FY22 Independent Artist Awards "How to Apply" Information Session
June 9, 2021
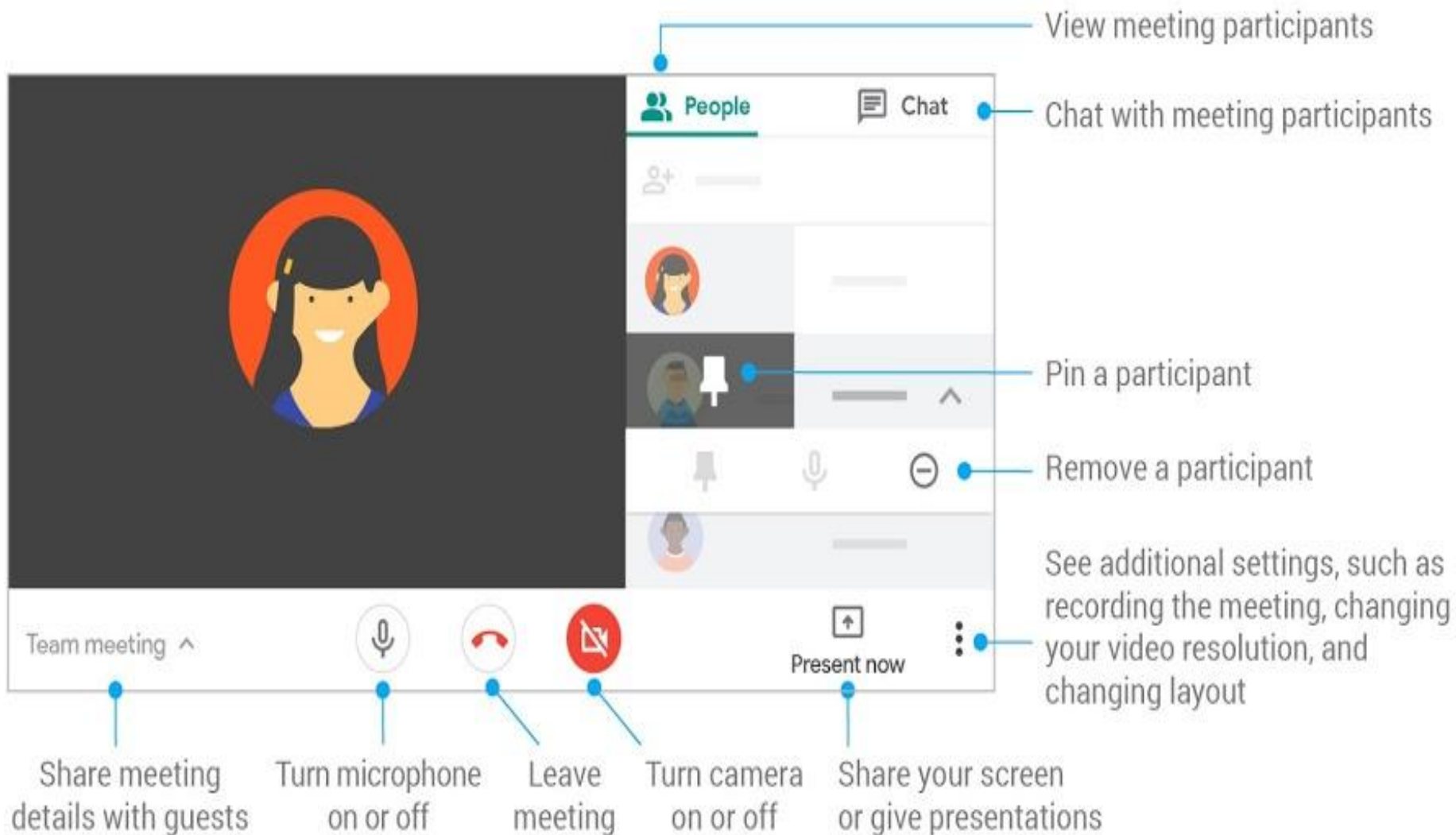
Hosted by:
EMILY SOLLENBERGER and LAURA WEISS,
Program Directors

