NEWARK ARTIST ACCELERATOR

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Welcome!

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Please drop your questions in the chat.

Artist: David Orrell

Overview of the NAA Fund

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About The Newark Artist Accelerator:

The 2023 Newark Artist Accelerator (NAA) is a project grant for Newark-based, multidisciplinary visual artists. This year's fund is made possible by the generous support of The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts Regional Regranting Program.

Project-based grants will be awarded in the amounts of $2,500, $5,000, and $7,500. Proposed projects must be artist-led and can include collaborative ventures, pop-up exhibitions, events, and interventions of an ephemeral nature that are radically accessible to public audiences. We are looking for investigative and authentic initiatives.

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Newark Artist Accelerator's History:

Beginning in 2021, in response to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on artists, their families, and their communities, the NAA Fund was initially established to provide emergency relief to artists in New Jersey.

The NAA Fund continues to provide immediate need, merit-based funding to artists' projects and collaborations annually and is committed to sustaining this grant program through ongoing funding from local foundations and donors.

The Newark Artist Accelerator Fund is powered by Project for Empty Space.

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Eligibility:

1. Newark-based artists and artist collectives are welcome to apply.
2. Applicants must be 18 or over.
3. Must currently be living or working in Newark, NJ, or engaged in a current artistic practice in Newark, NJ.

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Proof of Eligibility:

Applicants must show evidence of currently living or working in Newark, which may be accomplished by submitting at least one of the following:

1. an active home or studio lease
2. a current utility bill
3. a current letter of employment
4. Proof of engagement in a current artistic practice in Newark (*this can be accomplished by submitting a letter of reference from a Newark arts organization or gallery confirming the applicant's artistic practice in Newark.)

*Employees of Project for Empty Space, Inc. are not eligible to apply.

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Funding Levels:

$2,500 This is the smallest grant amount available, often intended for smaller-scale projects or initiatives. It might support projects with limited scope or shorter durations.

$5,000 This level provides a moderate amount of financial support, suitable for projects of moderate size and complexity. It is typically used for projects that require more resources than the lowest level but less than the highest.

$7,500 The highest funding level offers the most substantial financial support, usually for larger and more ambitious projects. These projects often have a broader scope, longer durations, and greater resource requirements.

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Timeline and Deadlines:

1. October 15th, 2023: Applications are due.
2. Early November 2023: Jury reviews and selects awardees.
3. Mid-November, 2023: Awardees notified and payment information requested.
4. Late November 2023: The first half of the funds are distributed.
5. Mid-May, 2024: Midway report due.
6. Late May 2024: The second half of the funds are distributed.
7. Mid-October, 2024: Midway report (with photos) due.

