



2010 McKnight Artist Fellowships for Filmmakers

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

WHO: Mid-career film directors in Minnesota. Documentary, narrative, animation, and experimental film/video directors are welcome to apply. Are you “mid-career?” See Eligibility Requirements, below.

WHAT: Two \$25,000 Fellowships for Minnesota filmmakers. The Fellows are selected by a panel of jurors who are film artists and professionals from outside Minnesota. Jurors evaluate two completed films/videos for consistent artistic excellence and merit, clarity and uniqueness of vision, professional quality in the technical aspects of production, and for demonstrable, sustained growth in the artist's career. Additionally, jurors consider the artist's ability to present his/her application for the Fellowship in an articulate and professional manner.

WHEN: Deadline for submission: **Monday, March 1**, 2010 at 4:00pm.
Fellowships are awarded in June 2010.

WHERE: All written application materials must be E-MAILED to IFP at grants@ifpmn.org. Work samples may be submitted online or mailed to IFP Minnesota, 2446 University Ave. W., St. Paul, MN 55114.

WHY: To support excellence in filmmaking in Minnesota.

HOW: After determining your eligibility to apply, submit the required written materials by e-mail. Send two completed films/videos of any length on DVD or via an e-mailed link.

NEW in 2010:

In addition to your two completed work samples, you may also submit a 5-minute clip from a work in progress. This is not required. If you do not have a work in progress to submit, that will not have a negative impact on your application in any way. You may submit one if you feel that your current project helps represent your career trajectory.

For questions about the Fellowships or the application process, contact Lu Lippold, Director of Funding Programs at IFP MN, 651-644-1912 x106, llippold@ifpmn.org.

Eligibility Requirements

1. To be considered "mid-career," applicants must demonstrate a sustained level of professional accomplishment over a period of at least five years. Theatrical and television distribution, film festival screenings, museum screenings, other curated public screenings, awards and grants for film, video and/or screenwriting, publications, teaching, lecturing, and other activities will be considered as evidence of an advanced standing and active participation in the filmmaking community.
2. The Fellowship program is open only to individuals credited as director, or serving as director, of the films/videos submitted. Partnerships, larger groups, organizations and companies may not apply.
3. If you are a previous McKnight Filmmaking Fellow, you may not submit the same work you submitted the year you won the McKnight.
4. Applicants must be current Minnesota residents who have resided in the state continuously for a minimum of one full year before the application deadline. Applicants may be required to provide documentation in addition to a driver's license if residency is in question.
5. Fellows must remain in residence in Minnesota during the Fellowship year, or forfeit the award.
6. Full-time and part-time students in any film, video, or screenwriting related degree programs are not eligible to apply, and Fellows may not attend school full-time during the Fellowship year.
7. The Fellowship allows only one application per individual.
8. Work samples associated with a degree-granting program are not eligible.
9. Employees of IFP MN and The McKnight Foundation are not eligible to apply.
10. Artists may apply to only one McKnight Artist Fellowship program per year in any discipline (i.e., Screenwriter *or* Filmmaker *or* Playwright, etc.).
11. An artist may not win more than \$50,000 in McKnight Fellowships in three years.
12. Fellows may apply again to the program four years after receiving the award. The 2006 Fellows are eligible to apply to the 2010 program. The 2007 Fellows will be eligible in 2011, etc.

Eligible Genres and Formats

- Feature-length narratives
- Short-form narratives
- Feature-length documentaries
- Short-form documentaries
- Feature-length experimental projects
- Short-form experimental projects
- Feature-length animated projects
- Short-form animated projects
- Music videos

IFP Minnesota recognizes that not all films fall within the strict definitions of genres and formats. Refer to the list below of works *not* accepted, and speak with the program administrator if you have questions regarding eligibility of a particular work.

Genres and Formats Not Eligible

- Works produced in fulfillment of a class assignment or a degree program
- Broadcast news journalism
- Broadcast reality entertainment
- Advertising commercials
- Industrial films and videos
- Corporate films and videos
- Educational films and videos
- Trailers, clips or any proposal for a longer film
- Director's reels
- Incomplete works in progress (unless submitted in addition to two completed works)

Application Materials

You must submit two completed films/videos of any length and the following written materials. You may submit a 5-minute work-in-progress IN ADDITION to your two completed work samples.

