

# FACT SHEET

## KDA Individual Artists Fellowship (KDAIAF) Program Description

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**WHAT IS THE KDA INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS FELLOWSHIP (KDAIAF)?** [KDAIAF](#), part of the [California Individual Artists Fellowship](#) program, supported by the [California Arts Council](#) (CAC), provides direct, unrestricted funding to support individual artists across the Central Valley and Eastern Sierra region.

**WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE KDAIAF?** The KDAIAF provides unrestricted funding to exceptional individual artists and culture bearers, helping sustain artistic practice and build long-term capacity. This fellowship recognizes artistic excellence, creative vision, and meaningful engagement with community, uplifting artists whose work strengthens cultural life across the state.

**WHO ADMINISTERS THE KDAIAF?** KDAIAF is administered by [KDA](#) (Kern Dance Alliance), one of [eight administering organizations \(AOs\)](#) chosen to regrant funds to individual artists in their respective regions.

**HOW MUCH FUNDING WAS ALLOCATED?** The CAC allocated \$450,000 to KDA for the KDAIAF. After accounting for program administration costs, \$360,000 is available for fellowship regranting.

**HOW MUCH FUNDING WILL KDA RECEIVE?** CAC funds will be used exclusively for regranting and administration of the KDAIAF. The money will NOT fund KDA's existing programs, which will continue to operate alongside the KDAIAF. KDA will continue to rely on additional funding and community support for its ongoing operations.

**WHO DOES THE KDAIAF SERVE?** IAF is a statewide initiative; however, the KDAIAF guidelines are specifically designed for artists living and working in the Central Valley and Eastern Sierra region: Amador, Calaveras, Fresno, Inyo, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Mono, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Tulare

and Tuolumne counties.

**WHO CAN APPLY FOR THE KDAIAF?** KDAIAF welcomes individual artists from all disciplines and creative traditions.

**WHAT ARE THE KDAIAF FELLOWSHIP FUNDING TIERS?** The KDAIAF offers three funding tiers based on career stage: Emerging Artist Fellowship - \$5,000, Established Artist Fellowship - \$10,000, Legacy Artist Fellowship - \$50,000.

**WHAT ARE THE KDAIAF FELLOWSHIP ELIGIBILITY RULES?** Applicants must be 18 years or older at the time of application. Have a minimum of two years of residency in the state of California. Reside, work, and/or serve in the KDA service region. Not be a past recipient of a Legacy Artist CAC Individual Artist Fellowship award.

**HOW CAN FELLOWSHIP APPLICANTS APPLY?** Applicants can access the KDAIAF Grant Program Guidelines and apply via the KDAIAF Grants Management System (GMS) at [kda-ca.org/IAF](http://kda-ca.org/IAF).

**WHAT IS THE KDAIAF TIMELINE?** KDAIAF applications will open on May 1, 2026 and will close on June 12, 2026 @ 11:59 PM. KDAIAF fellows will be announced in July 2026.

**WHY DOES THE KDAIAF MATTER?** KDAIAF offers artists freedom and flexibility to deepen creative work without restriction on use of funds. It strengthens artistic careers, enhances cultural vitality across California, and celebrates artistic leadership in diverse communities, including the Central Valley and Eastern Sierra region.

**WHERE CAN PEOPLE LEARN MORE ABOUT KDAIAF?** For more information about KDAIAF, please visit [kda-ca.org/IAF](http://kda-ca.org/IAF).