



Special Awards in the Arts 2024 Dance & Movement Awards Guidelines

With generous support from The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation

Special Awards in the Arts Program Background

Created in 1987, Gerbode Foundation's Special Awards in the Arts Program has supported the development of new works in dance, theater production, and music composition. These nationally respected awards have helped underwrite acclaimed new works that are culturally and aesthetically diverse, by emerging, mid-career and legacy artists. These grants have supported artists at critical junctures in their careers; enabled local nonprofit arts groups to produce and premiere original works; and enriched Bay Area audiences by showcasing the region's most promising new works.

2024 Dance & Movement Awards Program Overview

The Gerbode Foundation is pleased to announce a \$300,000 fund for the creation and development of new dance and movement-based projects by California choreographers, culture bearers, traditional and tradition-based artists, and movement-based artists. The new dance works will be commissioned and produced by Bay Area nonprofit artist-centered organizations that can apply for grants of \$50,000 each.

Program Goals

1. Recognize the exceptional contributions of innovative choreographers, culture bearers, traditional and tradition-based artists, and movement-based artists.
2. Support projects that are diverse in gender-identity, race, ethnicity, and geography.
3. Encourage and deepen the engagement between the lead artist(s) and the producing organization.
4. Support artist-centered organizations in their commitment to commission, develop, and produce new work by California artists.
5. To support organizations and companies that are deeply rooted in culturally specific communities and have a positive impact within these communities.

The Common App

The Common App is a collaboration between funders and grantmakers with unique histories and objectives. The 2024 Dance & Movement Awards is a part of the [Common Application for the Arts - Bay Area \("Common App"\)](#) - an initiative in which participating funders use standardized questions to help create greater efficiency for grantseekers.

The information requested in our application form aligns with the Common App. While the intent of the Common App is to provide an easy copy-n-paste option for applicants, be mindful of our program's goals and criteria. Consider making minor revisions to ensure responses address the specific nuances of the 2024 Dance & Movement Awards program.

You are not required to complete the Common App to apply to Gerbode Foundation. If you are not using the Common App, please simply ignore the notations in parenthesis in our application form.

Important Dates

Thursday, June 6th at 4pm (PST)

Application Deadline

Application materials emailed to: special.awards@gerbode.org

Wednesday, March 20th at 10am

Tuesday, April 9th at 5:30pm

Thursday, May 9th at 3pm

Application Info Webinar – registration required; sign up [here](#)

1-hour webinar – Program Director will provide an overview of the Program Guidelines and walk participants through the Application Process. Great for first-time applicants and seasoned applicants to learn about any changes from past rounds.

Friday, March 1st at 10am

Tuesday, March 12th at 5pm

Monday, March 25th at 11am

More times TBD – check [here](#)

Office Hours – registration required; sign up [here](#)

1-hour Zoom session – drop in any time during this hour to ask questions about eligibility or our application process. It is important for all applicants to attend either an Application Info Webinar or Office Hours.

Wed., May 1st – Monday, June 3rd

Follow-up Call with Program Director – sign up [here](#)

30-minute phone call with Program Director - This is a follow-up to discuss specific questions about your application or project. Please make sure to attend either an Application Info Webinar or Office Hours before scheduling a follow-up phone call.

September 2024

Recipients notified

Applicant Organization Eligibility

Eligible applicant organizations (suggestions below):

- Dance companies
- Festivals
- Organizations that produce and present dance
- Interdisciplinary arts presenters
- Community-based arts organizations
- Organizations with a history of working with dance and movement-based artists

Note on fiscal sponsorship: We require involvement and partnership for the proposed project. Fiscal sponsors serving only as a fiduciary bridge are not eligible. Please contact the Gerbode Foundation at 510-915-8048 or special.awards@gerbode.org to confirm eligibility.

The applicant organization must:

1. Be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that has been in operation for at least 2 years.
2. Be located in Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Francisco, San Mateo, Solano, or Sonoma County.
3. Have an organization budget between \$60K and \$3M.
4. Commit to developing, producing, and fundraising for the proposed project.
5. Pay a minimum fee of \$12,500 to the commissioned lead artist(s) or a minimum fee of \$10,000 for each artist if the project is a collaboration.
6. Have a strong proven track record of producing and/or presenting dance or movement-based projects and paying its artists.
7. Not have an open grant in Gerbode's Special Awards in the Arts program.
8. Not be a current recipient of a Creative Work Fund award for the same project or lead artist.
9. Submit only one application.

Lead Artist Eligibility

Individual artists may not apply directly and must be commissioned by an eligible applicant organization.

Lead artists at any career stage – emerging, mid-career or legacy – are eligible (suggestions below):

- Choreographers
- Dancers
- Movement-based artists
- Movement directors
- Traditional and tradition-based artists
- Culture bearers and master artists

The proposed lead artist(s) must:

1. Meet one of the following criteria: (1) be a current California resident or (2) have had California-based artist residencies for the development of their work in the last 5 years. *If you have had significant artist residencies in the last 5 years, but live out of state, please contact Gerbode Foundation at 510-915-8048 or special.awards@gerbode.org.*
2. Be a choreographer or movement-based artist who is the creative lead in the development of the proposed project.
3. Consider a project that will have significant impact on the producing organization if they are a founding choreographer of the applicant organization or company.
4. Have had at least two works developed and produced (this includes online experiences).
5. Not be a recipient of a previous choreographer or dance commissioning grant from the Gerbode Foundation. (Unfortunately, past individual artist recipients of the Special Awards in the Arts program are not eligible.)
6. Be proposed as the lead artist for only one application.