Please mute your device until you are speaking. Do not present your screen.
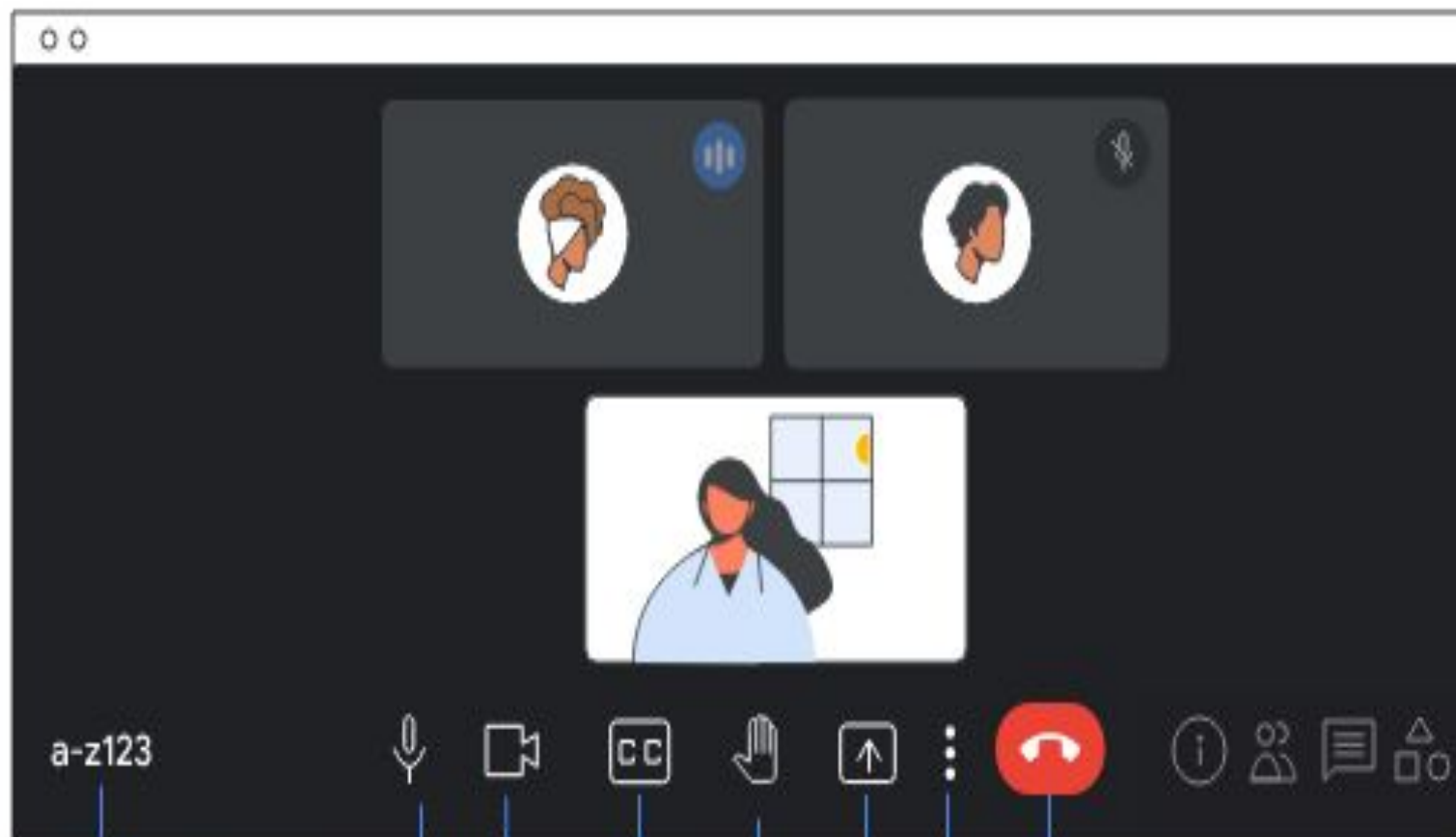
You will need some way to jot notes during this meeting.

