



Thomas George Artists Fund Award

\$5,000 Award to Support Emerging Artists Engaged In Drawing and Painting

About Thomas George

Thomas George was an internationally recognized artist whose work is included in the permanent collections of major museums, universities, corporations and private collections worldwide. He counted himself fortunate for having received financial support early on to study and practice his art.

While the monetary assistance he received through the G.I. Bill and from his family was modest in size, it was immense in affect, providing him with the financial freedom he needed to explore and cultivate an art career. Mr. George wished to help provide others with these same opportunities:

"Immediately following formal training, an artist may feel a bit lost at sea. That along with possible financial pressures can discourage even the most talented and dedicated. I want to help ease the financial pressure and provide an opportunity for young artists to concentrate on their craft and to experience art as a fulltime occupation."

Through this awards program, the Thomas George Artists Fund will assist emerging artists at the outset of their careers.

Purpose of the Grant

The purpose of the grant is to support living and/or other expenses for an artist to have greater freedom to dedicate full time attention to drawing and painting after graduation or after completing art program coursework. This respite from the demands of school and workplace provides a time for career reflection and planning, and an opportunity to develop as an artist.

Use of the Grant

Grant monies may be used for routine living expenses, including rent, utilities, transportation, insurances, food and the like. They may also be used for art supplies; travel and accommodations at locations that will facilitate the artist's drawing and painting; and for nontraditional art study.

Electronic Applications now being accepted

Eligibility for the Grant

To qualify for the grant, the applicant must:

1. be a year round resident of New Jersey, and a citizen or permanent resident of the U.S.;
2. be studying art at The College of New Jersey, Mercer County Community College or be a resident of Mercer County studying art at an accredited college or university anywhere in the USA; or be an intern, volunteer or employee of an organization in Mercer County;
3. be enrolled in an arts curriculum that has provided traditional training in drawing and painting;
4. be on track to: a) graduate with an Associate or Bachelor of Fine Arts degree during the spring or summer of 2019 or b) for students studying art but not seeking a degree, to have completed all of the required art program classes at an institution as described in #2 above during the spring or summer of 2019;
5. agree to participate in an interview with the Grant Selection Committee if chosen as a finalist; and
6. agree to show a minimum of two drawings and two paintings completed during the grant period to the Grant Selection Committee if chosen to receive the award.

Grant Selection Committee

The Grant Selection Committee may include members of Tom George's family, members of the arts community and Princeton Area Community Foundation staff, and is responsible for the review and evaluation of grant application packages and for determining the winner of the grant competition.

How to Apply

Applicants must submit an application package that consists of:

- Fully completed on-line application available at : <https://bit.ly/2yKhDMB>;
- Official transcripts to verify enrollment in an art program at The College of New Jersey, or Mercer County Community College; or official transcripts to verify enrollment in an art program at another accredited college or university along with proof of N.J. residence if studying at an accredited college or university outside N.J. (i.e. driver's license or other government-issued ID) or proof of employment, internship or volunteer engagement with a Mercer County organization (i.e. pay stub, confirmation letter on organizational letterhead);
- one to two page essay, typed and double-spaced, on how the grant would be helpful to you financially and artistically (how you would like to use the award);

- two letters of recommendation, with one from an art instructor at the school you are attending who has taught you drawing, painting and/or related art; and
- electronic copies of five drawings and/or five paintings you have produced with title, year, medium and dimensions indicated. **Non-electronic formats will not be accepted.**

Selection Criteria

In reviewing the application packages the Selection Committee will be looking for evidence that the applicant:

- 1) has completed traditional training in drawing and painting as described above;
- 2) has produced art which is technically skilled, deeply felt and reflects a personal point of view; and
- 3) can benefit from this opportunity financially and artistically as reflected in applicant's personal statement.

Timeline

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| January 31, 2019 | Complete electronic submissions at https://bit.ly/2yKhDMB |
| April 2019 | Notification of award decision |
| Summer 2019 | Award check mailed upon receipt of final transcript confirming degree |
| By Dec. 31, 2019 | The winner must visit the Princeton Area Community Foundation and show a minimum of two drawings and two paintings completed during the grant period to the Grant Selection Committee |

Questions

Contact Myriam Padro at mpadro@pacf.org or 609-219-1800.

WHERE TO APPLY: <https://bit.ly/2yKhDMB> (must create a new account to access application)

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION: January 31, 2019.