Transformation Award Guidelines (Stage 1) 2014

The Transformation Award celebrates women and trans* artists and cultural producers living in the Delaware Valley who create art and 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.

2014 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 Stage 1 applications and select applicants to advance to Stage 2.

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

These are not postmark deadlines; applications must be received by the deadline date. If the deadline date 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

If submitting a hard copy application

Drop off or mail applications to:

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

If submitting an online application

Applications may be submitted online at www.leeway.org/apply-for-grants. If you do not receive an email confirmation upon submission of your online application, it has not been successfully submitted. Applications must be received by the deadline date.

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. The 2014 Art and Change Grant deadlines are March 1 and August 1.

CONTACT INFORMATION

PHONE: 215.545.4078
EMAIL: info@leeway.org
WEBSITE: www.leeway.org
TWITTER: @leewayfound
FACEBOOK: facebook.com/LeewayFoundation

*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

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. Leeway supports artists involved in art for social change that positively affects and respectfully engages communities and audiences.

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
- Are 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 the Leeway staff. You may mask any financial or sensitive information in these documents. **Note: You must submit documentation for both age and residency.**

Age: 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.

Residency: For proof of current residency, include a clear photocopy of one of the following: utility bill, rental agreement, mortgage agreement or payment, house deed, tax return, or other documentation of residency. Residency documentation should match the address you listed on page 1 of the application.

**Note: If submitting online, you can upload a digital scan (.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 do not have any of the above documents or have concerns about submitting them, call the Leeway staff at 215.545.4078.

AWARD PERIOD

The 2014 Leeway Transformation Award period is from January 2015 to December 2015.

AWARD PERIOD RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants for the Transformation Award must have lived continuously in Bucks, Camden, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, or Philadelphia counties since at least April 2012. **Awardees must maintain residency in one of these six counties throughout the award period ending December 31, 2015.**

COLLABORATION: APPLYING WITH OTHER ARTISTS

You may apply collaboratively with one or more 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 application materials must be submitted in one envelope.
- Should you receive the 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 eight weeks after the application deadline.

Applicants who do not become finalists may contact Leeway staff for review panel feedback.

Social Change Intent/Vision

We ask you to identify up to 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 analyze and evaluate the effectiveness and impact of our outreach and grantmaking.

If your issue is not listed below or you have questions about which 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 and transgender justice/gender self-determination
- Racial justice
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 and evaluate the effectiveness and impact of our outreach and grantmaking. The application provides an opportunity for you to talk more about the multi-disciplinary 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 on the list or you have questions about which category to choose, call the Leeway staff at 215.545.4078.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRAFTS &amp; TEXTILES</th>
<th>MEDIA ARTS</th>
<th>PERFORMANCE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Book Art</td>
<td>Animation</td>
<td>Acting</td>
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<td>Costume Design</td>
<td>Audio Documentary</td>
<td>Dance</td>
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<td>Crocheting</td>
<td>Documentary</td>
<td>Movement</td>
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<td>Doll Making</td>
<td>Film</td>
<td>Musical Theater</td>
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<td>Fashion Design</td>
<td>Interactive Design</td>
<td>Oral History</td>
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<td>Furniture Making</td>
<td>Multimedia</td>
<td>Performance Art</td>
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<td>Knitting</td>
<td>New Media</td>
<td>Spoken Word</td>
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<td>Puppetry</td>
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<td>Theater</td>
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<td>Quilting</td>
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<td>Scenic Design</td>
<td>Web-Based Work</td>
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<td>Sex Toys</td>
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<td>Weaving</td>
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<th>FOLK ARTS</th>
<th>MUSIC</th>
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<td>Capoeira</td>
<td>Composition</td>
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<td>Culinary Art</td>
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<td>Hair Braiding</td>
<td>Hip-hop</td>
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<td>Heritage Gardening</td>
<td>Instrumental Performance</td>
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<td>Storytelling</td>
<td>Jazz</td>
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<td>Traditional Dance</td>
<td>Opera</td>
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<td>Traditional Music</td>
<td>Producing</td>
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<th>LITERARY ARTS</th>
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<td>Creative Nonfiction</td>
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<td>Creative Writing</td>
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<td>Playwriting</td>
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<td>Poetry</td>
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<td>Prose</td>
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<td>Short Stories</td>
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<th>VISUAL ARTS</th>
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<td>Cartoon/Comic Illustration</td>
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<td>Digital Art</td>
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<td>Drawing</td>
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<td>Illustration</td>
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<td>Installation</td>
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<td>Mixed Media</td>
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<td>Murals</td>
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<td>Painting</td>
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<td>Photography</td>
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<td>Printmaking</td>
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<td>Screenprinting</td>
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<td>Sculpture</td>
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<th>MULTI-DISCIPLINARY</th>
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<td>Please be advised that this category is for artists in which multiple disciplines are key to the execution and integral to the success of the work.</td>
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<td>If you choose multi-disciplinary, do not choose a secondary discipline.</td>
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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.
Things to Remember When Filling Out Your Application

• You must answer all questions. Incomplete applications will not be considered for funding.
• An application is considered incomplete without residency and age documentation.
• Your final application must have your original signature. No photocopied signature pages will be accepted.
• If you prefer to use your own paper instead of the application, make sure to use standard-size letter paper (8.5” × 11”) with a minimum of .75” margins. Use 11-point font or larger (anything smaller will not be considered for funding), use one side of each page, and make sure your name is on each page.
• Space on the application is limited, so be clear and concise in all your answers.
• It is recommended that you ask someone unfamiliar with your work to read your application for clarity.
• If you have questions, need help with translation, or want feedback on your project idea or application, you are welcome to attend an applicant support session or contact the Leeway staff by phone or email.

Helpful Hints

ARTIST INFORMATION SECTION (APPLICATION PAGES 1)

• You must fill out this section completely, including your neighborhood, county, artistic discipline(s), previous address, and residency dates. If you are not applying as a collaborator, you may leave this space blank.
• Provide your artist name or preferred name as well as your legal name. These may be the same name.
• Your preferred name will be used in all publicity or public materials should you receive an award.
• Your legal name refers to the name by which you are legally recognized and may be the name associated with your Social Security number or bank account. This name will be kept strictly confidential among the Leeway staff and review panel and will not be shared or associated publicly with your preferred name if the names differ.
• If your artistic practice involves significant collaboration with another artist, follow the instructions for collaborations on page 3 of the guidelines.

EXPERIENCE FORM (APPLICATION PAGE 4)

• The panel will look at this section to get a sense of your past art for social change work, your approach to your work, and its impact.
• You must include a minimum of four and no more than 10 experiences, as well as the dates of each experience (dates may be approximate).
• Include experiences that reflect five or more years of an art for social change practice.
• 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 to you in terms of its relationship to your art for social change work.

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 make art for social change
• Whether a vision for social change is an integral part of your art practice
• How your identity connects you to the audiences or communities you work with
• What role audience or community plays in your work
• What your art for social change work has been over the past five years or more
• What impact your art for social change work has on the Delaware Valley region

Keep in mind that the review panel may not be familiar with your particular artistic practice, so describe it clearly.