We will hold the meeting to the established time with the opportunity for additional sharing, digitally.
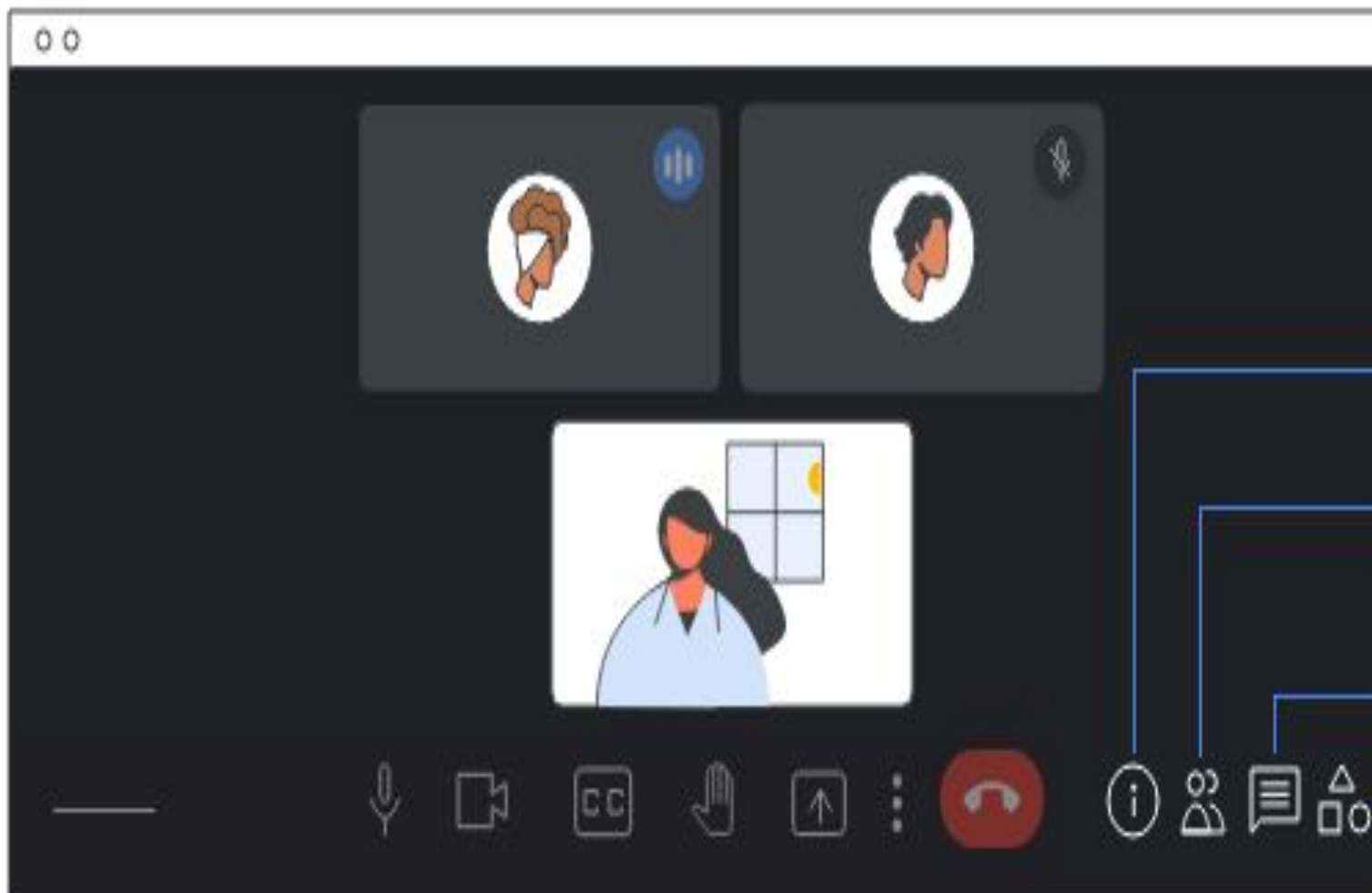
Reference Shot of Features

View meeting participants

People — Chat

Chat with meeting participants

Pin a participant

Remove a participant

See additional settings, such as recording the meeting, changing your video resolution, and changing layout

Team meeting ^

Present now

Share meeting details with guests

Turn microphone on or off

Leave meeting

Turn camera on or off

Share your screen or give presentations

Reference Shot of Features

Reference Shot of Features

Equity and Justice Statement

The arts celebrate our state's diversity, connect our shared humanity, and transform individuals and communities. The Maryland State Arts Council (MSAC) and its supporting collaborators are committed to advancing and modeling equity, diversity, accessibility, and inclusion in all aspects of our organizations and across communities of our state.

MSAC and its grantees are committed to embracing equity and non-discrimination regardless of race, religious creed, color, age, gender expression, sexual orientation, class, language, and/or ability.

Vision

The Maryland State Arts Council plays an essential role ensuring every person has access to the transformative power of the arts.

Mission

Maryland State Arts Council advances the arts in our state by providing leadership that champions creative expression, diverse programming, equitable access, lifelong learning, and the arts as a celebrated contributor to the quality of life for all the people of Maryland.

