



# Individual Artists Fellowship Overview/ Which Tier Should I Apply For?

Monday, May 4, 2026 @ 12:00 PM



**KDA** **IAF**  
Individual **IAF**  
ARTISTS FELLOWSHIP



**WELCOME  
+ AGENDA**

**SERVING ARTISTS RESIDING IN THE  
CENTRAL VALLEY  
AND EASTERN SIERRA REGION**

- Meet the KDA IAF Team
- About the California Arts Council
- About the Individual Artists Fellowship
- About KDA
- About the KDA IAF
  - Service Region
  - Eligibility (and Ineligibility)
- About the KDA IAF Tiers
- KDA IAF Fellows Benefits
- How To Apply
- KDA IAF Timeline + Upcoming Webinars
- Q&A + Next Steps

# Meet the KDA IAF Team

**Andrea Hansen**

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

**Nancy Miller**

CREATIVE DIRECTOR

**Whitney Pascual**

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

**Joel Paramo**

MARKETING + PR

**David Milazzo**

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

**Jessica Johnson**

DATA ANALYST

**Danette Wolf**

FINANCE



# About the California Arts Council



The KDA Individual Artists Fellowship is a program funded by a grant from the California Arts Council.

**The California Arts Council (CAC) is a statewide agency committed to serving California artists, arts organizations, and communities of all sizes and needs.**

**Guided by racial equity principles, the CAC continuously evaluates its grant-making practices to ensure fair and inclusive funding opportunities that sustain a vibrant, safe, and resilient creative ecosystem across the state.**

# About the CAC Individual Artists Fellowship Program

The CAC established the Individual Artist Fellowship Program to provide unrestricted funding that supports the artistic practices of individual artists and culture bearers across California. The program recognizes the vital role artists play in fostering community engagement, social impact, and cultural vitality.

Through regionally based Administering Organizations (AOs), the Individual Artists Fellowship (IAF) program uplifts and celebrates California artists across all disciplines and traditions, highlights their excellence and acknowledges their leadership in shaping traditional and contemporary cultures.

For this grant, excellence is defined by:

- A unique artistic vision
- A sustained commitment to creative practice
- Engagement with and impact on the cultural ecosystem

The Fellowship Program has been offered via two past grant cycles:  
2021 - 2022 and 2023 - 2024.



# CAC Individual Artists Fellowship Program Goals

- This initiative is dedicated to ensuring equitable access to resources by reaching artists in all 58 counties.
- By providing unrestricted funding, the fellowship empowers artists at pivotal moments in their careers, enhancing their ability to contribute meaningfully to California's diverse communities.
- Investing in individual artists and culture bearers through this program strengthens artistic expression, creative practice, and community collaboration statewide.



# About KDA

- KDA (Kern Dance Alliance) is a nonprofit arts advocacy organization supporting and promoting the arts in California's Central Valley, specifically Kern County.
- Since 2015, KDA has served over 200,000 people and has raised \$6 million for the arts in the region.
- From 2023-2025, KDA administered the \$4.2 million KDA Creative Corps program, a regional regranting program funded by the California Arts Council that created thousands of jobs in the arts and programs that served the Central Valley and Eastern Sierra.
- KDA was selected as one of eight Administering Organizations (AO) by the California Arts Council (CAC) to administer the Individual Artist Fellowship (IAF) Program throughout the Central Valley and Eastern Sierra region.



**KDA IAF**  
Individual  
ARTISTS FELLOWSHIP

# WHAT IS THE KDA INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM?

[kda-ca.org/IAF](http://kda-ca.org/IAF)



**2026 GRANT GUIDELINES**

[kda-ca.org/IAF](http://kda-ca.org/IAF)

The KDA Individual Artists Fellowship is a program funded by a grant from the California Arts Council.





With support from the California Arts Council, KDA was selected as 1 of 8 Administering Organizations statewide to facilitate the Individual Artists Fellowship Program in 14 of California's Central Valley and Eastern Sierra counties.

