2018
PROPELLER FUND
A Grant Administered by Gallery 400 & Threewalls
Deadline: July 1, 2018
PROPELLERFUND.ORG
The Andy Warhol Foundation supports a growing national network of regional re-granting programs—including Alternative Exposure in San Francisco; The Idea Fund in Houston; Precipice Fund in Portland, Oregon; Rocket Grants in Kansas City, Missouri; WaveMaker Grants in Miami; The Kindling Fund in Portland, Maine; Platforms Fund in New Orleans; The Grit Fund in Baltimore; The Fulcrum Fund in Albuquerque; The Visual Arts Fund in Minneapolis; and Propeller Fund. The Warhol Foundation aims to support the independent creative activity of artists by partnering with leading artist-centered visual arts organizations across the country.

ABOUT PROPELLER FUND

Launched in 2010, Propeller Fund is a grant administered jointly by Gallery 400 and Threewalls, and funded through the generosity of The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts. Propeller Fund provides money directly to visual artists and groups living and working in Cook County, Illinois.

Propeller Fund exists to stimulate the growth of independent cultural production throughout Chicago; to encourage more varied models of art production and presentation; to spread artistic activity into more diverse areas of our city; to promote the public’s interaction with and public recognition of such activities; and to spark ambitions beyond current formats.

Propeller Fund awards $50,000 per year to artists and groups for artist-led, collaborative, public-oriented projects that are independent and self-organized. Monetary awards—in amounts ranging from $1,000 to $6,000—are disbursed in direct funds to projects. Applicants are encouraged to request the amount that is needed to accomplish their project, up to $6,000.

REVIEW PROCESS

Proposals to Propeller Fund are reviewed by a panel of jurors made up of five artists and arts professionals currently working in the visual arts field, including two previous Propeller grantees. Criteria for review include the applicant’s past work and the strength, impact, and feasibility of the proposed project.

For more information on eligibility and FAQs, please visit: propellerfund.org/eligibility and propellerfund.org/faq
FUNDED ACTIVITIES MAY INCLUDE:
A public event, performance, or intervention
A site-specific or public art project
A new exhibition or exhibition series
A screening, lecture, broadcast, or workshop series
Publications, including printed matter and online writing
Public programs of an artist residency
Collaborative projects between the visual arts and other disciplines
The ongoing work of an independent arts venue or collective

WHAT TYPE OF PROJECTS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE?
Projects not led by an artist or artist collective
Projects that are not presented to the public
Projects that are artworks authored by a single artist or single collective
Projects proposed by a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization
Projects proposed by incorporated businesses
Projects proposed by students
Projects in which the lead artist/organizer lives outside of Cook County
Projects in which all artists/organizers reside outside of Cook County
Proposals for the express purpose of: renting studio space, professional development (classes, services), travel expenses, the purchase or rental of equipment, or hiring of services not otherwise associated with a public project that meets the above criteria

APPLICANTS MUST SUBMIT:
500 word Project Description
200 word Bio and Resume/CV
Budget including expenses and income
Timeline including milestones relevant to your project
Examples of past work by the applicant or proposed contributors and/or mock-ups that inform the planned project
APPLICATION RESOURCES

A series of information sessions are held to explain how to write effective proposals, craft budgets, and navigate the online submission for Propeller Fund. Focused walk-in sessions are also offered to address individualized questions with Propeller staff. Throughout the year, Propeller Fund also offers professional development and networking opportunities to its grantees, including social gatherings and thematic

WALK-IN SESSIONS

Saturday, April 21 | 1-2:30pm
Cafe Mustache
2313 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Thursday, May 10 | 3-4:30pm
Build Coffee
6100 S. Blackstone Ave.

Wednesday, May 23 | 4-5:30pm
Metropolis Coffee
1039 W. Granville Ave.

Walk-in and information sessions are free and open to all.

INFORMATION SESSIONS

Tuesday, June 5 | 6pm
Chicago Art Department
1932 S. Halsted St.

Wednesday, June 20 | 6pm
Filmfront
1740 W. 18th St.

ONLINE TUTORIAL

Visit propellerfund.org to view a short video tutorial that covers the granting program, funding eligibility, past awardees, and the online application platform.

DEADLINE TO APPLY: JULY 1, 2018
Applications must be submitted online at: propellerfund.submittable.com

Have a question about applying? Propeller Fund coordinators will be available for walk-in sessions in April and May. If you have specific questions about your application in progress, after reviewing the application resources, email info@propellerfund.org
The forthcoming publication *The Chicago Lowrider Project: Cars, Culture and Community* explores the relationship between a subculture’s practices of constructing identity and the notion of car culture as an authentic form of folk art.

**CHICAGO LOWRIDER FESTIVAL**
The Chicago Lowrider Festival highlights intersections between community, art practice, and documentation of the lowrider subculture. Slow&Low: Chicago Lowrider Festival celebrates the beautifully rich and creative craftsmen of the lowrider community.

**THE PLUG-IN STUDIO**
The Plug-In Studio is a socially engaged new media art collective that tactically deploys emerging technologies and community collaborations to promote social change.

In 2016, the Plug-In Studio launched their project The Anti-Wargames Collective: Counter Recruitment Videogames. To help teens look more critically at military recruitment videogames, Plug-In Studio worked with Latino artists and military veterans to collaboratively produce a series of counter-recruitment videogames with Latino teenagers that explore the real life consequences of serving in the military, critique the representation of the military in videogames, and critique the military’s use of videogames to recruit teens, particularly Latinos.
**QUEER THE AIR**

Queer the Air is a docu-web series centered around interviews with Black queer folx, covering everything from gender identity and relationships, to body image and self care.

Currently in development for Open TV, Queer the Air is hosted by Coriama Couture, a Chicago-based artist and sex educator. The show aims to provide a voice for those who are often left out of mainstream conversations surrounding LGBTQ+ issues. Coriama celebrates the variety that exists among Black queer folx with guests from all different backgrounds and lifestyle choices.

**AXIS LAB**

Axis Lab is a community engagement platform curating cultural programming within Chicago’s historic Southeast Asian corridor, Argyle Street, to incite equitable and inclusive development with its immigrant and refugee community through the intersection of food, design, and arts education.

In 2017 Axis Lab hosted BASE LINE: Argyle is Alive, a one night pop-up summer festival that featured curated food, live performances, music, art and local vendors while highlighting the diverse talent of immigrant, refugee, and people of color creatives, artisans, and craftspeople at their space under the Red Line Argyle station.