



## TULSA ARTIST FELLOWSHIP TO OPEN APPLICATIONS FOR 2025 – 2027 AWARD TERM

*Ten awardees will be selected by a national panel of arts professionals to receive \$1.95 million in support and resources in Tulsa, Oklahoma*



Left: Sarah Ahmed's studio during Open House 2023; Right: Anita Fields in the studio; Photo by Dylan Johnson, courtesy of the artists and Tulsa Artist Fellowship

**December 13, 2023 – Tulsa, OK** – Tulsa Artist Fellowship (TAF), a place-based, durational award focused on supporting visionary arts practitioners, is pleased to announce the upcoming opening of applications for 2025-2027 Tulsa Artist Fellowship award term on Thursday, January 18, 2024, building on the success of its expanded award structure starting in its 2024-2026 inaugural term.

TAF will open its doors for applications from artists and/or arts workers of any medium or discipline with a minimum of five years of arts field experience via [tulsaartistfellowship.org](http://tulsaartistfellowship.org). The ten selected awardees, to be announced later in 2024, will each receive a total stipend of \$150,000 over three award years, along with a \$12,000 yearly housing stipend, \$1,200 yearly health stipend, \$1,200 yearly studio assistant stipend, \$1,500 relocation stipend, fully-subsidized studio spaces, and access to shared art-making facilities. The total support and resources provided to the cohort exceed \$1.95 million.

Says **Carolyn Sickles**, Executive and Artistic Director of TAF, *"We welcome artists and arts workers in all disciplines to apply for the Tulsa Artist Fellowship and become part of this vibrant creative community. With our expanded award structure, we believe this unparalleled support will empower artists to push the boundaries of their craft and bring their visions into life."*

TAF will appoint arts experts from across the United States who represent a wide spectrum of disciplines to join the review and selection process. While leveraging their network of experienced creatives, implementing this structure not only deepens TAF's connection to diverse communities and practices that constitute the field of art, but also ensures

representation of different perspectives in selecting future fellows, contributing to the growing art and culture scene of Tulsa.

Established in 2015, TAF was created as a civic enhancement initiative by the George Kaiser Family Foundation (GKFF) with an intent to address the most pressing artistic challenges for contemporary artists and arts workers living in and joining the city of Tulsa, OK. In September 2022, TAF announced a significant expansion of its open-call award program, extending the term to three years and providing increased funding to its awardees. Awardees will commit to actualizing proposed work during the program term, offering the required expertise necessary to achieve the project goals while engaging with the community of Tulsa and broader audiences. The new award model advances the Fellowship's mission to support independent arts practitioners and serve as a global model for mobilizing communities through the transformative power of the arts.

TAF announced its 2024-2026 award cohort in August, including artists and arts workers across a wide range of disciplines including fiber art, film, photography, and poetry, among others. The group of ten outstanding artists and arts workers was selected by a panel of esteemed arts leaders through multiple rounds of review stages from a pool of over 1,000 submissions.

For more information, please visit <https://www.tulsaartistfellowship.org>.

## NOTES TO EDITORS

### **To Apply for Tulsa Artist Fellowship 2025-2027 Award Term:**

<https://tulsaartistfellowship.org/award>

**Application Period:** January 18—February 28, 2024

### **Award Structure**

- \$150,000 stipend paid over three years
- \$36,000 housing stipend over three years
- Fully subsidized studio space in Tulsa's Arts and/or Greenwood Districts with access to shared facilities including a ceramics studio with kilns, woodshop, media lab, roof terrace, performance rehearsal space, and meeting rooms with video/audio capabilities (Estimated resource value of \$27,000 over 3 years)
- Tulsa Artist Fellowship has expanded additional award support areas to include:
  - Studio assistant stipend (over three years)
  - Health and wellness stipend (over three years)
  - Access to free fitness facilities
  - Childcare reimbursements for Fellowship activities
  - \$1,500 one-time relocation stipend

### **Qualifications**

- Artists and/or Arts Workers of any medium and/or discipline with a minimum of five years of arts field experience committed to living and working in Tulsa, Oklahoma full-time for three-award years.
- Awardees commit to actualizing an original project during the three-year program term.
- Applicants must be at least 25 years old and a U.S. citizen, permanent legal resident, or O-1 Visa holder.

- Previous Tulsa Artist Fellowship awardees are ineligible to reapply for additional award terms.

### **About Tulsa Artist Fellowship**

Established in 2015, Tulsa Artist Fellowship was created as a place-based arts initiative by the George Kaiser Family Foundation (GKFF), that addresses pressing challenges for contemporary artists and arts workers living in and joining the city of Tulsa, Oklahoma. A central part of the Fellowship's initiative is to bring, enliven, and participate in Tulsa's growing and thriving arts community. TAF supports contemporary artists across all mediums and is committed to celebrating diversity in all its forms and freedom of expression.

**Facebook:** [Tulsa Artist Fellowship](#) | **Instagram:** [@tulsaartistfellowship](#)

### **About George Kaiser Family Foundation**

George Kaiser Family Foundation (GKFF) is a charitable organization dedicated to providing equal opportunity for young children through investments in early childhood education, community health, social services, and civic enhancement. GKFF believes that Tulsa is a land of opportunity. A generous and welcoming community, this city is not bound by traditional conventions. GKFF is dedicated to making Tulsa the best city for children to be born, grow and succeed.

### **Media Contacts**

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