Windgate Fellowship

Each year, the Windgate Fellowship identified ten graduating college seniors with exemplary skill in craft. Awardees receive $15,000 – one of the largest awards offered nationally to art students.

Now in its fourteenth year, the Center for Craft’s Windgate Fellowship marks $2.1 million awarded to 140 emerging craft artists nationwide. Nominated from a national network of 100+ university art programs, these makers represent a skilled and motivated next generation for craft.

“The Windgate Fellowship provides critical financial support as a bridge between college and graduate school or life as a working artist,” says Stephanie Moore, Executive Director. “The Fellowship instills confidence and fosters bravery to take risks and the chance to seek and engage in career-enhancing opportunities.”

The results of such early support are already beginning to emerge. Today, Windgate Fellows hold full-time faculty positions, are accepted into nationally renowned residence programs, mount solo shows, and establish successful studios. Over half have gone on to earn a Masters of Fine Arts degree. Their work can be seen in nationally traveling exhibitions, represented in galleries, and published in periodicals such as American Craft. Supporting the next generation is one of the Center for Craft’s main focus areas identified to build a thriving national craft field.

Grant Goals

- Professional Development—To provide visibility and networking opportunities for emerging makers
- Support—To financially support the careers of emerging makers
- Recognition—To recognize and affirm emerging talent

Overview

- Grant Name: 2020 Windgate Fellowship
- Award Amount: $15,000
- Grant Period: 12 months
- This grant is based on a closed nomination process.
To inquire about becoming a nominating institution, please e-mail grants@centerforcraft.org for more information.

**Timeline**

Nominations Due: November 18, 2019

Applications Open: December 1, 2019

Deadline: February 7, 2020

Notification: April 2020

Grant Period Begins: May 2020

Grant Period Ends: April 2021

**Eligibility**

- Nominees must be undergraduate seniors working in a craft medium.
- Nominees must be able to receive taxable income for the duration of the grant and report this grant as income.
- Nominees must be 18 years of age or older.

**Requirements**

- Seventy percent of the grant will be awarded upon execution of the grant agreement and receipt of the Fellow’s W9.
- The final thirty percent of the grant will be awarded upon receipt of the Fellow’s final report, including a two-page summary of how the grant funds were spent, projects pursued, and ten high resolution images of work created or projects pursued during the Fellowship.
- Grant permission for the Center for Craft to use the images from Fellow’s application and final report, or other high-resolution images the Fellow may want to provide, in press releases and/or reports of work by recipients of the Windgate Fellowship program.
- Acknowledge Support by the Windgate Fellowship Award administered by the Center for Craft, in any publication or press release during the grant period and anytime Fellow shows work made through the support of this grant moving forward.
- Attend and participate in a two-day Windgate Fellows convening at the Center for Craft in Asheville, North Carolina (date TBD).

**Review Process**

- Participating institutions develop the selection process in order to identify two graduating seniors who meet the following criteria:
Student’s work must be informed by craft process, materials, traditions and/or sensibilities.

Work should demonstrate a balance of content and design, as well as a mastery of materials.

Applicants should demonstrate innovation and curiosity, commitment to growth, and show evidence of how their work will stimulate creative thinking or dialogue among other artists.

Nominee applications are reviewed by staff of the Center for Craft for completeness and evaluated by a panel of jurors using the following criteria to evaluate each application:

- Work represented in the ten application images demonstrates a balance of content and design as well as a mastery of materials.
- Proposal has the ability to advance work that is informed by the craft process, materials, traditions and/or sensibilities.
- Proposal demonstrates innovation and curiosity, a commitment to growth of applicant’s own work, and evidence their work might stimulate creative thinking or dialogue among other artists.
- Proposal includes a budget and timeline that are feasible.

How to Apply

This is a closed application process. Only eligible nominees are invited to submit an application through a private submission link.

Applicants must apply using the online application program SlideRoom using the private link provided to nominees by e-mail. Please review the sample application below before beginning your application.

All applicants should create a login to be able to partially complete the form and return to finish it at a later date. Before submitting your application, you will be directed to a confirmation page where you will be able to review your form and return to edit or delete your uploaded files as needed. Once you submit your application, you will not be able to access your form again. Applicants will receive a confirmation email once the application form has been successfully submitted.

Deadline

The application for 2020 Windgate Fellowship must be submitted via SlideRoom no later than 11:59 pm EST on Friday, February 7, 2020.

