engagement. Finalists are interviewed by the jury and/or the Director of Programs and final decisions are announced in late October.

Can collectives apply?

The program can accommodate individual artists and artist duos only. Larger collectives are not eligible to apply. If you are an artist duo, please appoint one person in the application to be the primary contact. Applications from artist duos are evaluated case-by-case and acceptance is based, in part, on our ability to support your collaborative work. Artist duos must have demonstrated history of working together prior to applying to the program and, if accepted, must share their studio space and stipends.

Can alumni apply?

While we're totally open to having former Fellows come back, we ask that you wait a year before re-applying to the program.

Should I apply for the Fellowship Program or purchase a Co-Op membership?

Fellows must participate in all aspects of the program. Please do not apply for the Fellowship program if you are only seeking access to the Co-Op Studios. You may purchase a membership at www.u-ca.org/coopstudios.

Can you help me with my application?

Be sure to read our Application Guidelines + FAQs before applying. Still need help? Register for an online application session. If you are unable to attend the online session, you may schedule a 15-minute meeting with a staff member; email danielle@u-ca.org to schedule an appointment. *Note: An appointment does not guarantee acceptance into the program.*

How large are the studios?

Each studio is approximately 400 square feet. The studios are wheelchair-accessible, with doors measuring about three feet wide. Every studio has at least two windows to allow in natural light and fresh air.

Do you provide housing?

Fellows must provide their own housing. Fellows may not sleep or reside in the building; the studios are for work only.

Do the studios have Wifi?

Yes, the building has Wifi throughout.

How often do I have to use my studio?

Please do not apply if you will not make use of the studio space at least 15 hours weekly. Seriously. There's an artist somewhere in the world who would love to have free space to think and create.

Are there limitations to what materials I can work with in my studio?

Yes. There can be no toxic materials and no open flame in the studios.

Are any of the studios sound proofed?

We designed one studio to accommodate an artist working primarily in music or sound. However, The Union is housed in a 100-year-old building and there is only so much we can do about sound bleed. Musicians and sound artists are asked to be considerate of staff during regular business hours and when other Fellows are working.

When are the studios accessible?

Fellows have access to their individual studios 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Access to The Co-Op studios is limited to regular Co-Op hours; check the website for the current schedule.

How often are Fellows required to meet?

In addition to the monthly workshops, Fellows are required to attend quarterly critique sessions, orientation weekend, and a two-day field trip to experience community-engaged art in the region.

What is the purpose of experiential learning?

Experiential learning serves to deepen an artist's engagement with contemporary issues by providing opportunities to get closer to the systems and social issues artists seek to address, while building relationships with community members. We hope that this experience will help the Fellows make informed decisions when working with or portraying communities and in developing their final projects.

How many experiential learning hours are required?

Fellows are required to complete 50 hours of experiential learning over the course of the program. Fellows reflect on this experience throughout the program via workshop discussions, the final project, and other avenues.

What is the final project?

At the end of the program, each Fellow will have the opportunity to present new work, which we refer to as the final project. Possibilities include a gallery exhibition, public artwork, reading, screening, theatrical or movement-based performance, one-off public program, or an event series. The final project should be made in response to the Fellow's experiential learning and/or in collaboration with a community partner.

How do Fellows select their final project space?

Final projects can occur at The Union or at an offsite venue that suits the project. In the application, artists are asked to select a potential space for the final project (e.g. a gallery, theatre, community center, public space, etc) based on what they plan to do during the Fellowship. We know that plans can change. So, in the summer, the Fellows submit comprehensive proposals and the presentation space is determined based on ideas and availability. Final projects are presented to the public in November/December.