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Artist: Monifa Kincaid

Successful Grantee Projects

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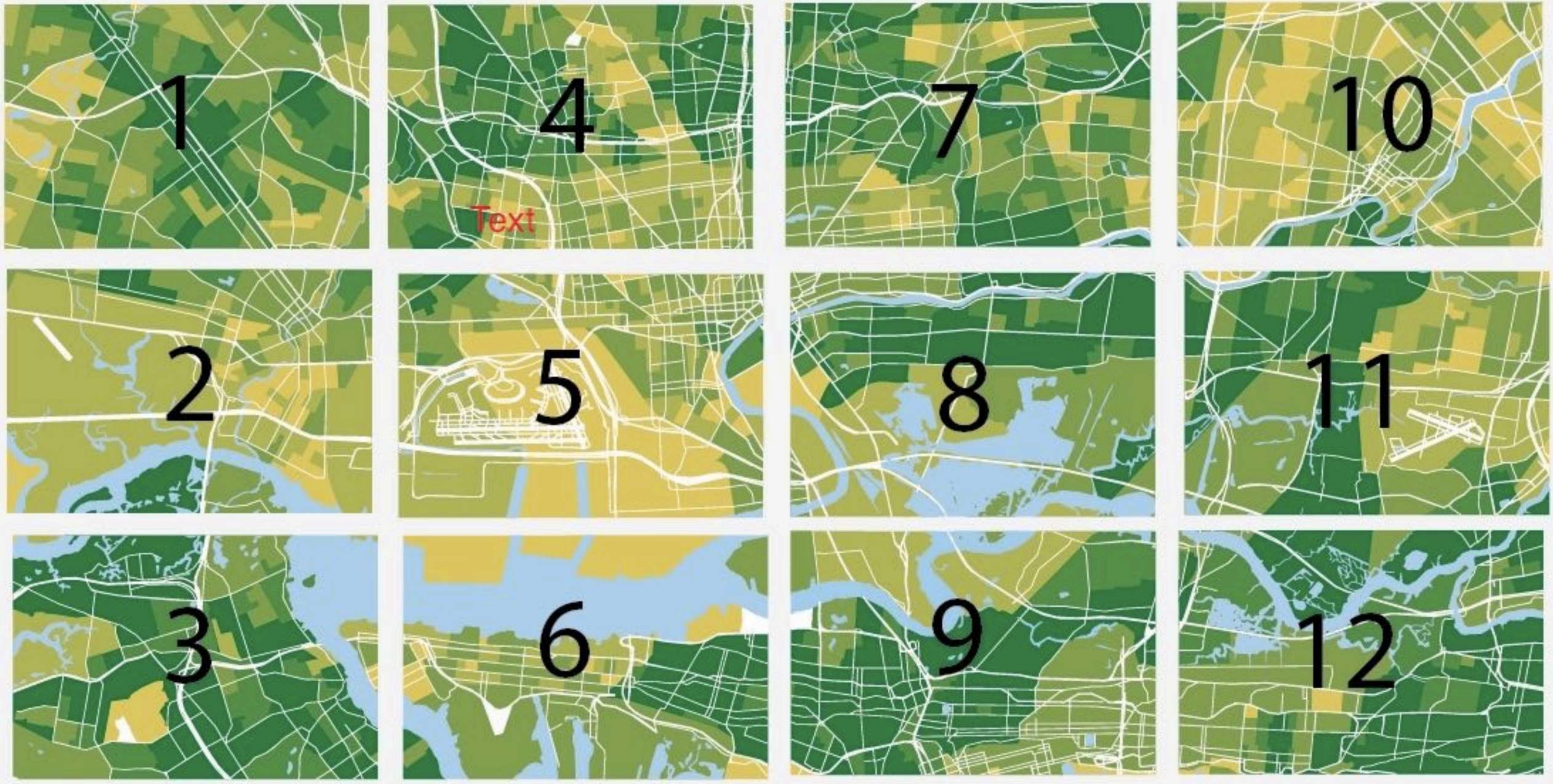
Eirini Linardaki

2022 NAA Awardee


1
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Text
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Amy Becker, Highland Ave, Newark

Hayley and Ryan flag, Tiffany Blvd

Rebecca and Adele flag (4x6 ft canvas to be installed on Clifton Avenue home)

Richard Nazario, Clifton Avenue

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Artist: DARN Studio

Best Submission Practices

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Tips for crafting a compelling proposal:

1. Proposal Preparation: Review and adhere to grant guidelines and requirements.
2. Clarity and Communication: Write clearly and concisely, developing a compelling narrative that conveys the project's importance.
3. Planning and Feasibility: Demonstrate a well-planned and feasible project with artistic excellence and defined objectives.
4. Community Engagement: Highlight how the project benefits the community and engages its audience.
5. Budget and Funding: Create a transparent budget. Include supporting materials.
6. Project Documentation: Provide a clear timeline, proofread meticulously, and emphasize the potential impact of the project.
7. Submission and Feedback: Seek feedback from peers, Submit before the deadline.

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The application Process:

1. Late September to Early October 2023: Drafting applications, collecting materials and information, and getting feedback from peers.
2. Early October 2023: Submitting the application.
3. Mid-November 2023: Awardees are notified and a request for payment information is made.
4. Late November 2023: First half of grant money is paid out (Beginning of grant cycle).
5. Late May 2024: Mid-way report is due and the second half of the funds are paid out (Mid-way through the grant cycle).
6. Early November 2024: The final report is due.

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Components of the application:

1. Your CV (Resume).
2. Project Proposal.
3. Project Timeline.
4. How will your project help you grow as an artist?
5. Letter(s) of Recommendation.
6. Funding Level?
7. The Budget.
8. Budget Narrative.

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1. Your CV (Resume).

A CV (Curriculum Vitae) is a comprehensive document summarizing an individual's educational and professional history.

Acceptable file types: .pdf, .doc, .docx

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2. Project Proposal. (Limit: 750 words)

What Makes Your Project Unique?

Elaborate on what sets your project apart, emphasizing its originality and innovative qualities.

Where Does Your Project Exist?

Specify the space or context in which your project will materialize, whether in the physical world, the digital domain, or a blend of both.

Who Does Your Work Serve or Engage?

Articulate the diverse audiences and communities your work aims to impact, spanning the realms of art, intellect, community, civic life, and society at large.

