



Arts Grant Writing for Individual Artists

Professional Development Workshop

TOP TEN TIPS and TRICKS and Few More

1. Check out the funder's whole web site and assess your fit.
2. **Find the deadline first.** Start early. **Star earlier.**
3. Read all the **GUIDELINES**, even though they are wordy and boring. **Are you eligible and for what?**
4. Read the application form from start to finish twice. Make a list of what you need to provide. Pay attention to the funder's **CHECKLIST**. **Do this first.**
5. If it is an electronic submission and you need to register or open a "PORTAL", **do it right away.** Tattoo the Passwords and the HELP Line on your forehead. Don't be afraid to use the HELP Line for technical support. They are usually pretty good.
6. Support material takes time. **Start early.** Pay attention to the format requested. Letters of support and permissions take time. Start earlier. Photos and media take time. Start earlier.
7. Contact the "officer" and make friends.
8. Answer the actual questions the application asks. Be specific.
9. Be positive. Don't whine or complain.
10. Write drafts off-line first and be prepared to write many drafts. Pay attention to word and the evil "character" counts in your drafts. Save and print. Edit on paper at least once.
11. Be clear and concise. Avoid jargon and flights of fancy.
12. Contextualize your work and your practice, but do not tell your life story unless you are making an art project about it.
13. Get help. **Get feedback.** Absolutely get **someone else to proofread** and double check the checklist.
14. Try not to be afraid of the budget. **Be precise.** Get help. Don't pad the budget.
15. Watch the OAC and other online grant writing Help videos. They are pretty good.
16. Remember jurors are people and usually, your peers.
17. Remember, it is a competition.