

benjamin harjo, jr. Artist Fund

Artist Grants

“Paying Forward with Generosity and Kindness”

About the Grant:

benjamin harjo jr (Absentee Shawnee/Seminole, 1945–2023) gave artists encouragement and confidence to bring their creative talents to the world through kind words, gentle nudges, and always big smiles.

The Artists Grants program honors his life and legacy by assisting qualifying Indigenous artists with funds to cover expenses for participating in art markets.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Must be an Indigenous artist and be able to demonstrate proof.
- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Cannot have received a grant from this foundation in the previous two years.
- Must submit a completed application on our website or by email with the PDF version of the application. All supporting documents must be present at the time of submission.
- Must have been accepted to or applied for participation in an art market. Distribution of funds is contingent upon submitting proof of being accepted to an art market.
- Open to emerging and established artists working in any eligible medium for the market. However, any relation to a member of the Board of Directors or any employee of the BHJAF is cause for disqualification.

Award Details:

- Amounts vary annually, as do the number of artists receiving grants.
- For the year 2026, we are awarding one grant to one artist for the Heard Indian Fair & Market in March and the Santa Fe Indian Market in August.
- Funds can be used for booth fees, travel, lodging, shipping, promotional materials, art supplies, and other incidental expenses related to the art market.
- Recipients will be required to submit a short report following the market, see below for details.

Award Timeline:

- Applications Open: February 1-May 31, 2026 for Santa Fe Indian Market
- Review Process: June 2026
- Award Decisions Announced: Late June
- Award Payments Issued: Late June-Early July

- Report Due: no later than 30 days following the art market for which the grant is received

How to apply: At the following link: <https://benjaminharjofund.org/apply/>

You may apply directly on the website, or by downloading the PDF and submitting via email.

Applications and all questions can be submitted to benjaminharjofund@gmail.com

Application Components:

- Name
- Address
- Primary Phone
- Email Address
- Tribal Affiliation(s)
- How did you learn about this grant?
- Artist website (if applicable)
- Artist Biography (250 words or less)
- Artist Statement (400 words or less explain artistic practice, cultural significance, and career goals).
- Market Participation Details (which market, why it's important, acceptance status, booth cost).
- Impact Statement (how attending this market will benefit the artist's career and community).
- Previous Market Experience (if applicable, what markets they've attended before).
- Explain how the funds will be used: Budget Breakdown (booth fees, travel, lodging, art shipping, marketing materials, meals).
- Additional Funding Sources (have you received other funding for this trip?).
- Are you sharing this booth with another artist?
- Do you have artistic collaborators?
- Certify the Conflict of Interest statement
- Support Materials
 - State Issued Identification (front and back)
 - Proof of Tribal Enrollment
 - Art Market Acceptance Notification
 - Upload images of your artwork (up to 5)
 - Optional: Letter of recommendation from a mentor, past market participant, or arts organization.

Contact Us:

benjamin harjo, jr. Artist Fund

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Email: benjaminharjofund@gmail.com