Project Eligibility and Requirements

- ❖ **All dance and movement-based genres, traditional and tradition-based forms will be considered.**
- ❖ **Proposed projects must meet the following criteria:**
 1. Proposed projects must be new and original dance or movement-based projects that are developed and produced by the applicant organization.
 2. The project must be completed/presented **between August 2025 and December 2027**.
 3. Project budgets must include either:
 - a minimum lead artist commissioning fee of \$12,500; or
 - a minimum commissioning fee of \$10,000 to each lead artist if the project is a collaboration.
 4. Proposed projects can be at any stage of development except in rehearsal.
- ❖ **The following projects and final presentations are eligible (this list is suggestive but not exhaustive):**
 - Live dance performances
 - Film festivals
 - Dance festivals
 - Dance films
 - Interactive media experiences
 - Dance installations
- ❖ **The following projects are ineligible:**
 - Revisions of previously presented work, unless it is substantially revised.
 - Work-in-progress that is currently in rehearsal.
 - Commissions solely for students and student ensembles.

Application Checklist

Deadline to submit application: Application materials must be received by **Thursday, June 6th at 4pm (PST)**. Application materials must be emailed to special.awards@gerbode.org. Late or incomplete submissions will not be eligible. Gerbode Foundation staff will confirm receipt of all applications once received so there is no need to follow-up.

For fiscally-sponsored projects, with the exception of the IRS letter, materials should relate to your organization/company and not the fiscal sponsor.

Attach the following application materials to an email as PDF files unless noted – please label numerically as listed. You may send multiple emails if attachments exceed 25MB.

- 1. IRS determination letter establishing the applicant organization's nonprofit 501c3 status.
 - *If a fiscal sponsor is the applicant, in addition to its IRS letter, please include a short description of the partnership with the fiscal sponsor as it relates to the commissioned work.*
- 2. Completed Application Form – Section 1 through Section 3 (submit as a Word doc)
- 3. (Optional) Detailed project budget.
- 4. Staff & Board list.
- 5. Balance sheet and profit & loss statement for the last two completed fiscal years.
- 6. Year-to-date information: Balance sheet and profit & loss statement as of 4/30/24.
- 7. Current organizational budget.

Panel Process & Evaluation Criteria

Gerbode Foundation Program Team will conduct the initial review of applications. Then, a national advisory panel of peers and advisors in the dance field will review the applications and work samples and make recommendations. Gerbode Foundation staff will present the recommendations to the Board of Directors who will make the final selection of grantees. Recipients will be notified in September 2024.

To achieve the program goals listed on page 1 of the Guidelines, the advisory panel will be asked to consider the following criteria in their evaluation:

1. Lead Artist's Creative Process & Artistic Experiences
The lead artist's approach, unique style, and creative process is articulated clearly and has the potential to make a significant contribution to the field of dance. The lead artist's creative methodology and vision for the proposed work is represented in the work samples. The project will involve the lead artist's artistic growth or have an impact on creative practice. There is an urgency to support this project at this time. *Please note that the panelists will use the work samples and artistic experience submission as a key component of their review for this section.*
2. Diverse Representation
The artist involved in the project is deeply rooted in and/or has intimate knowledge of a specific cultural or tradition-based practice or community. The proposed project involves community engagement. The lead artist and producing organization represent the Bay Area's diverse communities, neighborhoods, and cultural districts. Gender identity, race, ethnicity, and geography will all be considered in determining diverse representation.
3. Partnership
The proposed project reflects partnership with the producing organization that is essential to the realization of the proposed new dance work. The partnership may be a new, first-time collaboration or a project involving a founding choreographer or artistic director. The lead artist has creative leadership in the project and their vision and process will be supported by the producing organization.
4. Project Feasibility
The applicant organization has the ability to raise funds for, develop and produce the proposed project.

Grant Requirements

Recipients of the 2024 Dance & Movement Awards must produce and present the commissioned work in one of the ten San Francisco Bay Area counties for in-person performances, film screenings, virtual presentations or other online experiences.

An interim report specifying production plans must be received by the Gerbode Foundation before all funds can be disbursed. If the production plan or schedule changes from what is proposed at the time of the application, the Gerbode Foundation must be notified, and the changes must be approved in writing.

Recipients must also submit final narrative and financial reports and acknowledge this grant in outreach materials and other forms of recognition with the following language:

[Project] was made possible by the Gerbode Foundation's Special Awards in the Arts program.

Gerbode Foundation Contact

This program is administered by the Gerbode Foundation. All applicants are encouraged to attend a Application Info Webinar or drop-in during Office Hours. Olivia will be available to answer any questions regarding the application process:

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RSVP to Webinars and Office Hours: [click here](#)