Goal 1. Increase Participation: Broaden MSAC's constituency, providing avenues designed to increase pathways to engagement

Goal 2. Provide Intentional Support: Embrace thoughtful and targeted approaches to serving known and yet to be known MSAC constituents

Goal 3. Build Capacity: Work strategically to further build organizational and governance capacity to ensure that MSAC is capable of vigorously delivering on its mission

Goal 4. Leverage Connections: Further enhance current relationships and involve additional partners, collaborators, and constituents who will benefit from and advance the work of MSAC

Goal 5. Bolster Maryland Arts: Showcase the high caliber, diverse and relevant work of Maryland's artists and arts organizations; their contributions to community vitality and MSAC's role as a catalyst

Creative Meeting Actions

Celebrate being in the space with other creative people.
Engage with everyone's presence as a gift.
Acknowledge that together we know a lot.
Enter the conversation with curiosity and inquiry.
Share your idea and trust that it will be heard.
Use "I" statements.
Focus your language on the task at hand.
Hold one another accountable with care.
Apply "Yes, and!" - "I hear your idea and I'm going to add to it!"
Balance speaking and listening.

We encourage avoiding the use of pronouns in public meetings. Please introduce yourself by name when speaking and refer to each other by name during the meeting.

MSAC Professional Development

- **Envision** - topic-specific interactive spaces based on feedback and requests such as Financial Management, Marketing Strategies, Strategic Planning, Board Engagement, and more.
- **Coffee with Ken** - Tuesday morning space for updates from the MSAC Executive Director and constituent peer-to-peer sharing.
- **Creative Conversations** - discipline-specific, budget size-specific gatherings for resource sharing and ideation.
- **Networking sessions** are held for topic-specific and informal interactions.
- **Regional Arts Summits** focus on artists, organizations and activities of five specific areas of the state, offering learning and networking opportunities.
- **2021 Maryland Arts Summit** will be held virtually on June 3 and 4, 2021.

From March, 2020 - May, 2021, 9,790 participants attended 264 virtual professional development offerings by MSAC!

Join us as a Panelist!

MSAC relies on a diverse array of constituents from across the state of Maryland to do the important work of evaluating applications.

- **Public Call for each MSAC Program - Apply in Smart Simple**
- **Training & Support is provided by MSAC Staff**
- **Role includes Review and Scoring of Applications in connection to Rubric**
- **Required Attendance at the Public Panel Meeting(s)**
- **Compensation Provided for Service** *($50/training, $100/panel meeting, $200/review period + additional fees for different programs.)*

Today's Agenda

◈ Review of IAA Program/Guidelines
◈ Application Review Process
◈ Work Samples
◈ Smart Simple Walk-thru
◈ Q&A

What is the Independent Artist Awards?

◈ Recognizes achievement by Maryland Artists making work independently of an organization or institution.

◈ Awards are accompanied by a grant *($2,000; $10,000; $15,000)* that encourages artistic growth and sustained practice.

◈ Program used to be administered by the Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation. 2020 was the first year MSAC fully administered the program from start to finish.

What is the Independent Artist Awards?

◈ Three Year Cycle for applicants in primary categories: Performing, Visual/Media, Literary Arts

◈ Primary Categories rotate each year

  ◈ Literary Arts - FY22

  ◈ Performing Arts - FY23

  ◈ Visual/Media Arts - FY24

◈ Applicants can only apply to the Primary Category and are reviewed by a panel for consideration.

◈ Applications are due on **July 1, 2021 at 5pm**

Helpful Hints!

◈ Only completed work may be submitted
  ◈ Works in progress and project proposals are not considered eligible.
  ◈ For the purposes of this program, "complete" is considered to be the point at which the work is ready for public presentation.
    ◈ "Completed" does not equal "published"
  ◈ Unlike the Creativity Grant or other programs, the application is not for explaining how the Award, if granted, would be used

Eligibility (Abbreviated)

◈ Must be a Maryland resident

◈ Must be 18 years of age or older

◈ Collaborative groups must be composed of artists who are 18 years or older. 50% of artists in a collaborative group must meet the residency requirement

◈ Applicants cannot be in school (high school, undergrad, or graduate in any artistic discipline)

◈ Review all guidelines carefully on page 6 of the guidelines to verify eligibility

What falls under the Literary Arts category?

Examples include (but are not limited to):

- Fiction
- Non-fiction
- Poetry
- Scripts and screenplays
- Children's literature
- Graphic literature
- Questions? Not sure? Contact Emily or Laura to discuss!

Types of Awards

$2,000 Regional Awards - awarded in each region to encourage an the pursuit of promising work by an individual artist or collaborative group.

$10,000 Regional Awards - awarded in each region to recognize notable artistic achievement by an individual artist or collaborative group.