Submit the following documents as e-mail attachments. The subject line of your e-mail should include your name and the words "McKnight Filmmaking Application."

1. *Application Cover Sheet*
2. *Professional Résumé*: The resume should be no longer than two pages and should demonstrate professional accomplishment in the film/video medium for a minimum of five years.
3. *Artist's Statement*: Provide a written discussion of no more than one page describing your creative journey as an artist and your creative filmmaking process and vision.
4. *Fellowship Plan*: Provide a written discussion of no more than one page describing your artistic and professional plans for the Fellowship year, including activity connected with completion of recent work and development of future work. You are not required to discuss specific plans for Fellowship money.

5. Process and History Statements: For each work sample, provide a written discussion of no more than one page describing various aspects of the film/video, such as the inspiration or vision for the piece, unique or notable aspects of the process, and the production and exhibition history.
6. Photocopy of MN Driver's License or MN-Issued Picture ID: Please scan and send as an attachment, or include a paper copy with your DVD, or fax a copy to Lu Lippold at fax #651-644-5708. *If you applied last year and have not moved from your address at that time, you do not need to re-send your driver's license.*
7. Include your contact information (name, address, e-mail address, and phone number) in the body of the email.

Submit the following either on a DVD or as a link in the body of your e-mail:

8. Two complete film/video works: The two works must be presented in their full length, fully completed, and may not represent a work in progress. There is no minimum or maximum length. They may be submitted on DVD or online.
 - DVDs must be labeled with filmmaker's name, title of work, running time, and year of completion.
 - If you are submitting your work online, please include the links in the body of your e-mail.
9. OPTIONAL: You may submit one 5-minute clip from a work in progress, either on DVD or online. Please write a Process and History Statement (see #5 above) that describes your work in progress.

Here's what your application e-mail should look like:

From: Your Name

To: grants@ifpmn.org

Subject: **Your Name – McKnight Filmmaking Application**

Attachments: Your Name Application Cover Sheet.doc (or pdf)

Your Name Resume.doc (or pdf)

Your Name Artist Statement.doc (or pdf)

Your Name Fellowship Plan.doc (or pdf)

Your Name Process Statement.doc (or pdf)

(Your Name Driver's License, if you're scanning and sending it)

Body of E-mail:

Your Name

Your Address

Your E-Mail Address

Your Phone Number

Your Name's work samples (if you're submitting them online):

TITLE OF FILM: <http://www.youtube, vimeo.....etc>.

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Important Dates and Mailing Address

Completed applications must be received at the IFP Minnesota Center for Media Arts no later than 4:00 PM on **Monday, March 1, 2010**. This is an in-office deadline. No applications will be accepted after this time. E-mail your completed application to:

grants@ifpmn.org

If you are submitting your film/videos on DVD, mail them to:

McKnight Filmmaking Fellowships
IFP Minnesota Center for Media Arts
2446 University Avenue West, Suite 100
St. Paul, MN 55114

If you are faxing your driver's license, send it to Lu Lippold at fax #651-644-5708.

"How to Apply" Info Sessions

Free "How to Apply" workshops will be offered in November and December to answer questions about the application process and the Fellowship program. **Both screenwriters and filmmakers are welcome to attend either session.**

TWIN CITIES

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

6:00 PM

OR

Monday, December 7, 2009

6:00 PM

IFP MN Center for Media Arts

2446 University Ave. West

St. Paul

DULUTH

Saturday, November 7

4:00 PM "How to Apply"

5:00 PM Cinema Lounge

Zinema 2 Theater

222 E. Superior Street, Duluth

McKnight Filmmaking Fellows

- 2004 Melody Gilbert, Eric Tretbar
- 2005 David Eberhardt, Scott Coleman Miller
- 2006 John Hime, Tom Schroeder
- 2007 Emily Goldberg, Jon Springer
- 2008 Hisham M. Bizri, Gabriel Cheifetz
- 2009 Rolf Belgum, Mark Wojahn**

Questions? Contact Lu Lippold, Director of Funding Programs at IFP MN. Phone: 651-644-1912, x106. E-mail: llippold@ifpmn.org.

THE MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION