Collective Futures Fund Info Session
Collective Futures Fund supports visual artists and artist-run activity in the Greater Boston area through grants of $2,000 and $7,500. Visual artists, independent curators, and collectives across Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Middlesex, and Plymouth counties are encouraged to apply.

The Collective Futures Fund is administered by the Tufts University Art Galleries and is a part of the Regional Regranting Program of the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts. The Sustaining Practice tier is supported by an anonymous donor.

About CFF
The Warhol Regional Regranting Program partners with local arts organizations around the country to make grants to artists and collectives for projects that chart new creative territory in their communities; participation is by invitation only. Each partner in the network creates its own program tailored to the specific needs and artistic identity of its region. Established in 2007, the network is currently active in 32 cities and regions, supporting artists whose work falls outside the scope of traditional presenting organizations and/or funding opportunities. Projects supported by these grants have included queer zines, living room galleries, radical seafaring events, and virtual reality film screenings among other public-facing experimental activities.
Overview

Since then, CFF has:

• Funded 60 projects, awarding a total of $300,000 in grant and relief funds to support research and development, continued practice, public art, artists collectives, art publication, and more
• Partnered with the *Boston Art Review* for the 2022 special issue covering our inaugural cohort.

In 2024, CFF:

• Expanded eligibility guidelines to include Plymouth county
• Increased project grant amount to $7,500
• Established an Advisory Council for strategic outreach of local arts and culture workers
Sustaining Practice
Geared toward emerging individual artists and collaborators who need critical support for research, to develop new projects and future ideas, and sustain themselves in the process.

New Projects
Supports the creation and public presentation of new projects by visual artists, curators, or collectives; projects must be collaborative and have some component that engages the contexts and communities of Greater Boston, whether in process or presentation.

Ongoing Platforms
Supports sustaining or the completion of long-term projects, this category recognizes the commitment, time, and focus required to pursue long-term artistic endeavors that support and foster local artist communities; these projects must be collaborative and have some public component to them; applicants can apply based on specific initiatives or for general support for a platform.

3 GRANT TIERS
Presentation by
elgibility

- Visual artists, curators, arts writers, cultural organizers, collectives, collaborators at all career stages are eligible

- Projects cannot be organized by existing incorporated businesses

- Must reside in Plymouth, Norfolk, Middlesex, Essex or Suffolk counties

- Students enrolled in a degree program are not eligible
eligibility

Previous CFF grantees cannot re-apply until 2 years after their grant year.

Any primary collaborators who are currently a faculty or staff member of Tufts University are not eligible.

Must be 18 years or older.

For project grants, at least one public component must happen in the Greater Boston area.
examples:

• New artist-driven and run spaces, organizations, micro-cinemas, community centers, and collaborations for presenting and experiencing art, performance, old and new media, and community projects.
• Publications, online or in print, that highlights and amplifies local artist communities and critical discourse
• Public art projects such as murals, outdoor sculptures, or installations with a temporary or permanent physical presence
• Curatorial projects by independent curators and/or visual artists
• Socially-responsive and engagement projects such as artist gardens, mutual aid arts initiatives, community storytelling, grassroots archives and history-keeping, and more.
• Independent and alternative artist-driven education projects such as lecture series, workshops, programming
Things to keep in mind:

Projects that are in support of or presenting individual artists and their solo practices are not eligible. Projects must be based in collaboration in either process or implementation.

The Sustaining Practice tier is open to individuals for research time for future collaborative projects and does not require a budget.

While we take an expansive view toward the visual arts, the project must have visual arts and visual impact as a strong component. We welcome film, performance, dance, music, and education as part of that expansive definition, but a project’s relationship to the visual arts must be explained.

All projects must engage or be shared with the public in Greater Boston via process, presentation, production, or publication.
Process

Applications are submitted through Submittable.
• Applicants will need to make an account and respond to the eligibility form

Select the grant tier you want to apply for: Sustaining Practice, New Projects, or Ongoing Platforms
• Note: (You may NOT apply to more than one tier, please select one tier per lead applicant)

New Projects and Ongoing Platforms applicants are expected to propose a project for the full $7,500. For Sustaining Practice, the amount is $2,000.

For New Works and Ongoing Platforms, applicants will be asked to submit:
• Project proposal
• Project description
• Project timeline
• Budget
  ◦ Note: please use CFF provided budget template
• Up to 5 work samples
• Answer additional questions about site and audience specific to each grant tier

For Sustaining Practice, applicants will be asked to submit:
• A research focus
• 5 samples of your work

Review
Our jurors review each application based on a five-question rubric. Applicants receive a cumulative score from each juror, then there is a deliberation meeting to confirm all final grantees in August.

Grantees are notified in late August // early September.
Applicants have the following options for work samples:
- Up to 5 Images of applicant’s representative projects
- Up to 5 minutes for video samples
- Writing Samples (2-pages of writing maximum per application)

***Please name your files: artist name_sample#. example: Warhol_sample1

For Sustaining Practice: Submit representative images of your overall artistic practice or other supporting materials on your research if applicable

For New Projects: Submit representative images/media that are aligned in method, ethos or scale to the new project proposed

For Ongoing Platforms: Submit representative images of past work related to your application

*If you submit more than 5 minutes of video total, jurors will be instructed to only view the first 5 minutes of the first work sample. Similarly, if you submit more than 5 work samples through a PDF, or image folder link jurors will be instructed to only view the first 5 in the first work sample.
Video, Sound, and Writing Samples

For time-based media work samples, you are allowed to submit up to 5 minutes.

If submitting time-based media longer than 5 minutes, please indicate a time-code in the description.

  e.g. 16:05 – 19:32 min.

Writing Samples should be limited to 2 pages per application.

You are encouraged to share excerpts not entire texts for the work in the description box.

Composite images are allowed,
But if you submit more than 5 work samples through a PDF or image folder link, jurors will be instructed to only view the first 5 in the first work sample.

You are encouraged to use the supporting information box underneath each work sample to provide: credits, a title, and a short description of the work.
### Project Title:

Please include all projected expenses and anticipated income (if applicable) to formulate the total project budget. The "Budget" section should include the breakdown of how the Collective Futures Fund grant will be used. Any anticipated or secured additional funds should be listed in the "Income" section. Use the "Additional Comments" as needed. If you’re pursuing other funding please use this section to explain how you would modify or scale the project in the event the funds are not secured.

### INCOME

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**TOTAL INCOME** $0.00

### IN-KIND DONATIONS

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**TOTAL IN-KIND** $0.00

**TOTAL INCOME + TOTAL IN-KIND** $0.00

### ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

Subtotal: $0.00

**TOTAL EXPENSES** $0.00
Our 2024 Jury

Kelsey Halliday Johnson (she/they) is a writer, artist, organizational strategist, and eco-feminist living in Cape Elizabeth, Maine. She works as the Executive Director of the multi-disciplinary visual and performing art organization SPACE in Portland.

TK Smith (he/him/his) is a curator, writer, and cultural historian. Currently, he is a doctoral student in the History of American Civilization program at the University of Delaware, where he researches art, material culture, and the built environment.

Sarah Kanouse (she/her) is an interdisciplinary artist and critical writer examining the political ecology of landscape and space. Migrating between video, photography, and performative forms, her expanded nonfiction media projects shift the visual dimension of landscape to allow hidden stories of environmental and social transformation to emerge.

Erika Umali (she/her/hers) is the Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston’s first Curator of Collections where she leads strategy around collection development and practices, as well as bringing visibility to the ICA’s collection through focused exhibitions and programming. Previously she served as the inaugural Assistant Curator of Collections at the Brooklyn Museum.
Selection Criteria

Overall idea and vision, with an emphasis on experimentation, risk taking, and unconventional viewpoints

Relevance to and engagement with Greater Boston’s social, cultural, and/or geographic communities, histories, and contexts

Accessibility of the project to the public

Potential impact on the local community, the arts and culture landscape, and/or the artist’s growth

Capacity of the applicant to realize the project on time and within budget

Response to the urgencies of the present moment with unique and considered approaches to visual arts and arts organizing, with the understanding that Boston artists experience those urgencies and the present moment in varying ways
At the beginning of the one-year grant period, Collective Futures Fund project grant recipients will receive 90% of their grant funds upon return of a signed contract. Sustaining Practice grantees receive the full amount upon return of a signed contract.

Grantees are required to submit a mid-year and final report.

The report is intended to help recipients reflect on the project in ways that may inform future creative pursuits. The final 10% of grant funds will be disbursed upon receipt of the mid-year report but a final report is still required.

Grantees will be asked to maintain communication with Collective Futures Fund throughout the grant period and have an interim “studio visit.”

Grantees are legally responsible for all events, materials, outcomes, etc. connected with their projects.

Grantees will periodically be asked to contribute text, visuals, and other materials for Collective Futures Fund promotions and archives.
Friday, April 19th, 2024 – Application Opens

Sunday, June 16, 2024 – Submissions close at 11:59 PM

June 17 – August 9 – Jury reviews and evaluates applications

Mid August – Final Jury deliberations

Late August // Early September – Grantees notified, contracts sent out

Mid September – Rejected applicants notified, public announcement made

Late October – Grant funds dispersed, grantee reception

March – Mid year reports due, studio visits with CFF and gallery staff

September 2025 – Final reports due
Frequently Asked:

• DO YOU HAVE TO BE A U.S. CITIZEN TO APPLY?
• WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY RISK-TAKING AND EXPERIMENTATION?
• CAN I APPLY TO SUPPORT A WEB-BASED PROJECT?
• CAN I APPLY FOR MY INDIVIDUAL STUDIO ART PRACTICE IF IT WILL BE EXHIBITED IN PUBLIC?
• CAN I SUBMIT MULTIPLE PROJECTS?
• CAN I PAY ARTIST FEES OR STIPENDS WITH GRANT FUNDS?
• ARE CURATORIAL PROJECTS ELIGIBLE?
Questions?

and thanks for coming!