

# TheJoyceAwards



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## **About the Joyce Awards**

Started in 2003, the Joyce Awards is the only regional program dedicated to supporting artists of color in major Great Lakes cities. Since its inception, the competition has awarded more than \$3.7 million to commission 72 new works and collaborations between artists and cultural or community organizations in six Great Lakes cities: Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, and Minneapolis-St. Paul. Each award of \$75,000 supports an artist in the creation and production of a new work and provides the commissioning organization with the resources needed to engage audiences, new partners, and their surrounding communities at large. Of the \$75,000, the artist(s) must receive at least \$25,000 as an artist stipend while the collaborating commissioning organization receives at most \$50,000 to use towards compensation of staff time, production costs, materials, participant stipends, and other expenses.

Past Joyce Awards have spanned visual, performing, and multi-disciplinary arts and have fostered exciting, new collaborations between artists, institutions, and communities. A distinct feature of funded projects is the requirement that artists and host institutions include a robust community engagement strategy in their project plan. In the majority of the awarded commissions, intensive community interaction directly informs and shapes the culminating artwork. Furthermore, many of the awarded commissions build upon existing and past efforts by commissioned organizations to build substantial relationships with surrounding communities.



# TheJoyceAwards

**Letters of Inquiry (LOIs) for the 2022 Joyce Awards will be accepted until September 13, 2021.** Registration for new organizational applicants is due on September 9, 2021, at 11:59 p.m. CDT. Full proposals will be requested within 2-3 weeks of LOI receipt for projects that demonstrate artistic merit, innovation, resonance with timely local or national themes, histories or concerns, a robust plan for community engagement, and the likelihood of full execution within 18 months of receiving an award. For the 2022 Joyce Awards, full proposals are due November 1, 2021.

An esteemed national panel of artists and arts leaders reviews the final field of applications. Once winning applicants are notified in May 2022, their projects are publicized widely.

## **Joyce Award Eligibility**

### *Artists*

Joyce Award applications may be submitted by artists living and practicing *anywhere in the world*, provided that they are proposing a collaboration with an arts or community organization located in the metropolitan statistical area of one of six Great Lakes cities: Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, or Minneapolis-St. Paul. There is no restriction in regard to art discipline or medium. Artists must be commissioned by an unrelated entity – no self-commissions or commissions by an arts organization or company founded or run by the artist.

As Joyce Awards support the commission of new works, an artist's proposed project should not have moved past the ideation stage. Although works need to be new, collaborations between artists and commissioning organizations need not be new. Joyce Foundation welcomes applications from artists and organizations who have worked together before. However, artists who have received a Joyce Award in the past are not eligible to apply as a commissioned artist. In addition, organizations that have received a Joyce Award in the past may re-apply if proposing a commission with an artist who has never received a Joyce Award in the past. Hallmarks of past Joyce Award recipients include artists whose work:



# TheJoyceAwards

- Demonstrates artistic excellence as well as new thinking or approaches while being firmly grounded in the history and evolution of an art form and the discourse which surrounds it;
- Is as artistically and intellectually relevant to the current moment and historical legacies in the place of commission as it is rigorous;
- Engages with and is informed by the stories and concerns of diverse communities, including communities of color;
- Creates opportunities for community access and learning from the ideation stage through the culminating production; and
- Will have a culminating and tangible program, product or process.

## *Arts and Community-based Organizations*

Arts or community-based organizations located in the metropolitan statistical area (MSA) of one of the six cities where Joyce Awards are made (i.e. Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Indianapolis, Milwaukee, or Minneapolis-St. Paul) may submit an application. The most compelling applications have come from organizations that:

- Evidence the capacity to support an artist(s) through the commission and presentation of an original art work;
  - Are most likely to use the proposed project and collaboration with the prospective artist to build upon and deepen connections with surrounding communities, existing and potential institutional partners and local civic leadership;
  - Display the ability to harness additional funds as needed to ensure a project's completion within a 12- to 18-month timeframe (with projects beginning no earlier than June 1, 2022); and
  - Can design and execute a robust community learning, engagement plan, and audience development strategy that will ensure the community's awareness of and access to the project from origination through completion.
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- Demonstrate a commitment to racial equity in its work.



# TheJoyceAwards

## **Proposal Process**

### **Registration (Due September 9, 2021 for the 2022 Joyce Awards)**

**Please note**--The Joyce Foundation uses an online grants management system, Fluxx. If an applicant has not registered in Joyce's Fluxx system, we ask that you please do as soon as possible at

Any applicant who does not already have access to the Joyce Foundation's grantee portal (<https://joycefdn.fluxx.io>) will need to register by going to

<https://joycefdn.fluxx.io/lois/new?utf8=%E2%9C%93&commit=Create+an+account+now>. Once your form is submitted, you will receive an email notification from the Foundation within five business days with log-in credentials.

If you have logged into Fluxx in the past, but do not remember your password, please go to [https://joycefdn.fluxx.io/forgot\\_password](https://joycefdn.fluxx.io/forgot_password) to receive a password reset email.

### **Letters of Inquiry (Due September 13, 2021 for the 2022 Joyce Awards)**

Letters of Inquiry are the first step of the application process and require brief responses from the commissioning organization and artist. To view a Word version of the LOI questions and required attachments, click [here](#).

### **Full Proposal (Due November 1, 2021 upon the request of the Joyce Foundation)**

Upon review of Letters of Inquiry, a select number of full proposals will be requested within 2-3 weeks of the Letter of Inquiry deadline. To view a Word version of the Full Proposal questions and required attachments, click [here](#).

### **Notification of Award (By May 2022)**

During the April 2022 board meeting, Joyce Foundation's Board of Trustees will review and approve award finalists based on the recommendations of an esteemed national panel of artists and arts experts. Following notification, Joyce staff will coordinate with



# TheJoyceAwards

commissioning organizations and artists receiving a Joyce Award on press announcements.

