

Our Stage / Our Voices Artist-in-Residency 2024 Program

Application is due by midnight on Friday, January 19, 2024. Application begins on the third page of this document.

The UIS Performing Arts Center seeks applicants for the Our Stage / Our Voices Artist-in-Residency program. The duration of the residency is one year. The selected artist will be personally contracted for \$12,000 for their work on the program and will have access to a budget of up to \$12,000 for additional expenses related to the project.

Our Stage / Our Voices (OS/OV) exists to provide opportunities for performing artists who are members of historically underrepresented communities to address the issues of inequality in the regional performing arts with the goal of achieving diversity and inclusion. These historically underrepresented communities include but are not limited to BIPOC, LGBTQ+, and persons with disabilities.

The **OS/OV Artist-in-Residency Program** is a program that provides an opportunity for a selected artist to serve as an activist to readily advance a specific project that can help to raise underrepresented voices in the performing arts. Applicants will be considered based on their artist and/or activist credentials as well as the strength of their proposed project.

Projects should address one or more of these broad goals:

- Increase diversity, equity, and inclusion in the regional performing arts
- Include, celebrate, and/or develop leadership by underrepresented artist group(s) in the regional performing arts
- Use the performing arts to address issues of racism, ableism, homophobia, sexism, and/or economic inequity

All of the following elements should be included in the project:

- Project should be of or about the performing arts
- Project should include one or more public event (performance, class, discussion, ceremony, etc.)
- Project should aim to amplify the voices or stories of an underrepresented community
- Project should involve an underrepresented community in the public event (as performers, participants, etc.)

The scope of the project should be such that it requires an average of approximately 8 hours of work per week by the Artist-in-Residence over the course of the program year, with the understanding that the project may have varied levels of commitment throughout different times of the year.

Examples of possible types of projects include:

- Develop, plan, and execute events and activities which provide leadership and general participation opportunities for members of underrepresented communities (i.e. open mic night or performance showcase featuring performers from diverse communities, creating a playwright contest for one-act plays written by members of a specific community, etc.)
- Work with local artists and local arts organizations to develop diversity, equity, and inclusion guidelines and standards, which regional arts organizations can choose to adopt or adapt.
- Offer workshops to members of the underrepresented communities in auditioning technique, directing, working with backstage equipment, producing and marketing events, etc. in the hopes of increasing participation from diverse populations in all these areas.
- Develop an annual awards ceremony focusing on recognizing the contributions of underrepresented communities in the regional performing arts scene.

- Work with the UIS Performing Arts Center's *Staley Class Acts* program to create a locally-produced play encouraging participation in the arts by all, emphasizing the central role that everyone can play regardless of race, gender identity, sexual orientation, or disability.

During the year of the residency, in addition to executing the planned project as agreed upon, the resident may be asked to represent the UIS Performing Arts Center in the media regarding issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Applicants are welcome and encouraged to contact UIS Performing Arts Center's current OS/OV Artist-in-Residence, Tim Crawford, at osov@uis.edu to discuss ideas and proposed projects before applying.

PROJECT BUDGET INFORMATION In addition to the selected Artist-in-Residence being paid \$12,000 for their work, an additional \$12,000 can be provided by UIS PAC to pay for agreed-upon expenditures necessary to execute the project. The Artist-in-Residence will work closely with UIS PAC staff to develop the project budget throughout the early phase of the project work. Upon approval, this project budget can be used to:

- Pay artists and other individuals for specific, contracted work supporting the project
- Pay for supplies and equipment that support the project, including the construction of sets and costumes
- Pay for advertising of specific events and initiatives

Additionally, some resources can be provided directly by the UIS Performing Arts Center at direct cost or no cost:

- Rehearsal and performance space in the UIS Performing Arts Center (no project cost)
- Technical staff to run sound/lights/cameras at project events (project cost may apply)
- Ticketing services (project cost may apply)
- Marketing resources such as use of UIS PAC social media platforms and email lists (no project cost)
- Expertise of UIS PAC staff in areas of production, front-of-house, programming, marketing, development, education and other areas (no project cost)

WHO CAN APPLY? Applicants must be individuals 18 years of age or older and must be active participants in the regional (central Illinois) performing arts community and active participants in advancing the cause for diversity, equity, and inclusion. Preference will be given to members of underrepresented communities who are active participants in regional arts initiatives. Preference will be given to projects that are designed to engage additional members of underrepresented communities in breadth and/or depth.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS AND INFORMATION

