



## 2017 Transformation Award Guidelines (Stage 1)

**The Leeway Transformation Award celebrates women and trans\* artists and cultural producers living in the Delaware Valley region who create art for social change and have done so for the past five years or more, demonstrating a commitment to art for social change work. The Transformation Award is a \$15,000 unrestricted award (it is not project-based) open to women and trans\* people working in any art form.**

### 2017 APPLICATION DEADLINES

The Leeway Transformation Award is a two-stage process; Stage 1 is open to all eligible applicants. A national peer review panel will evaluate applications and select applicants to invite to Stage 2.

Stage 1: May 15 • Stage 2: By invitation only

These are not postmark deadlines; applications (electronic or hard-copy) must be *received* by the deadline. If the deadline falls on a weekend or holiday, the application must be received by 10:00am the following business day.

We do not accept applications sent by email or fax.

### APPLICATION SUBMISSION

#### **Hard-copy applications**

Drop off or mail applications to:

Leeway Foundation  
The Philadelphia Building  
1315 Walnut Street, Suite 832  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

#### **Electronic applications**

Applications may be submitted online at [www.leeway.org/applyLTA](http://www.leeway.org/applyLTA). If you do not receive an email confirmation within five minutes of sending your electronic application, it has not been successfully submitted.

### LEEWAY'S OTHER GRANTMAKING PROGRAM

In addition to the Transformation Award, Leeway offers the Art and Change Grant two times per year. These project-based grants of up to \$2,500 are awarded to women and trans artists in the Delaware Valley region. The 2017 Art and Change Grant deadlines are March 1 and August 1.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

PHONE: 215.545.4078  
EMAIL: [info@leeway.org](mailto:info@leeway.org)  
WEBSITE: [www.leeway.org](http://www.leeway.org)



[facebook.com/leewayfound](https://facebook.com/leewayfound)  
[@leewayfound](https://twitter.com/leewayfound)

*\*We use the term "trans" in its most inclusive sense, as an umbrella term encompassing transsexual, transgender, genderqueer, Two-Spirit people, and more generally, anyone whose gender identity or gender expression is nonconforming and/or different from their gender assigned at birth.*

# Art for Social Change: What We Mean

## ART FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

Leeway supports artists involved in art for social change that positively affects and respectfully engages communities and audiences. Creating social change must be integral to the ideas, beliefs, and goals that are woven throughout your art and your process of creating and sharing your art.

## IMPACT OF ART WITH VISION

Art for social change is art with a vision and an intentional analysis. It is an artistic or creative cultural practice that may operate in traditional or nontraditional mediums, modes, or disciplines. Art with a vision impacts people in many ways. It can:

- Raise consciousness
- Alter how we think about ourselves, our society, or our culture
- Create a vision of a more just world
- Be a tool or strategy for organizing and movement building
- Preserve or reclaim traditional cultural practices using your artistic practice as a form of resistance or empowerment
- Create space for expression and build a sense of community
- Challenge racism, classism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, misogyny, ageism, ableism, or other oppressions
- Question mainstream culture and beliefs
- Shift or transform the perception of power and/or privilege and the dynamics associated with justice, equality, and/or accountability
- Engage and utilize a reciprocal process — where there is teaching and learning simultaneously and the consent for engagement is mutual, as is the benefit for yourself as an artist and the community you are engaging

## How to Apply

The Transformation Award is open to individual artists and cultural producers creating art for social change in any medium, including traditional and nontraditional, as well as multimedia and experimental forms.

## ELIGIBILITY

- Art and Change Grant applicants may apply for the Leeway Transformation Award in the same year.
- If you receive the Transformation Award, you may not apply for the Art and Change Grant for the next two years.

You are eligible to apply if you:

- Have lived for the past two years or more in the Delaware Valley: Bucks, Camden, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, or Philadelphia County
- Identify as a woman or trans\* person
- Are at least 18 years old
- Have been creating art for social change for the past five years or more

You may not apply if you:

- Are a full-time student in an arts degree program
- Have previously received a Transformation Award
- Have not turned in all reports due from previous Leeway grants

## AGE AND RESIDENCY DOCUMENTATION

This documentation is confidential and will not be shared with anyone other than Leeway staff. You may mask any financial or sensitive information in these documents. **Note: You must submit documentation of both age and residency.**

For proof of age, include a clear photocopy of one of the following: driver's license, passport, birth certificate, non-driver's identification card, voter registration card, or immigration registration card or papers.

