

2019

10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

PROPELLER FUND

A Grant Administered by
Gallery 400 & Threewalls
Deadline: July 1, 2019
PROPELLERFUND.ORG



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 one previous Propeller grantee. Criteria for review include the applicant's past work and the strength, impact, and feasibility of the proposed project.

WHAT TYPE OF PROJECTS ARE ELIGIBLE?

ARTIST-LED



+ INDEPENDENT



+ SELF-ORGANIZED



+ COLLABORATIVE



+ PUBLIC



+ LONG OR SHORT-TERM

THE REGIONAL REGRANTING PROGRAM: A NATIONAL NETWORK

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.

Front: The Plug-In Studio, *The Street Arcade*, Hyde Park Art Center, September 2, 2015.
Back: Fultonia Now, Closing Reception, Mana Contemporary Chicago, January 24, 2015.

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 feedback 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 programming.

INFO SESSIONS

Saturday, April 6 | 1-2:30pm
Threewalls
2738 W. North Ave.

Thursday, May 9 | 6-7:30pm
Co-Prosperity Sphere
3219 S. Morgan St.

Tuesday, May 28 | 6-7:30pm
Gallery 400
400 S. Peoria St.

Info and feedback sessions are free and open to all.

FEEDBACK SESSIONS

Thursday, June 13 | 6pm
Threewalls
2738 W. North Ave.

Saturday, June 22 | 1pm
Threewalls
2738 W. North Ave.

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, 2019
Applications must be submitted online at:
propellerfund.submittable.com

Have a question about applying? Propeller Fund coordinators will be available for info sessions in April and May. If you have specific questions about your application in progress, after reviewing the application resources, email info@propellerfund.org

PAST PROPELLER FUND AWARDEES

THE HOODOISIE

The Hoodoisie is a progressive and radically-politicized, underground, live, and live-streamed news show occurring in a different gentrifying neighborhood every month. It's as if Jon Stewart's *The Daily Show* was hijacked by radical people, queers, and women of color with a deejay and a bar.

Ricardo Gamboa launched *The Hoodoisie* in 2018 as a biweekly news show that provides a means for everyday people and communities of color to engage in the discourse that shapes their lives but from which they are often excluded.



FOLDED MAP

Rooted in anthropological and political research of Chicago's divided landscape, *Folded Map* is an evolving project by Tonika Johnson that visually connects residents who live at corresponding addresses on the North and South Sides of Chicago.

In this multimedia project, Tonika Johnson invites audiences to open a dialogue and question how we are all impacted by social, racial, and institutional conditions that segregate the city. *Folded Map's* resulting portraits, video interviews, and large-scale Chicago map installation by Paola Aguirre bring the unseemly residue and detrimental consequence of the city's long-standing history of segregation and racism into clear view.



RADICAL VISIBILITY COLLECTIVE

Led by Sky Cubacub of Rebirth Garments, Compton Q, and Jake Vogds, the Radical Visibility Collective designs immersive and accessible fashion performances for the full spectrum of gender, size, and ability.

Radical Visibility Collective is creating a second full collection of 20+ new Lqqks. These will pair with a multi-collaborative sophomore album. All of the lyrics on the album are audio descriptions that outline what the models are wearing, their dance moves, and the models' identities described in their own words. To document the show, they will create a music video, a zine, and an accompanying CD that continue to express their vision for radical visibility.



Big Mia is a forthcoming, semi-biographical story about Mia, a tomboy at the brink of womanhood. She watches as the world begins to see her differently although she sees herself unchanged. The actors and crew, involved in all aspects of production, are young people that have an ongoing relationship and mentorship with the filmmakers. In November 2018, Whatever Spectrum released their first youth-driven short film, *Rabbits*.

BIG MIA

Big Mia is the second in a series of films that take inspiration from the real lives of young people to tell stories that don't make it to the screen. Whatever Spectrum Media Collective works to tell these underrepresented stories in ways that are complex and thought-provoking.

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*"IN SHORT, YOU
MUST BECOME YOUR
OWN NUTRITIONIST."*