[kda-ca.org/IAF](http://kda-ca.org/IAF)



Individual Artists living in California's Central Valley or Eastern Sierra counties are invited to apply for up to \$50,000 in unrestricted funding to support their creative practice, professional growth, and sustainability.

[kda-ca.org/IAF](http://kda-ca.org/IAF)



CAC funds will be used exclusively for regranting and administration of the KDA Individual Artists Fellowship Program. **The money will NOT fund KDA's existing programs, which will continue to operate alongside the KDA IAF.** KDA will continue to rely on additional funding and community support for its ongoing operations.

[kda-ca.org/IAF](http://kda-ca.org/IAF)



KDA

Individual

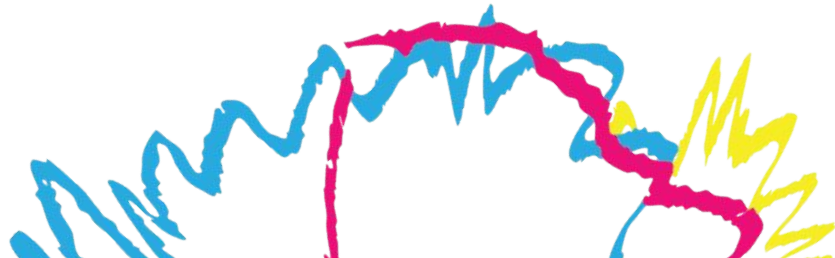
ARTISTS FELLOWSHIP

IAF



SERVING ARTISTS RESIDING IN THE  
CENTRAL VALLEY  
AND EASTERN SIERRA REGION

# SERVICE REGION



# KDA IAF

Individual ARTISTS FELLOWSHIP

The KDA IAF program will serve artists and culture bearers in the following 14 counties:

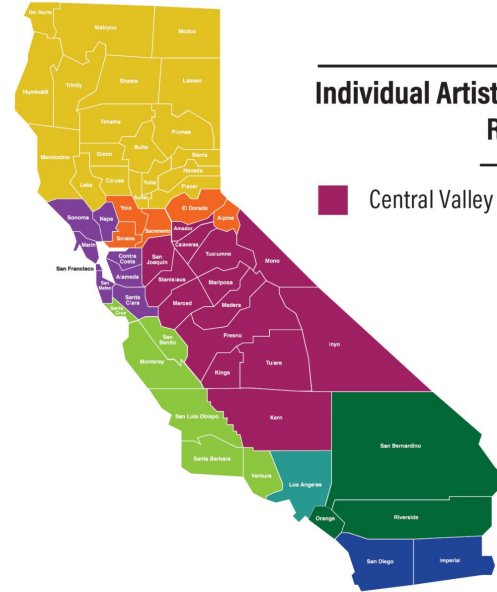
- Kern
- Kings
- Tulare
- Inyo
- Fresno
- Madera
- Mono
- Merced
- Mariposa
- Stanislaus
- Tuolumne
- San Joaquin
- Calaveras
- Amador

[kda-ca.org/IAF](http://kda-ca.org/IAF)



# KDA IAF

Individual ARTISTS FELLOWSHIP



[kda-ca.org/IAF](http://kda-ca.org/IAF)



# CAC Individual Artists Fellowship Program AOs

If you are an artist residing in California, but outside of Region 4, please refer to the appropriate regional Administering Organization below:

**Region 1: Upstate** - [Nevada Arts Council](#), serving Butte, Colusa, Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Lassen, Mendocino, Modoc, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, and Yuba Counties

**Region 2: Capital** - [Teatro Nagual](#), serving Alpine, El Dorado, Sacramento, Solano, and Yolo Counties

**Region 3: Bay Area** - [Kala Art Institute](#), serving Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Sonoma Counties

**Region 5: Central Coast** - [Arts Council Santa Cruz](#), serving: Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, and Ventura Counties

**Region 6: Los Angeles County** - [Los Angeles Performance Practice](#), serving: Los Angeles County

**Region 7: Inland Empire & South Coast** - [Arts Orange County](#), serving Riverside, San Bernardino, and Orange Counties

