Online application portal opens: July 1, 2020  
**Deadline to apply:** Sunday, August 16, 2020 at midnight  
Apply at: [https://thedeutschfoundation.submittable.com/](https://thedeutschfoundation.submittable.com/)

1. **The grant request amount has been raised to $15,000! What can I use that money for?**  
That money may be used to support any part of your creative project, as described in the eligible expenses section of the guidelines. Moreover, eligible expenses have been expanded to allow a line item for **personal overhead.** Personal overhead can be used for any sort of basic living expense: rent, mortgage, childcare, utilities, groceries, etc... These expenses do not need to be detailed to the penny in your budget; simply provide us with an amount that is supportive for you to offset some of your expenses during the course of your Rubys project. We understand that art is not made in a vacuum, and in order to support art-making it is also important to support the artist.

2. **Is personal overhead the same at an artist’s fee?**  
No, these are two separate eligible expenses. The artist's fee is meant to be your fee / profit / compensation for making one’s art. Personal overhead is meant to assist with expenses related to basic living. In your budget, it is allowed (and encouraged) to include both line items. There is no formula or percentage associated with either of these amounts – we ask that your budget is fair and proportional given the project you are proposing. Don’t hesitate to include notes on your budget page and in your project description to provide context for how you assembled your budget.

3. **What is the grant timeline?**  
Approximately October 2020 through September 2021.

4. **Where can I find examples of a budget, timeline, and work sample inventory list?**  
Examples of each are included in the grant guidelines packet, and may also be downloaded separately. All documents may be found at [https://www.rwdfoundation.org/apply-for-the-rubys](https://www.rwdfoundation.org/apply-for-the-rubys)

5. **Will I have a stronger application if my project (a) includes an art education component (b) is related to social justice or (c) is directly connected to Baltimore?**  
No. If any of these items are inherent and authentic to your art practice – great! However, the Rubys supports artistic projects of any content, background, or theme. Being authentic to your art practice makes for the strongest application.

That said, it can be a benefit to include a sentence or two to define your place in the creative community. We have found that strong applications are those that talk about what role will their project have in the greater community and/or in your artistic field.

6. **Will the program director read my application draft prior to submitting?**  
No. However, you are welcome to phone or email the program director to discuss your ideas and questions during the application period. Then, after all applicants are notified, you may set up a feedback appointment with the grants manager to discuss your application.
7. Where can I find who has received a grant in past?
Go to https://www.rwdfoundation.org/past-rubys-grantees to research who has received a grant in past years. Also listed are the names of previous jury panels.

8. How does the review process work?
Review of all applications happens in two phases.
Phase one: The jury panel reviews and individually scores all applications.
Phase two: The top 20% scoring applications from phase one move on to phase two, which is when the jury panel meets together to discuss those applications as a group and make final selections.

Note that the jury is required only to review what is presented in your application. Don’t assume that they will click through to external websites or links. Focus on presenting your best self within the parameters of the application materials.

9. What other criteria is the jury panel considering when reviewing?
Projects are assessed on:
- Creative vision and artistic integrity
- Artistic capacity and feasibility of the project, including likelihood that the project can be realized, based on the project budget and the proposed timeline.
- Artistic merit of the work represented in the work samples.

To a lesser degree, other factors that influence a jury’s score include:
- A project that is stretching the applicant in artistic process, subject matter, or approach
- A project that is early in its lifespan and/or has significant creative work left to be done.
- A project that does not appear to be an unchanged continuation of the artist’s current practice
- The artist’s understanding of their place in the local art community, and/or understanding of how their project will relevant to the local art community.

10. When will I know if I got a grant?
All applicants will be notified of their status in October 2020

11. What if I have a question not answered here?
Please attend a grant workshop, which goes over all application details and where you can talk to the program director. Workshops are free and open to all.

You may also email questions to the program director at rubys@rwdfoundation.org.