

Creative Capital Professional Development Workshop and Weekend Retreat for individual artists in Kansas City

INVITATION TO APPLY (APPLICATION INCLUDED)

Overview

Charlotte Street Foundation and Arts Council of Metropolitan Kansas City are pleased to partner with the Creative Capital Foundation to offer a major initiative to build the capacity of professional visual and performing artists in the Kansas City Metropolitan area through a weekend retreat with intensive workshops for professional development. Funded by a generous contribution from the Karen McCarthy Charitable Fund managed by the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation, the second of three annual retreats will take place in Kansas City, Missouri, March 27-29, 2009. Eligible artists are encouraged to apply to attend this fully funded retreat.

Retreat Objective

Founded in January 1999, Creative Capital Foundation is a national non-profit organization based in New York City that supports artists pursuing innovative approaches to form and content in the media, performing and visual arts, and in emerging fields. Since 2003, Creative Capital Foundation has partnered with arts stakeholders to develop and present professional development workshops for many hundreds of artists around the country.

The Professional Development Weekend Retreat in Kansas City is designed to deliver skillbuilding opportunities to artists living and working in the five county Kansas City metropolitan area. The goal of the retreat is to provide a cohesive structure that will help artists to organize, plan, and sustain their creative careers. The retreat will use an integrated approach to developing skills in marketing/public relations and fundraising with a particular emphasis on strategic planning for individuals, and aims to help artists break patterns of crisis management and increase satisfaction in their art practices and careers.

• Strategic Planning is the Foundation

Strategic planning is a step-by-step process to help identify, acquire, and build skills needed to reach goals with individual projects and/or career objectives. As artists articulate their project and career goals more clearly, they are better able to move forward and use each successive project as a career-building catalyst. Strategic planning also provides a framework to organize the concepts of marketing/public relations and fundraising.

• Tools to Promote and Support Your Work

The marketing/public relations and fundraising portions of the retreat will emphasize fundamental tools and their applications. These tools begin with the ability to communicate clearly and effectively about work and the ability to target appropriate audiences, funders, and other stakeholders.

• Artists Help Each Other

The retreat will be co-led by professional consultants and trained Creative Capital grantees so that participants benefit from the consultants' considerable experience in their fields, as well as the artists' personal perspectives and experiences, in the belief that artists are often the best resource for each other. The retreat will encourage opportunities for group and individual interaction.

A few quotes from artists who have completed the workshop and retreat:

- *“Timely, effective, fresh, innovative, and filled with knowledge. It changed my life — and that was just after the opening comments. Overall, I rate this a “10”—and I’m hard to please.”*
- *“This has been the single most rewarding experience I’ve had in my professional career as an artist other than actually making my art!”*
- *“This workshop, if given to enough artists, has the potential to change the culture of art and art making — for the better. You have provided incredible tools for success.”*
- *“Unlike a one-time grant, this is something that can help me for the rest of my life.”*

For more information on the Creative Capital Foundation’s approach to professional development for individual artists, visit <http://www.pd.creative-capital.org/>.

Eligibility

Professional artists of all disciplines residing in the five county Greater Kansas City Metropolitan Area (Jackson, Platte and Clay counties in MO and Johnson and Wyandotte counties in KS) are eligible to apply. For the purposes of this opportunity, a professional artist is defined as an individual who creates, on an ongoing basis, original works of art within an artistic discipline, and is pursuing this work as a means of livelihood or a way to achieve the highest level of professional recognition. Generative artists only may apply, defined as those creating original work. Artists currently enrolled in a degree-granting program are not eligible. Applicants must be at least 21 years of age.

Selection process and criteria

Up to 24 applicants will be invited to attend the weekend retreat. Selections will be made by a multidisciplinary panel comprised of local and regional artists and arts professionals, according to the below criteria.