**Region 8: Far South** - [City of San Diego](#), serving: Imperial and San Diego Counties

KDA

Individual

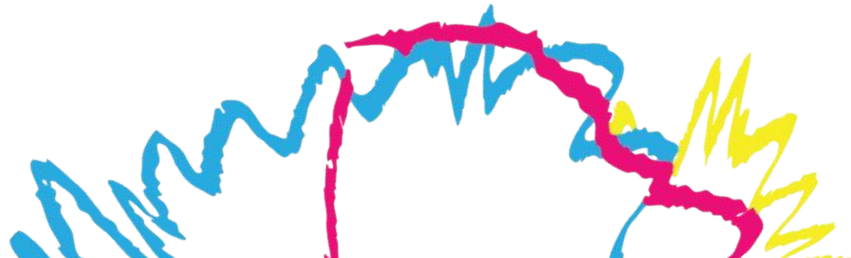
ARTISTS FELLOWSHIP

IAF



SERVING ARTISTS RESIDING IN THE  
CENTRAL VALLEY  
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# ELIGIBILITY + INELIGIBILITY



# KDA Individual Artists Fellowship Program Eligibility

To be eligible, applicants must:

- Reside in the state of California for at least two consecutive years and currently work in one of the Central Valley & Eastern Sierra counties (will be required to submit proof of residency).
- Be 18 years of age or older.
- Submit at least one letter of recommendation citing qualifications and/or artistic work history.
- Submit artistic evidence (work samples) of past artistic projects.
- Provide required signatures on any attachments that require signatures (digital or scanned).
- Applicants may submit only one application.
- Applicants may select only one career tier for consideration.



## Eligibility Requirements for Previous CAC Individual Artists Fellowship Awardees

Past IAF-funded artists may apply again **only for the next eligible tier** in the progression and **not** in the tier previously awarded.

- a. Emerging Fellows may reapply only to Established or Legacy tiers
- b. Established Fellows may reapply only to the Legacy tier
- c. Legacy Fellows are **not** eligible to reapply



# KDA Individual Artists Fellowship Program Ineligibility

You are not eligible to apply for the KDAIAF if you are a:

- a. Past IAF-funded Legacy Fellow
- b. Fiscal Sponsor - This grant supports **individual artists only**, not groups, collectives, or fiscal sponsors.



KDA

Individual

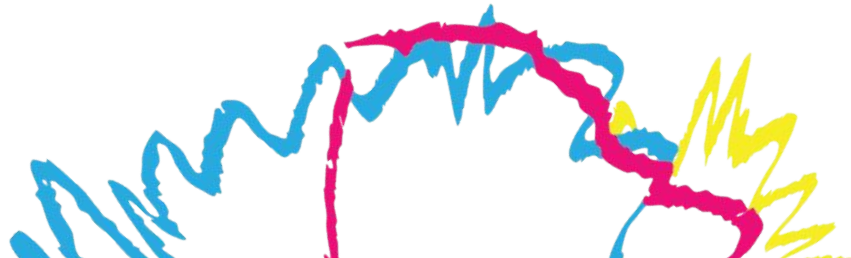
ARTISTS FELLOWSHIP

IAF



SERVING ARTISTS RESIDING IN THE  
CENTRAL VALLEY  
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# TIERS OF FUNDING



**KDA**  
Individual **IAF**  
ARTISTS FELLOWSHIP

**KDA Individual Artists  
Fellowship Tiers:**

**EMERGING ARTIST FELLOWSHIP**  
**\$5,000**

**ESTABLISHED ARTIST  
FELLOWSHIP**  
**\$10,000**

**LEGACY ARTIST FELLOWSHIP**  
**\$50,000**

[kda-ca.org/IAF](http://kda-ca.org/IAF)



**EMERGING  
ARTISTS  
FELLOWSHIP**

**\$5,000**

**ESTABLISHED  
ARTISTS  
FELLOWSHIP**

**\$10,000**

**LEGACY  
ARTISTS  
FELLOWSHIP**

**\$50,000**



**EMERGING  
ARTISTS  
FELLOWSHIP**

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**\$5,000**

For artists in the earlier stages of their practice who are beginning to present work publicly and establish a presence in their field.

