

american
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St. Paul Emerging Artists Scholarship

Application Timeline:

Application period:

April 27–June 1, 2022

Notifications sent out:

June 15, 2022

St. Paul in-person marketplace:

October 7–9, 2022

First pop-up online marketplace:

October 3–16, 2022

About the American Craft Made / St. Paul Emerging Artists Scholarship

For our 2022 American Craft Made / St. Paul marketplace event, the American Craft Council will offer three scholarships (valued at \$2,910) to emerging artists who are Black, Indigenous, or Persons of Color (BIPOC) and who work and reside in Minnesota. The American Craft Council is committed to providing inclusive and equitable opportunities for artists, and these scholarships will provide direct support for artists who have been historically underrepresented and under-resourced in Minnesota. The three awarded artists will be included in the American Craft Made Emerging Artists Program and will receive intensive support towards building sustainable and successful careers as craft artists and makers. These scholarships are made possible by a grant from the Harlan Boss Foundation for the Arts.

Each Artist Will Receive:

- 8 x 10 ft. booth in ACC's American Craft Made Emerging Artists Program in St. Paul that includes pipe and drape, one table, one chair, and electricity
- Yearlong participation in the American Craft Made Online Directory with opportunities to sell work in online pop-up marketplaces
- \$1,000 financial stipend to cover travel, time, additional display, and marketing expenses
- Yearlong membership to ACC
- Professional mentorship through:
 - Peer-to-peer support (ACC will pair each artist with an experienced exhibitor in the St. Paul show)
 - Access to Emerging Artists Cohort workshops and content
 - Guidance and support from a dedicated program and scholarship manager

How To Apply for the American Craft Made / St. Paul Emerging Artists Scholarship

As an applicant, you are asked to submit an application form including five images, a short bio, and some additional information about your practice. Images must be high resolution (300 dpi or larger) and representative of the body of work you plan to exhibit. Ideally, images will be square format of at least 1080 x 1080 px as it is the standard online format (not required). Minimum file size is 50 KB and maximum is 25 MB. Images, bio, and Q&A within the application may be used by the ACC Marketing Department to promote you, your work, and/or American Craft Made.



What Kind of Work Is Eligible?

- **Handmade craft that reflects excellence and the unique vision of its maker or community.** ACC does not accept commercially manufactured work or painting and photographs.
- Artists working in the following mediums are encouraged to apply and participate:
 - Basketry
 - Ceramics
 - Clothing and Accessories
 - Fiber and Textiles
 - Furniture
 - Glass
 - Jewelry
 - Lighting
 - Metal
 - Mixed Media
 - Paper
 - Wood
 - Other three-dimensional mediums
- Small-studio production work made under the direct supervision of the applicant. Direct supervision requires that the artist oversees production work as it occurs and provides constant direction, feedback, and assistance.
- Artists whose work is produced in the United States or Canada and does not incorporate unsustainable and/or endangered materials or illegal products made from endangered species. ACC reserves the right to require authentication of the production process at any time.

Emerging Artist Definition

Based on the guidelines of the [Jerome Foundation](#) (St. Paul, Minnesota), ACC embraces a broad definition that supports artists early in their careers, regardless of age, who create new work, and:

- Offer a distinct vision, authentic voice, and have a focused direction and goals
- Take risks and embrace challenges
- Show evidence of professional achievement but haven't yet established a solid reputation as an artist/maker/business within their field, the media, funding circles, or the public at large

Jury Process

ACC values clarity and transparency in our artist selection and invitation process. Artists will be selected to receive this scholarship to participate in the 2022 American Craft Made / St. Paul Emerging Artists Program from an application pool juried by ACC staff. Several factors will be taken into consideration for the selection process, including craftsmanship, innovation, sustainability, and diversity of mediums and backgrounds. [Quality of product images](#) will also factor into selection. If you would like to apply for multiple media you will be required to submit an application for each medium.

About American Craft Made

American Craft Made is a series of marketplace events produced by the American Craft Council, a national nonprofit dedicated to supporting craft and its artists. Our two marketplace events in Baltimore and St. Paul and now the Online Artists Directory (new this year) are open to artists from across the country who are creating work that reflects the diversity of contemporary craft. Apply to participate in these opportunities to share your story and sell your work to our focused audience of craft enthusiasts.

About the St. Paul Marketplace Event

Now in its 35th year, the St. Paul marketplace's established show attracts a loyal regional audience, many of whom are collectors. The event draws eight thousand attendees on average from Minnesota's Twin Cities of Minneapolis (where ACC has its headquarters) and St. Paul, as well as western Wisconsin. It's held at Saint Paul RiverCentre, a premiere facility in the heart of downtown. Total artist sales for our 2019 St. Paul show came to an estimated \$1.2 million.



About the Online Artists Directory

The American Craft Made Online Artists Directory is new for 2022 and represents the evolution of our online marketplace events into an opportunity for artists to gain visibility and sell their work over the course of an entire year. This program will bring contemporary craft artists from around the country together in a directory designed to share their work and their story and offer opportunities to participate in exclusive online marketplace events. Artists will be promoted to our targeted craft audience of over 60,000 email subscribers and 100,000 social media followers. Directory artists will also be the first to be considered for partnerships and collaborations as they arise. Our ecommerce platform has reached over 160,000 visitors and generated over \$617,000 in revenue for participating artists since the launch in fall 2020.



American **Craft** Council

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