

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, 2019, 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 500+ galleries and curators across the nation.

Guest Curator

Leesa Fanning is former Curator of Contemporary Art at The Nelson-Atkins Museum. While there (1998-2018) she curated Janet Cardiff: Forty-Part Motet, Nick Cave: Property, Philip Haas' The Four Seasons, Bill Viola's The Raft, OpenEnded Group and Bill T. Jones' After Ghostcatching, Cao Fei's RMB City Opera, Wolfgang Laib: Without Place—Without Time—Without Body, Siah Armajani: Dialogue with Democracy, Tapping Currents: Contemporary African Art and the Diaspora, Iñigo Manglano-Ovalle: Vanishing Sky, and Shirin Neshat: Turbulent. She also served as venue curator for Impressions & Improvisations: The Prints of Romare Bearden, Through African Eyes, and George Segal: Street Scenes.

Fanning authored two essays in and edited a major volume called Encountering the Spiritual in Contemporary Art (2018), a 312-page book published by Yale University Press and The Nelson-Atkins Museum. She has lectured widely on the topic.

Fanning's dissertation was Abstract Expressionism and the Body: Philosophical and Cultural Interpretations, and she holds a doctorate in art history from the University of Kansas. She has taught art history classes on African art and contemporary art at The University of Kansas, The University of Missouri, and The Kansas City Art Institute. Today, as independent curator, Fanning is lecturing, researching, writing, and working with several artists to develop survey exhibitions of their art.

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 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 full fellowship

year. Previous recipients of OVAC Visual Arts Fellowship are eligible three years after their award.

STUDENT AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE: Graduate or undergraduate students in Oklahoma 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, 2019. 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. 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 created year. 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.

Student Award of Excellence fee of \$15. Waived for OVAC members.

Membership in OVAC is not necessary to apply for this award.