[kda-ca.org/IAF](http://kda-ca.org/IAF)



**ESTABLISHED  
ARTISTS  
FELLOWSHIP**

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**\$10,000**

For artists with a sustained practice who regularly make their work public and have demonstrated meaningful impact through their artistic output

[kda-ca.org/IAF](http://kda-ca.org/IAF)



**LEGACY  
ARTISTS  
FELLOWSHIP**

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**\$50,000**

For artists with a significant body of work that has contributed deeply to their communities over time; Legacy Fellows often serve as mentors or leaders within their artistic networks.

[kda-ca.org/IAF](http://kda-ca.org/IAF)



KDA

Individual

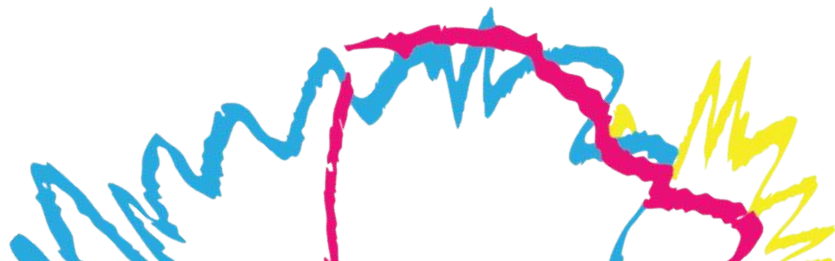
ARTISTS FELLOWSHIP

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SERVING ARTISTS RESIDING IN THE  
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# FELLOWSHIP BENEFITS



# KDA Individual Artists Fellowship Program Benefits

As a benefit, KDA Individual Artists Fellows will receive professional development, networking, and visibility opportunities throughout the grant cycle.

KDA will convene fellows at least once during the activity period for networking and co-learning.

KDA will provide visibility platforms (virtual and/or print publications, exhibits, performances) to increase awareness of fellows' work.



KDA

Individual

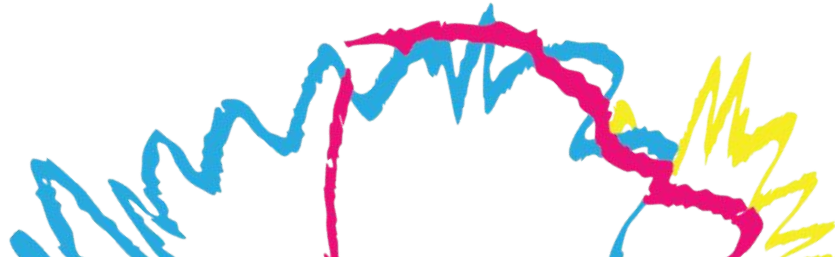
ARTISTS FELLOWSHIP

IAF



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# HOW TO APPLY



# KDAIAF Grant Portal

**kda-ca.org/IAF**



SERVING ARTISTS RESIDING IN THE  
CENTRAL VALLEY  
AND EASTERN SIERRA REGION

## Welcome to the KDA Individual Artists Fellowship (KDAIAF) Grants Management System (GMS) hosted by Submittable - we are so happy you are here!

- Submittable works best on Google Chrome, Firefox, and Safari. Internet Explorer is not supported. Please make sure you are using a supported browser.
- You will need to create a free Submittable account or sign in with Google or Facebook credentials to submit to this application.
- It is recommended that the email you use to sign up with Submittable is your preferred email that you check regularly. You will use your email to access your Submittable account regularly.
- We will follow-up with you about your submission by email. Please be sure to add hello@kda-ca.org to your email safe list to ensure we don't land in your spam.