Notification

Notification of the results will be sent via e-mail in April 2020 for a start date of May 1, 2020. The e-mail address listed on the application form will be used to send out notifications. Please be sure that it is a valid account that you check regularly.
2020 Windgate Fellowship SAMPLE APPLICATION

This is only a sample application, all applications must be completed in SlideRoom.

SAMPLE APPLICATION

CRITERIA

• Work must in some way be informed by craft process, materials, traditions and/or sensibilities.
• Work should demonstrate a balance of content and design, as well as an exceptional use and understanding of materials.
• Applicants should demonstrate innovation and curiosity, be committed to growth of their own work, and show evidence of how their work might stimulate creative thinking or dialogue among other artists.
• Students must be able to receive taxable income for the duration of the grant and report this grant as income in the United States or U.S. territories.

Cover Sheet

Contact name
Mailing Address
Phone
Email
Website (if applicable)

2020 Main Application

• Institution/School
• Concentration of Study
• Date of Graduation (must be between December 2019 and August 2020)
• Please provide an artist statement, no more than 250 words.
• Provide a brief description, no more than 250 words, of how you would use the $15,000 Windgate Fellowship Award to advance your work.
• In 500 words or less, clearly describe what you want to do to advance your practice and how this award will assist you. Your proposal should address how your work is informed by craft process, materials, traditions, and/or sensibilities.
• In 250 words or less, contextualize your work in relation to personal development and artistic influences. How might this proposal stimulate creative thinking or dialogue among other artists?

Budget
Provide a budget that fully outlines the following items (if applicable) to your proposal, accounting for the full amount of $15,000.

- Travel/lodging expenses
- Registration or workshop fees
- Materials, equipment
- Other (identify)

**Timeline**

Provide a timeline for the 12 months you have to complete the proposal beginning May 1, 2020 or from the date of your graduation if later. If you receive an award 70% of the funds will be released in May 2020 (once terms of grant agreement are reviewed and agreed to) and the remaining 30% will be released once you have completed the final report (at the end of the 12 month funding cycle). A Fellowship is considered income by the IRS and is reported for the year(s) in which you receive funding.

**References**

Please designate two individuals who support your proposal (e.g. an advisor, teacher, dean or community member) as references. You will need to request that they complete a reference form, due on the same date as the application, no later than 11:59 pm EST on February 7, 2020.

**FAQ**

**How do I become a nominating institution?**

Please e-mail grants@centerforcraft.org to receive more information.

**Is my institution on the list of nominating institutions for the Windgate Fellowship?**

Please e-mail grants@centerforcraft.org

**What is the final deadline for submitting my online application form?**

The application for 2020 Windgate Fellowship must be submitted via SlideRoom no later than 11:59 pm EST on February 7, 2020.

**May I mail a hard copy of my application materials to the Center for Craft’s office?**
No, hard copy submissions will not be accepted. The application must be completed and submitted through SlideRoom.

**Can I work on my application and return to complete it at a later date?**

Yes, creating a login account will enable you to complete the form in several online sessions.

**I just submitted my application but I want to return to it and make an edit. Is this possible?**

No, once your application is submitted, you will not be able to return to the form or change any submitted information. The application fee must also be paid at the time of submitting your application as you will not be able to log-in again to access the payment page again.

**I have a question that wasn’t answered. How can I reach the Center for Craft?**

If you have any further questions, please contact grants@centerforcraft.org

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**Meet the 2019 Windgate Fellows**

Four panelists reviewed a national pool of 109 applicants on the basis of artistic merit. They also discerned the potential of each applicant to make significant contributions to the field of craft.

**Selection Panelists**

Aaron Patrick Decker, 2012 Windgate Fellow, Jeweler (Detroit, MI)

Jennifer-Navva Milliken, Artistic Director for The Center for Art in Wood (Philadelphia, PA)

Andrew Payan Estada, Curator of Public Engagement, Craft and Folk Art Museum (Los Angeles, CA)

Sylvia Peters, Collector (Knoxville, TN)

**2019 Center for Craft Windgate Fellows**

Cassandra Adame
University of Texas at El Paso
Brendan Barrett
Minneapolis College of Art and Design

Galen Boone
California College of the Arts

Geoffrey Bowton
Oregon College of Art and Craft

Jill Childress
East Tennessee State University

Daniel Del Rosario
University of California at Berkeley

Cory Perry
University of Arkansas School of Art

Juan Hurtado Salazar
Temple University, Tyler School of Art

Elizabeth Schweizer
Rhode Island School of Design

Sidnee Tyree
Kendall College of Art and Design

**Sponsors**

The Windgate Fellowship Program is administered by the Center for Craft and supported by the Windgate Fund at the Community Foundation of WNC.