For proof of current residency, include a clear photocopy of one of the following: utility bill, rental agreement, mortgage agreement or payment coupon, house deed, tax return, or other verification of residency. Residency documentation should match the address you listed on page 1 of the application and prove that you have met the residency requirements for the past two years or more.

*Note: If submitting online, you can upload a digital scan or photo (.pdf or .jpg) of your age and residency documentation or you can mail it in or drop it off.*

## **Recipients of the Leeway Transformation Award must fill out a W-9 tax form and provide their legal name.**

If you are unable to provide any of the above documents or have concerns about submitting them, call the Leeway staff at 215.545.4078.

## IF YOU HAVE BEEN SUPPORTED BY LEEWAY IN THE PAST, PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:

1. To be eligible you must turn in any outstanding reports for past grants or awards. Your report should outline what you were able to accomplish with the grant, even if the project changed or you were not able to complete it. Electronic grant report forms can be found at [www.leeway.org/grantreport](http://www.leeway.org/grantreport).
2. You may apply for and receive both an Art and Change Grant and the Transformation Award in the same year.

## AWARD PERIOD

The 2017 Leeway Transformation Award period is from January 2018 to December 2018.

## AWARD PERIOD RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants for the Transformation Award must have lived in Bucks, Camden, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, or Philadelphia counties continuously since at least April 2015. **Awardees must maintain residency in one of these six counties throughout the award period ending December 31, 2018.**

## COLLABORATION: APPLYING WITH OTHER ARTISTS

You may apply collaboratively with other artists for the Transformation Award.

- Each co-applicant must meet Leeway's basic eligibility requirements (guidelines page 2).
- You must have worked with each other for the past five years or more creating art for social change.
- Indicate in the Artist Information section (application page 1) that your project is a collaboration and whether you are the main contact person.
- Each co-applicant must submit separate Artist Information and Experience sections (make sure to detail any collaborative experience you have together).
- Each co-applicant must provide age and residency documentation.
- Co-applicants must jointly submit one form for each of the following: Experience and Description of Your Art for Social Change Work. Make sure to describe the experience and work of the collaboration, not your individual practices.
- All hard-copy application materials must be submitted in one envelope.
- If you are selected for an award, the award check will be issued to the collaboration's main contact.

# Award Review Process

## PEER REVIEW PANEL

An independent peer review panel will evaluate applications based on the following criteria:

- Breadth and depth of your experience creating art for social change for five years or more
- Whether or not social change is an intentional part of your artistic practice
- Your relationship to the communities you work with
- Audience and/or community engagement

## STAGE 1 FINALIST STATUS NOTIFICATION

If you are selected as a Stage 1 finalist, a notification letter will be mailed to you 8-10 weeks after the application deadline.

Applicants may contact the Leeway staff for review panel feedback.

## Social Change Intent/Vision

We ask you to identify at least one but **no more than three** social change categories that best describe the intent or vision behind your project for the purposes of evaluating our programs. These categories are not meant to force you into a box. They are intended to enable us to organize grantees around social change issues and help us evaluate the effectiveness of our outreach and the impact of our grantmaking.

If your social change issue is not listed below or you have questions about which categories to choose, call the Leeway staff at 215.545.4078.

- Cultural preservation
- Disability justice
- Displacement, migration, and immigration
- Economic justice
- Ending war: militarization, criminalization, and mass incarceration
- Environmental justice
- Feminism
- Indigenous sovereignty/rights
- LGBTQI social movements
- Racial justice
- Transgender justice/gender self-determination

## Artistic Disciplines

We ask you to choose the primary category that best represents your artistic practice. This will allow us to group applicants by discipline for the purpose of evaluating our programs.