Need help with Submittable? [Reach out to Submittable Technical Support!](#)

### KDA Individual Artists Fellowship Program

Ends on Fri, Jun 12, 2026 11:59 PM

Guidelines ▾

Submit

KDA

Individual

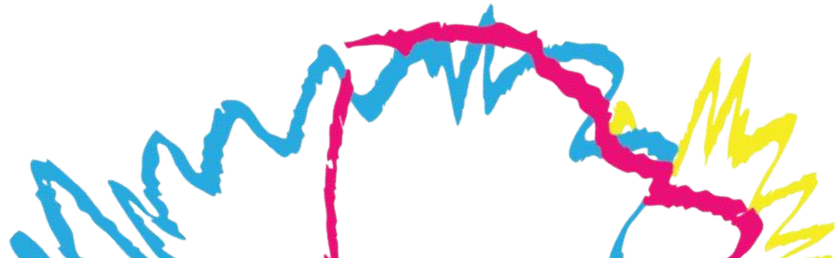
ARTISTS FELLOWSHIP

IAF



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# KDA IAF TIMELINE



# KDA IAF Timeline

**Application Opens:** May 1, 2026

## **KDA IAF Education Webinars:**

*May 4 @ 12:00 pm – Individual Artists Fellowship Overview / Which Tier Should I Apply For?*

*May 11 @ 12:00 pm – Creating a Strong Individual Artists Fellowship Application*

*May 18 @ 12:00 pm – Individual Artists Fellowship Application Tech Support*

**Application Deadline:** June 12, 2026 (11:59 p.m.)

**Panel Review:** June/July 2026

**Funding Decisions & Notifications:** July 2026

**Fellowship Activity Period:** August 1, 2026- June 30, 2027



# KDA INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

## EDUCATION WEBINAR

INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS FELLOWSHIP  
OVERVIEW / WHICH TIER SHOULD  
I APPLY FOR?

**Monday, May 4 | 12:00 PM**

**ZOOM**

[kda-ca.org/IAF](https://kda-ca.org/IAF)



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# KDA INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

## EDUCATION WEBINAR

CREATING A STRONG  
INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS FELLOWSHIP  
APPLICATION

**Monday, May 11 | 12:00 PM**

**ZOOM**

[kda-ca.org/IAF](https://kda-ca.org/IAF)



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# KDA INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

## EDUCATION WEBINAR

INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS  
FELLOWSHIP APPLICATION  
TECH SUPPORT

**Monday, May 18 | 12:00 PM**

**ZOOM**

[kda-ca.org/IAF](https://kda-ca.org/IAF)



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KDA

Individual

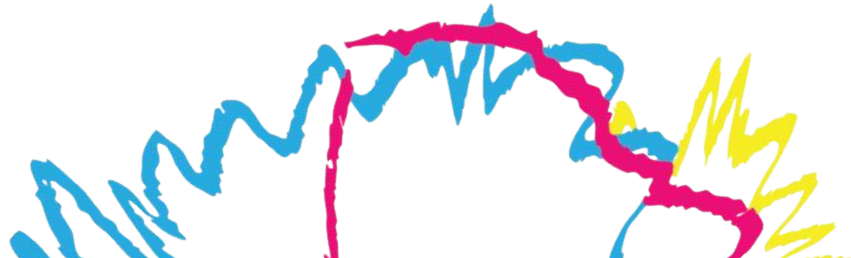
ARTISTS FELLOWSHIP

IAF



SERVING ARTISTS RESIDING IN THE  
CENTRAL VALLEY  
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# Q&A + NEXT STEPS





**IAF**

**KDA INDIVIDUAL  
ARTISTS  
FELLOWSHIP  
PROGRAM  
APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN**

Up to **\$50,000** in unrestricted funding available for individual artists living in California's Central Valley and Eastern Sierra counties.

**APPLICATIONS DEADLINE:  
JUNE 12, 2026 @ 11:59 PM**

[kda-ca.org/IAF](https://kda-ca.org/IAF)

**KDA** **IAF**  
Individual  
ARTISTS FELLOWSHIP

  
**CALIFORNIA  
ARTS COUNCIL**  
A STATE AGENCY

The KDA Individual Artists Fellowship is a program funded by a grant from the California Arts Council.

KDAIAF Office  
Hours

KDAIAF Grant  
Guidelines

KDAIAF Grant  
Portal

KDAIAF Zoom  
Webinar RSVP





# CONTACT

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[kda-ca.org/IAF](https://kda-ca.org/IAF)

