How much does it cost to apply?
There is no cost to apply.

Do I have to be a performing artist to apply?
No! While we are taking an integrative approach to Fellowship in collaboration with our Performing Arts program, we encourage artists of various mediums to apply. You must show interest in building a collective performing arts experience with a small cohort and demonstrate artistic alignment with the performing arts. We are looking for actors, writers, designers, costumers, production managers, etc to apply!

What is a writer's room?
In an effort to decentralize the theatrical writing process, we are holding a collective space in this Fellowship year for the devising of text and story structure for the immersive project. All cohort participants will contribute to the writing process for the final project production, regardless of writing experience.

Who is eligible to apply?
We are looking for a diverse group of artists invested in the performing arts to apply for our 2022 Fellowship program. We do have some musts – you must be at least 21 years of age, you must have proof of up-to-date COVID-19 vaccination or be able to provide a medical or religious exemption, not enrolled in a degree program, and live in the Omaha–Council Bluffs metro area.

What if I want to apply but I am not vaccinated from COVID-19?
In an effort to keep our communities safe, The Union is following strict protocols to reduce the spread of COVID-19. As we re-open to the public, there are some programs and engagements that will require proof of vaccination. Because this is a program that requires close collaboration, we will be requiring up-to-date proof of COVID-19 vaccination or a medical or religious exemption. Masks will be required for in-person engagements for all participants.
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 then interviewed by Union staff. We anticipate final decisions to be announced in early February 2022.

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 a 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 Studio Pass?
Fellows must participate in all aspects of the program. Please do not apply for the Fellowship program if you are only seeking access to a studio or the Co-Op Studios. You may purchase a studio pass for our Co-Op Studios 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. We have 30-minute slots available December 2, 5–7pm, December 11, 11a–1p, and December 15, 5–7pm. If you are unable to attend the online session, you may schedule a 15-minute meeting with a staff member; To register or set an appointment, email tia@u-ca.org.

Note: An appointment does not guarantee acceptance into the program.

What can I share as a work sample?
We want to see your work! We know that theatre-based creative practices come in many forms. If you are a writer, send us samples of your writing. If your practice lives in the land of directing or stage management, give us insight into your role in previous productions.

How many work samples should I share?
Please share no more than 10 total work samples. Keep writing samples to under 5 pages, videos to under 5 minutes, and 10 or less images. With all work samples, please provide a
Are the studios accessible?
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.

For more information on The Union’s building facilities, check out our [Union Building Guide](#).

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 free 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. Each year, we receive upwards of 100 applications for the Fellowship program who are in need of studio space, and have to turn many qualified candidates away. For our 2022 cohort, collaboration is central to the Fellowship experience and studio engagement will be imperative to program participation.

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 do I have access to my studio?
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 an orientation weekend, a two-day field trip to experience community-engaged art in the region (if COVID-19 allows), and collaborative sessions with mentors and the cohort. Beyond
scheduled events, Fellows are expected to put in outside studio hours into their time with us. In 2022, collaborative working sessions amongst the cohort and with mentors are also a part of the program requirements.

**What is the purpose of experiential learning?**
Through workshops, dialogue, and mentorship, the experiential learning serves to deepen an artist's engagement with contemporary issues by providing opportunities to build relationships with community and engage in collective storytelling. We hope that this experience will help the Fellows make informed decisions when working with or portraying communities and in developing the final production.

**How many experiential learning hours are required?**
Fellows are required to complete approximately 50 hours of experiential learning over the course of the program through workshops, research, and production development.

**What is the community storytelling final project?**
With a focus on performing arts, we are taking a new approach to the final project in 2022. The focus of the final project will be the creation and performance of an undertold North Omaha history. All Fellows will be primary co-creators in the development of a new piece telling the story of musician Wynonie Harris. The monthly workshops and mentorship guidance will be in support of the final project and the artistic growth of our Fellows.

**What support is in place for the final project?**
The Union has secured the funds for the development and production of this new piece.