- Submission is limited to one proposal per eligible individual per application cycle.
- The selected Artist-in-Residence will work with UIS PAC staff to develop project expectations for periodic deliverables and associated payments; applicant must complete the stated deliverables in the committed time period in order to receive payment. The Artist-in-Residence must keep the UIS PAC staff updated on progress toward completion of the project.
- Any mentions of the project by the Artist-in-Residence in any media must acknowledge the UIS PAC as providing funding for the project.
- Previous Artists-in-Residence will be asked to volunteer to evaluate future applications for Artist-in-Residence projects.
- The Artist-in-Residence must consent to a UIS background check.

For more information about the UIS Performing Arts Center, please visit: www.UISpac.com.

For more information about Our Stage / Our Voices, please visit: <https://uispac.com/our-stage-our-voices/>.



Our Stage / Our Voices Artist-in-Residency 2024 Application

This application may be completed online at [this link](#).

As an alternative, applications can be written by hand on this form, scanned and emailed to carmi1@uis.edu or mailed to Carly Shank, UIS Performing Arts Center, 1 University Plaza, MS PAC 397, Springfield, IL 62703. Applicants are also invited to use the application information from this form to create an electronic submission.

Please contact Carly Shank at the UIS Performing Arts Center at carmi1@uis.edu or 217-206-8286 if you need assistance in any form completing this application.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

First and last name of applicant: _____

Preferred pronouns of applicant: _____

Email address: _____ Phone number: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

If your address is not in central Illinois, please explain your connection to central Illinois:

Are you at least 18 years of age? Yes No *Please note you must be at least 18 years of age to be considered.*

Please describe your studies, participation, and/or work as an artist and your involvement in the regional arts community. Amateur as well as professional experiences are welcome. *As an alternative, you are welcome to submit a resume of your artistic work or a video of you discussing your artistic work.*

Please describe any underrepresented community to which you belong and how membership in that community has impacted you as an artist and/or citizen.

PROPOSED PROJECT INFORMATION

Please provide a description of your proposed project. Your description should reflect your personal passion for the project and should touch on how your project will achieve all of the four required areas below:

1. Project should be of or about the performing arts
2. Project should include one or more public event (performance, class, discussion, ceremony, etc.)
3. Project should aim to amplify the voices or stories of an underrepresented community
4. Project should involve an underrepresented community in some capacity in the public event (as performers, participants, audience, etc.)

Please be sure to also describe how your project will address one or more of these broad goals:

1. Increase diversity, equity, and inclusion in the regional performing arts
2. Include, celebrate, and/or develop leadership by underrepresented artist group(s) in the regional performing arts
3. Use the performing arts to address issues of racism, ableism, homophobia, sexism, and/or economic inequity

As an alternative, you are welcome to submit a video of yourself discussing your project proposal or submit a separate document of your proposal.

Please describe how your work on this project will benefit the community as a whole.

Please describe how your work on this project will benefit you as an artist.

OTHER DETAILS

The duration of the Artist-in-Residency is one year. It is UIS PAC's expectation that the year can begin sometime in the first quarter of 2024, but the start date is somewhat flexible. If there are particular personal or project reasons why you prefer a particular start date later than March 2024, please describe that. This may include accounting for other projects that are already on your personal schedule or your plan for the project to begin or end at a particular time (such as if a project should have a culminating performance in a particular month or should operate on a school year schedule).

Please provide three references who can speak to your ability to execute this project. At least one reference should be a participant in the regional performing arts community. At least one reference should be someone who supervised your work or volunteer project work in the past or present.

Reference name: _____

Phone number: _____

Capacity in which you know this person: _____

Reference name: _____

Phone number: _____

Capacity in which you know this person: _____

Reference name: _____

Phone number: _____

Capacity in which you know this person: _____

Selection process

- Submit electronic application by midnight on Friday, January 19, 2024 or postmark by the same date.
- Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee comprised of UIS Performing Arts Center staff and community artists.
- Finalists may be invited to an in-person or phone interview to discuss their project proposal.
- The committee plans to select the 2024 artist-in-residence by February 5, 2024. All applicants will be notified of their status by that time.