All $10,000 Regional Award winners will be eligible for the State Award(s):

$15,000 State Award(s) - awarded to up to two (2) artists or collaborative groups per year to recognize outstanding artistic achievement

An artist may receive up to three $2,000 Regional Awards, two $10,000 Regional Awards, and one State Award in their lifetime.

IAA Application

Application includes:
- Applicant Contact Information
- Collaborator Information (for collaborative groups)
- Creative Process Statement (100 word limit)
- Up to 8 work samples with technical information and work sample description

All applications are completed in Smart Simple (online grants platform)

IAA Application - Creative Process Statement

This statement should convey to the panel information that further informs any additional processes, inspiration, intention, philosophy, evolution of style, current direction of the artist's work that is being submitted for review (100 word limit).

IAA Application - Work Samples

Applicants may provide up to eight work samples in whichever file type (audio, image, video, or PDF) or combination of file types they feel best showcases their work. Technical information may be provided for each work sample.

IAA Application - Work Samples

- All files types and sizes will be accepted.
- The total combined length of all audio and video files may not exceed **10 minutes per application**.
- The total combined length of manuscripts and compositions may not exceed **20 pages per application**.
- See pages 9 and 10 of guidelines for specific info on file type recommendations

Helpful Hint!

- Each work sample should be its own file/upload
  - For example, 4 poems = 4 work samples
  - **Do not** combine work samples into one combined PDF
  - **Do** make sure the entire work sample (i.e. an 8 page excerpt from a novel) is included in one PDF (and not 8 PDFs, one for each page)

Application Review Process

Application is open now through **Thursday, July 1st at 5pm**

Applications received after the deadline will not be accepted

Each application submitted by July 1, 2021 will be reviewed by the MSAC staff for eligibility from July - August 2021.

Application Review Process - Round 1

- Prior to the Regional Panel meetings, applications will first be reviewed by panelists on their own time the Round 1 Scoring Rubric.
- This review will happen in approx. September - October
- Average panel scores determine which applications advance to Round 2.
- An application can receive a total of 15 points per panelist.

Application Review Process - Round 1

Round 1 Rubric - an Excellent to Outstanding score of 15 total points will include:

● Clear evidence of outstanding achievement in presenting promising and/or engaging work (5 pts)

● Excellent communication of creative process (5 pts)

● The described creative process/vision are very clearly evident in the work samples (5 pts)

Application Review Process - Round 2

- Those applications that score high enough will move to Round 2 of reviews, which takes place at the Regional Panel Meetings.

- Regional Panel Meetings will occur in late November and early December, 2021.

- An application can receive a total of 15 points per panelist in Round 2.

Application Review Process - Round 2

Round 2 Rubric - an Excellent to Outstanding score of 15 total points will include:

- Work samples provide evocative experiences and heightened sensations based on the intention. (5 pts)
- Work samples communicate collective meaning that goes beyond the artist's(s') perspective and experience. (5 pts)
- There is a strong connection between the concept statement and the work samples demonstrating contemporary perspectives (remaining open, fluid, transparent, subject to influence, and able to hold contradiction)

Application Review Process - State Panel

Those applicants recommended for a $10,000 Regional Award will move forward to the State Panel Meeting, for consideration of an additional $15,000 State Award, which is awarded to up to two artists/collaborative groups.

Panelists will use the two rubrics from Round 1 and Round 2 to guide the discussion of each applicant. Panelists will make funding recommendations based on the discussion. Those with a majority of recommendations will be recommended for the State Award(s).

Panel Meetings

In accordance with Maryland's Open Meetings Act, IAA panel meetings are open to the public for observation only. Artists are encouraged to attend and hear the panel's comments about applications.

Meeting information, including dates/times/location, will be available on msac.org in the fall.

Notification of Awards

Applicants will be notified of award decisions in writing no later than **March 1, 2022**.

MSAC notifies all applicants, whether they receive an award or not.

Smart Simple
Application and Review System

Step 1:
Go to marylandarts.smartsimple.com. Click the Blue Register
button

Step 2:
Register as an Independent Artist. Enter in all prompted contact information.

My Applications

8	3	0	0
Funding Opportunities	In Progress	Submitted	Approved/Declined

After you register, log in and you'll see a Dashboard. Scroll to "My Applications" and the "Funding Opportunities" option. Click here.

This will open a list of all funding opportunities available to you - choose the Independent Artist Awards option. Click "Apply Now."

This will open the application.

Click Save Draft to start!

Questions?

Emily Sollenberger -

emily.sollenberger@maryland.gov

Laura Weiss - laura.weiss@maryland.gov