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3. Project Timeline. (Limit: 500 words)

List Milestones: Identify vital project events, workshops, and activities up to October 2024.

Set Timeframes: Assign precise start and end dates to each milestone.

Arrange Chronologically: Organize milestones chronologically, from project initiation to October 2024.

Provide Summaries: Concisely describe each milestone's significance and role.

Allocate Time Wisely: Ensure adequate time allocation for each task, considering potential delays.

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4. How will your project help you grow as an artist?

Reflect on Growth: Think about how your project can help you grow as an artist. Identify what skills or experiences you need.

Connect to Project Goals: Explain how your project's goals will contribute to your artistic growth.

Highlight Learning Opportunities: Discuss what you'll learn during your project and how it will enhance your skills.

Mention Mentorship: If applicable, mention any mentorship you'll receive and how it will benefit you.

Discuss Challenges: Address potential challenges and how they'll make you a more resilient artist.

Link to Long-Term Goals: Connect your project's impact on your growth to your long-term artistic aspirations.

Be Genuine: Share your passion for artistic growth genuinely.

Keep It Short: Keep your answer concise and focused.

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5. Letter(s) of Recommendation.

Up to two letters can be submitted.

Reach out to those you are asking for letters from early.

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Budgeting and Financials:

Dena Muller (Development Associate at PES)

How do you create a realistic and well-documented project budget?

Our grant template form (link in chat!)

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6. Funding Level?

$2,500 This is the smallest grant amount available, often intended for smaller-scale projects or initiatives. It might support projects with limited scope or shorter durations.

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7. The Budget.

Newark Artist Accelerator: Project Grant Budget Sheet

Applicant Name:

Date:

Project Expenses	Specify	A. Newark Artist Accelerator	B. Other Income	C. Cash Total	Notes
Project Personnel					
Artistic Fees		$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	
Coordinator		$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	
Other (Specify)		$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	
Administrative Expenses					
Supplies and Materials		$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	
Printing		$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	
Shipping Costs		$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	
Other (Specify)		$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	
Rentals + Event Needs					
Space		$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	
Installers		$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	
Other (Specify)		$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	
Marketing					
Publicity		$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	
Other (Specify)		$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	
		$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	
TOTAL EXPENSES	**$0.00**				

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8. Budget Narrative.

Explain Costs Clearly: Describe each expense in your budget, like salaries, materials, and travel. Make it clear why each cost is needed for the project.

Justify Expenses: Explain how each expense helps the project achieve its goals. If costs are higher or lower than usual, provide a reason.

Talk About Estimates: Say how you calculated costs, like getting quotes or researching prices. Mention if there's a plan for unexpected expenses.

Connect to Project Goals: Show how the budget supports the project's goals and benefits the target audience.

Refer to Supporting Documents: Use documents like vendor quotes to back up your numbers, if needed.

Keep It Simple and Clear: Use plain language and be easy to understand. End by restating the total budget and how it aligns with the project.

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Supporting Materials:

1. Examples of past work
2. Image list

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Examples of Past Work:

Up to 9 files to attach: (8 images and one image list)

Acceptable file types: .pdf, .doc, .jpg, .jpeg, .gif, .tif, .tiff, .png, .mp3, .mp4, .mov

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Image List

Please also include an image list that provides captions for all examples. These should include the artwork title, medium, dimensions, and year.

FORMATTING EXAMPLE:

[Artwork Title], [Year]
[Medium]
[Dimensions]

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Artist: Antoinette Ellis-Wlliams

After you hit “SUBMIT”

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Selection Criteria:

What does the selection committee look for in a proposal?

A. Artistic and Creative Strength
B. Capacity to Realize the Project
C. Consideration of Public Impact
D. Contemporary and Local Relevance

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Notification and Follow-Up:

What happens after grant recipients are selected?

Mid-November: Awardees notified by email.
Mid-November: Request for payment information is made.
Late November: First half of grant money is paid out (Beginning of grant cycle).
Late May: The second half of the funds are paid out (Mid-way through grant cycle).

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Reporting and Accountability:

1. Project Progress
2. Challenges and Adjustments
3. Visual Documentation
4. Additional Information

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Project Progress:

Describe what you've achieved so far and any notable milestones.

Approximate the number of people engaged in the project to date.

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Challenges and Adjustments:

Have you encountered unexpected challenges that affected the project's progress? If so, please describe.

Share the current project timeline and any changes or adjustments made.

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Visual Documentation:

Attach three images of work(s)-in-progress in a Word document, along with captions and credits.

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Additional Information:

Is there anything else you'd like to share about your project's status or progress?

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Q&A

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