

The Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition supports Oklahoma's professional visual artists. These awards are intended to recognize past achievement and future promise and can be used as the artist's needs require. Deadline: April 30, 2018, 11:59 pm.

The Awards

Two Oklahoma Visual Arts Fellowships for \$5,000 are open to resident Oklahoma artists working in all media. Additionally two Student Awards of Excellence of \$500 are open to Oklahoma graduate and undergraduate students. OVAC will produce a brochure about the award winning artists, which will be sent to 600+ galleries and curators across the nation.

Guest Curator

Mark Scala is the chief curator at the Frist Center for the Visual Arts in Nashville, TN. His major exhibitions have focused on the subject of human vulnerability, complexity, and transformation in art from around the world. *Phantom Bodies: The Human Aura in Art* (2015) explored the subjects of loss and remembrance in contemporary art. *Fairy Tales, Monsters, and the Genetic Imagination* (2012) was an international survey on the theme of the hybrid body in folklore, science fiction, and genetic engineering. *Paint Made Flesh* (2009) was a compilation of expressionistic figure painting in the U.S., Germany, and Britain since World War II. Scala has also organized solo exhibitions on artists including Harmony Korine, Guido van der Werve, Inka Essenhigh, Gregory Barsamian, U-Ram Choe, Angelo Filomeno, Mike Hoolboom, Simen Johan, Tokihiro Sato, Ana Maria Tavares, and Camille Utterback. Scala is currently organizing *Chaos and Awe: Painting for the 21st Century*, an international survey of artists who convey a sense of anxiety and sublimity arising from the contemplation of an increasingly unstable social imaginary.

Before coming to the Frist Center, Scala was curator at the Art Museum of Western Virginia. He received his MA in art history in 1988 and MFA in painting in 1979, both from Virginia Commonwealth University. From 2008-2013, he held the position of senior guest lecturer at Vanderbilt University, teaching the course *Sources of Contemporary Art*. He has been a critic for *The New Art Examiner*, has been interviewed by *Huffington Post*, *Modern Painters*, and on NPR, and is a regular contributor to *Nashville Arts Magazine*. He has been a member of the Association of Art Museum Curators since 2001, and served on its board from 2010-2016.

Criteria

The curator will consider the following criteria during the selection process: the quality of the work as demonstrated by samples submitted with the application; the originality of vision as well as technical expertise of the work; and the record of professional activity and achievement as reflected in the resume. The curator will also consider that the artist shows exceptional and ongoing artistic investigation.

Eligibility

FELLOWSHIP: The Oklahoma Visual Arts Coalition accepts Fellowship applications from artists who are legal residents of Oklahoma, not students of a degree seeking program in art, design, film or related, and older than 21 years of age. Work samples submitted may not have been completed while under artistic instruction. Recipients are expected to remain Oklahoma residents for the full fellowship year. Previous recipients of OVAC's Oklahoma Visual Arts Fellowship are eligible three years after their award.

STUDENT AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE: Graduate or undergraduate students in Oklahoma in a degree seeking program of art, design, film, or related, of any age may apply in the Student Awards of Excellence category. Past Student Award of Excellence recipients are not eligible.

How to Apply

Applications must be received by 11:59 pm on April 30, 2018. No late or incomplete applications will be processed. Violation of any of the terms of this agreement or of the application criteria will result in a rejection of an application, or if already awarded, rescission, or return of all funds disbursed.

Applications are accepted online only at <http://ovac-ok.org/programs/oklahoma-visual-arts-fellowships-student-awards-excellence/>.

Each applicant should submit only the following:

Recent resume. It is recommended that your resume include a record of professional activity such as exhibitions, visual arts related employment, awards, publications, and educational background. Resumes should be no more than three pages.

Artist statement. The statement should explain the nature and significance of the work submitted and should not exceed one page.

Artwork Samples. Submit exactly 10 jpeg images of your work. You may include both full views and details of work, but you may not submit more or less than 10 images. The files must be labeled only with the last name of the artist and numbers that correspond to the numbered image list (For example: Smith01.jpg). Please do not include spaces or special characters in file names. Do not place text on top of your images or include any graphic elements that are not a part of the artwork. Entries that do not follow these specifications will be disqualified.

For Media/Video/Film artist submissions: Please submit one sample reel with a maximum length of ten minutes, which may include no more than three work samples. Media submissions should come as a URL to an embedded video.

Typed Image List or Video Summary. List must include the image number, title, medium, dimensions and year created. Video summaries should include a brief summary of each work submitted with URL, clip length, title, year work was completed, and applicant's specific role per each work sample submitted, e.g. director, screenwriter, etc.

Entry Fee

FELLOWSHIP: \$25 entry fee, waived for OVAC members. Membership in OVAC is not necessary to apply for this award.

STUDENT AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE: \$15 entry fee, waived for OVAC members. Membership in OVAC is not necessary to apply for this award.