Emphasis will be placed on selecting artists who:

- Demonstrate a successful track record of ongoing, professional artistic activity and high quality work
- Have creation of new work as a primary artistic focus (as compared to interpreting existing works)
- Appear poised to transition to a new phase of his/her artistic career
- Could benefit from setting professional goals and building upon marketing, fundraising, and financial management skills
- Could benefit from a new network of professional contacts

Artists invited to participate in the retreat will be required to attend all three days, beginning **Friday evening March 27 and running through Sunday evening March 29, 2009** in Kansas City, Missouri. Actual cost of attendance, including meals, is estimated to total more than \$1,250 per participant, and will be funded in full by the Karen McCarthy Trust.

Application deadline & submission process

Applications must be received by Wednesday December 10, 2008 at 5pm.

Late applications cannot be considered.

Submit applications to:

**The Arts Council of Metropolitan Kansas City (note new address)
906 Grand, Suite 10B
Kansas City, MO 64106**

All applicants will be notified of the decision in January 2009.

APPLICATION

Professional Development Weekend Retreat for Kansas City Area Individual Artists

Complete this cover sheet and attach application questions #1-6.

Please do not use staples.

ARTISTS MUST SUBMIT 10 COLLATED COPIES OF THE COMPLETED APPLICATION, INCLUDING COVERSHEET, NARRATIVE RESPONSES, AND RESUME.

Applicant name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

County _____

Daytime phone _____

Cell/evening phone _____

Email address _____

Primary discipline: ___ **visual art**, ___ **music**, ___ **dance**, ___ **performance/theater**,
___ **film/video**

Application Questions

Responses to questions 1 through 3 should not exceed a total of 2 typewritten pages.

1. **Provide an artist statement** describing your work, your primary motivation for creating work, and your passion for your chosen artistic discipline.
2. What do you want your career to look like five years from now?
3. What do you see as key opportunities or challenges relative to your artistic career, and how do you think participation in this Weekend Retreat will help you to advance as a professional artist?
4. **Attach a résumé** that highlights your artistic training and accomplishments.
5. **Work samples:**
For visual artists: select four (4) digital images that best represent your work. The quality of the work samples is very important. Number them 1-4 and save as jpeg files (sized between approximately 500 KB and 2 MB) to a CD-ROM, accompanied by a hardcopy image list including the following information on each work: your name, title, date, medium, and size. You can add one sentence describing each work if you choose. **Please submit one (1) copy of CD-ROM, with 10 copies of image list**
For performing and film/video artists: VHS video tape or DVD (preferred) of your work, cued to a 5 minute segment. Include a short paragraph describing the work. Please include a SASE with appropriate postage for the return of CDs/video tapes/DVDs if return is desired. **Please submit three (3) copies of videotape or DVD, with 10 copies of paragraph description.**
6. (Optional) Attach up to three support materials, such as newspaper or magazine articles, or letters of support. Please do not submit originals, as these materials will not be returned.
7. (Optional) Creative Capital Foundation is asked to report basic demographic information to its funders. This information is for statistical purposes only and will not be used in the selection process.

Gender:

Male

Female

Race/Ethnicity:

African American

Middle Eastern American

Asian/Pacific Islander American

Native American

European American

Multi-heritage

Latino American

Other

8. (Optional) How did you hear about this opportunity:

Word of mouth

Art organization, please specify _____

Charlotte Street web site

Metropolitan Arts Council web site

Other web site

Charlotte Street e-mail

Metropolitan Arts Council e-mail

Other e-mail

Postcard

Press

Other

I certify that all of the information in this application is true. If selected I will attend the Creative Capital Professional Development Workshop for Visual and Performing Artists in Kansas City.

Signature _____ Date _____

Name _____

Due Date is Wednesday December 10, 2008 at 5PM

Questions - please email info@charlottestreet.org

Submit applications to: (note new address)

The Arts Council of Metropolitan Kansas City

906 Grand, Suite 10B

Kansas City, MO 64106