We recognize that these disciplines may feel narrow, but they are not meant to limit you. They are intended to enable us to organize grantees within a set of “high-level” disciplines and to help us analyze the effectiveness of our outreach and the impact of our grantmaking. The application provides an opportunity for you to talk more about the multidisciplinary or hybrid nature of your work, should you feel constrained by these categories.

You have the option of choosing one primary category as well as a secondary category on the application. Below is a list of categories and examples of disciplines that might fall within them. If your disciplines are not listed or you have questions about which category to choose, call the Leeway staff at 215.545.4078.

### CRAFTS & TEXTILES

Book art  
Costume design  
Crocheting  
Doll making  
Fashion design  
Furniture making  
Knitting  
Puppetry  
Quilting  
Scenic design  
Sex toys  
Weaving

### FOLK ARTS

Capoeira  
Culinary art  
Hair braiding  
Heritage gardening  
Storytelling  
Traditional dance  
Traditional music

### LITERARY ARTS

Creative nonfiction  
Creative writing  
Playwriting  
Poetry  
Prose  
Short stories

### MEDIA ARTS

Animation  
Audio  
Film  
Interactive design  
Multimedia  
New media  
Podcast  
Video  
Web-based work

### MUSIC

Composition  
Deejaying  
Hip-hop  
Instrumental performance  
Jazz  
Opera  
Producing  
Rapping  
Singing  
Songwriting  
Vocal performance

### PERFORMANCE

Acting  
Dance  
Movement  
Musical theater  
Oral history  
Performance art  
Spoken word  
Theater

### VISUAL ARTS

Cartoon/Comic illustration  
Digital art  
Drawing  
Graphic design  
Illustration  
Installation  
Mixed media  
Murals  
Painting  
Photography  
Printmaking  
Screenprinting  
Sculpture

### MULTIDISCIPLINARY

Please be advised that this category is for artists for whom multiple disciplines are integral and necessary for the execution of the work.

**If you choose multidisciplinary, do not choose a secondary discipline.**

## Examples of Previous Transformation Awardees

Refer to our website for examples of previous Leeway Transformation Award recipients. If you have trouble accessing the website, contact Leeway to request a list of examples of past awardees.

# Instructions

## ARTIST INFORMATION SECTION (APPLICATION PAGES 1-3)

- Provide your artist name or preferred name. This name will be used in all publicity or public materials should you receive a grant.
- Provide your legal name associated with your Social Security number or bank account; your legal name will not be shared publicly or with the review panel and will be kept confidential among the Leeway staff.
- Choose a discipline that best represents the nature of your project. You may also select a secondary discipline if needed. The multidisciplinary category should only be used if multiple disciplines are integral to the work. If you select multidisciplinary, do not choose a secondary discipline.
- Identify at least one but **no more than three** social change categories that best represent the nature of your work. In a later part of the application you will have to explain how your artistic practice engages with and expresses the social change vision and intent categories you choose.

## EXPERIENCE FORM (APPLICATION PAGE 4)

- You must include a minimum of four and no more than 10 experiences and the dates for each experience (dates may be approximate).
- Include experiences that reflect a consistent art for social change practice of at least five years.
- Experiences can be artistic, personal, political, or professional in nature. The review panel values experiences that are often not included in traditional resumes and knows that these experiences can be defining moments for an artist.
- Your highlighted experience should be the most compelling in terms of its relationship to your practice.

## DESCRIPTION OF YOUR ART FOR SOCIAL CHANGE WORK (APPLICATION PAGES 5-6)

The review panel will look at this section to get a sense of the following:

- Why you are doing this work
- Whether a clear vision and social change intent is an integral part of your practice
- How who you are and how you identify play a role as it relates to the audiences or communities you work with
- What role audience or community has in your work
- What the trajectory of your art for social change work has been over time
- What impact your work has on the greater Philadelphia region

**Keep in mind that members of the review panel may not be familiar with your particular artistic practice or cultural context, so describe them clearly.**

## APPLICATION CHECKLIST (APPLICATION PAGE 7)

- Use this checklist to ensure that your application is complete. The review panel will not consider incomplete applications.