Foundation for Contemporary Arts

Dear Friends,

I hope you and yours remain well during these challenging times. We miss seeing you and being able to share the work of FCA grantees with you in person.

FCA continues to support artists facing the devastating and persistent effects of the pandemic. As presenting venues struggle to determine safe methods and timelines for reopening, we know that the ability to hold public performances and exhibitions will be severely compromised in the fall. In order to support as many artists as possible, we are extending the FCA Emergency Grants COVID-19 Fund through December to provide $1,500 grants to artists who have lost income due to the cancellation or postponement of a performance or exhibition. We are pleased to share an update about this Fund below.

The pandemic has disproportionately affected communities of color. In response, FCA has made small grants to support eleven mutual aid funds—most of which are artist founded and artist led—in their grass-roots efforts within their communities. A list of these funds follows.

Since late March FCA has partnered with six national grant-makers to run Artist Relief, which is providing $5,000 grants to artists in dire financial need. Over $7.5 million has been distributed to artists through this coalition to date. A full update is below.

We are grateful for your commitment to FCA's work during this year of unprecedented need in the artist community.

Wising you a healthy and safe summer,

Stacy Tenenbaum Stark
Executive Director

FCA Emergency Grants COVID-19 Fund Extended Through December

2019 and 2020 Emergency Grantee Paul Outlaw, screen capture from short video *Stir/Content(s)*, Los Angeles, 2020. This work was created in response to the COVID-19 lockdown, which led to the postponement of Gawdafful National Theater's *The Dope Elf* at The Lab in San Francisco.

FCA's Emergency Grants COVID-19 Fund continues to support hundreds of artists whose performances or exhibitions were canceled or indefinitely postponed due to the pandemic. Since its launch on March 18 we have held thirteen all-artist panel meetings, and thus far we have awarded **813 artists** with a total of **$1,219,500 in direct funding**. For context, this is more grants than FCA has disbursed in the past four years combined.
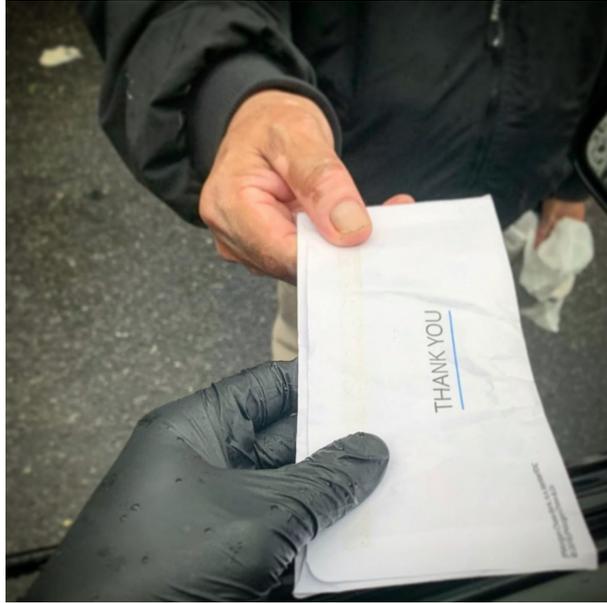
We have received over 3,600 total applications since program launch. To date, 646 grants have been made through the panel process ($969,000) and an additional 167 grants have been distributed to our past FCA Grants to Artists and John Cage Award recipients. To assist as many artists as possible, we are extending the program through December and hope to fund at least 1,675 artists, providing a total of $2,512,000 in direct support. If you are in a position to help us reach this goal, we would be grateful. Gifts to the FCA Emergency Grants COVID-19 Fund can be made here.

Below are responses from FCA Emergency Grants COVID-19 Fund grantees:

"I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for providing grant resources in the mist of such uncertainty... Additionally, the funding truly provides the confidence to continue to pursue creating and sharing art with others. There are so few resources for artists during this time and it is wonderful to know that organizations like yours continue to stay at the forefront of supporting artists." (Visual Artist)

"It's been a humbling and inspiring experience to see the art community gather together to help keep art and artists alive in this crazy time. Given the already inherent instability of our vocation, the added stress of this time only makes the support of FCA in partnership with other institutions and organizations all the more needed and special." (Composer, and former FCA Grants to Artists recipient)

Mutual Aid Funds for Disproportionately Affected Communities

Emergency Grants recipient Guadalupe Maravilla has started a mutual aid fund to help the undocumented community. The artist's instagram photo (above) shows them dropping off donations to people in need, including to a 70-year-old Mariachi singer who has lost work due to COVID-19.

The below eleven mutual aid funds were created to assist communities of color; please consider taking a few moments to learn about these funds and if you are in a position to do so, join us in supporting their work.

- [Artist Guadalupe Maravilla's Mutual Aid Fund](#)
- [Creating New Futures](#)
- [Crenshaw Dairy Mart](#)
- [G.L.I.T.S.](#)
- [The Love Land Foundation](#)
- [Native American Community Response Fund](#)
- [NYC Dancers Relief Fund](#)
- [The Okra Project](#)
- [The Roho Project](#)
- [Summaeverythang](#)
- [Yardy](#)

Artist Relief: A Coalition of National Grant-Makers

Calling All Artists

Actors
Architects
Ceramicists
Composers
Choreographers
Dancers
Filmmakers
Journalists
Musicians
Painters
Performance Artists
Photographers
Playwrights
Poets
Sculptors
Textile Artists
Writers

Artist Relief is a coalition of national arts grant-makers which came together during the COVID-19 crisis to create an emergency initiative to offer financial and informational resources to artists. FCA is part of this coalition, which provides $5,000 grants for living expenses to artists in dire financial need nationwide. The consortium has made **1,503 grants totaling $7,515,000** to individual artists to date and will continue making grants at least through September.

Below are responses from Artist Relief Grant recipients:

"I must admit I was overcome with emotion when I received notice of the grant. It's been a very difficult time for me these last few months trying to navigate not only the pandemic, but also loss of work, contracting Covid-19 and overseeing the well-being of my elderly parents. This grant helps me so much to stay in a healthy frame of mine and maintain the strength to persevere."

"You are literally and physically keeping a roof over my head, which is something I never realized I was taking for granted. I just took the biggest sigh of relief in weeks because of your help."

Donate Now

Mission

Since its inception in 1963, FCA's mission has been to encourage, sponsor, and promote innovative work in the arts created and presented by individuals, groups, and organizations. For more information, please visit our website.