

After awarding over 400 diverse artists from across the country with \$50,000 each, USA is at a new juncture in its development as an organization. Since beginning her tenure as CEO of USA in 2014, Carolina García Jayaram turned her attention toward the enhancement of the USA Fellows program by providing opportunities for alumni artists to broaden and deepen their practices through cross-disciplinary collaboration. This work began at the inaugural USA Artists Assembly (March 22-24, 2015 in Chicago) where newly awarded USA Fellows, alumni, funders, donors, and arts leaders came together to discuss ways to incubate and produce new work.

As an extension of the Artists Assembly, United States Artists announced that it is launching a new strategic program supported by the Rockefeller Foundation to send collaborative teams of artists to the Bellagio Center in Italy. This research-based retreat is intended to provide time and space for collaborations initiated by USA Fellows to develop. Lasting between two and four weeks, up to three artists (USA Fellows and others) can propose to travel together to the Bellagio estate on Lake Como for focused work on a collaborative project and collegial interaction with other residents from across the globe. Preference will be given to teams working across disciplines, media or locations.

The Bellagio Center residency is located approximately 47 miles north of Milan and consists of two primary buildings surrounded by 50 acres of gardens and parks on Lake Como. Year round, the Center hosts artists, academics, policy makers, field leaders and writers from across the world to work independently on projects and to share their work across fields. Each day at the Center concludes with a formal dinner preceded by a resident presenting on their work to the group. The Bellagio Center's mission reflects the Rockefeller Foundation's priorities to generate new knowledge to solve the most complex issues facing our world. USA Fellows collaborative project proposals should reflect this impulse and either push the boundaries of your field, take a new or innovative approach, or make a leap in your practice. Project proposals should also indicate how USA Fellows intend to benefit from and contribute to the rich interdisciplinary community at Bellagio. While the Bellagio Center does have a wealth of mixed-use spaces including meeting and study rooms, this residency is best used as time for research and conceptual development of projects. For more information on the Bellagio Center, please visit their [website](#).

We encourage USA Fellows who are working on existing collaborations or new collaborative projects to apply for this unique opportunity. While we anticipate some proposals will be in the early stages of development, the more specific you can be about the project, the stronger your application will be. If you are interested in applying to USA to travel to the Bellagio Residency as a collaborative group, please send us one combined proposal that contains the following:

1. Collaborative Residency Title
2. Collaborative Residency Project Summary (one paragraph description)
3. Names of artist applicants (no more than 3, at least 1 must be a USA Fellow)
4. Contact information for all artist applicants
5. Bios for all artist applicants
6. Resumes or CV's for all artist applicants
7. 5 work samples from each USA Fellow artist applicant (10 work samples for non-USA Fellows)
8. Preferred months to travel to Bellagio (please indicate if you would like to stay 2 or 4 weeks)

Please write a narrative proposal that answers the following questions: (no more than 4 pages total)

- Describe the project your collaborative team proposes to work on at the Bellagio Center.
- How will your project benefit from and contribute to the interdisciplinary community of residents at Bellagio?
- What collaborative projects have you produced in the past (either individually or as a group)?
- What was successful or unsuccessful about collaborative projects you produced in the past?
- How do you approach collaboration, and what will a successful collaboration look like?
- What kind of space will your group require to work on your project?
- What will be the outcome of the project you will work on at Bellagio and how do you see this project moving forward after the residency?
- How is this collaborative project innovative?

A successful proposal will include the following elements:

- The project described will unite USA Fellows and artists in collaborative work across disciplines, media or locations.
- The work is appropriate for the Bellagio Center's space and culture.
- The proposed project will further your individual practices and push you to work in new and innovative ways.
- The proposal and work history of the applicants is likely to result in a collaborative project that will successfully move forward after the residency.

First round proposals are due on May 15, 2015. After you have submitted your application, the USA staff will work with you on your proposal to refine it before submission to the Rockefeller Foundation. The most competitive applications will be moved forward to the Rockefeller Foundation who will make the final selection of residents. The residency is free to attend and travel subsidies are available for those who qualify.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call or email Meg Leary at 312-470-6325 x 112 or meg@unitedstatesartists.org.