

THE STORYTELLERS PROGRAM FY2018

OVERVIEW

The Storytellers program's goal is to expand the conversation about arts and culture in Houston's communities. It is a creative and community exchange program developed in partnership with Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs (MOCA) and Houston Arts Alliance (HAA). This opportunity is for individual storytellers to engage with the Visit My Neighborhood (VMN) partner organizations and the communities to translate the community's creative practices, arts and cultural projects and history into story-telling and marketing opportunities. Storytellers will work with a community brain trust of HAA staff, MOCA staff, partner organizations and media.

Five individuals will be selected and paired with each community. The award amount is up to **\$8,000**.

VISIT MY NEIGHBORHOOD – COMPLETE COMMUNITIES

Complete Communities is about improving neighborhoods so that all of Houston's residents and business owners can have access to quality services and amenities. It's about working closely with the residents of communities that haven't reached their full potential, understanding their strengths and opportunities, and collaborating with partners across the city to strengthen them.

This initiative by Mayor Sylvester Turner begins with working in five communities: [Acres Homes](#), [Gulfton](#), [Second Ward](#), [Near Northside](#) and [Third Ward](#).

Visit My Neighborhood is a partnership between Houston Arts Alliance (HAA) and the Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs utilizing arts and culture in response to the work with the complete communities. Community partners in each neighborhood will work together to provide arts and cultural programming to its residents and visitors.

Program participants will:

- Attend monthly meetings with HAA and VMN partner organization
- Present a public talk of the project at the end of the program
- Regularly publish online content weekly during the 9 month program

WHO CAN APPLY?

Artists/creative individuals currently living within the City of Houston limits (proof of residence will be verified).

HOW TO APPLY:

Applicants are required to submit all documents to grants@haatx.com by **Thursday, March 1, 2018 at 5:30pm**

1. Rank the organizations 1 through 5 with 1 being the community you are most interested in working with (review list on page 2) in the body of the email.
2. In the Subject line write: Storytellers Program_ First and Last Name
Example: "Storytellers Program_Jane Smith"
3. Attach your response to the Storytelling Prompt (instructions on page 4) in your artistic/creative discipline in one of the following formats.
 - Writing samples: no more than 1 page
 - Video: no more than 2 minutes and upload to Youtube or Vimeo and provide link.
 - Audio: no more than 2 minutes and no larger than 10MB
 - Images: no more than 5 images and no file larger than 10MB
4. Attach your Resume/CV and an individual bio;
5. Attach your proof of residency (Texas ID/Driver's License or utility bill)

Houston Arts Alliance

3201 Allen Parkway, Suite 250 • Houston, TX 77019
Phone 713.527.9330 • Fax 713.630.5210 • Grants@haatx.com • www.houstonartalliance.com

REVIEW PROCESS

Applications will be reviewed by Houston Arts Alliance staff for completeness, eligibility and residency status. Incomplete or ineligible applications cannot be considered. Reviews are then conducted by the Visit My Neighborhood Partner Organizations with assignments determined by Houston Arts Alliance staff. Houston Arts Alliance's Grants Committee and Board of Directors will also review the recommendations. Grant recommendations approved by the Houston Arts Alliance Board are forwarded to the Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs for final approval.

REVIEW CRITERIA

Artistic and Creative Ability: includes skills, talent and imagination as demonstrated in the response to the storytelling prompt

Experience: ability to accomplish the project on schedule

Responsiveness: application is complete and addresses project guidelines

RECEIVING A GRANT

Grant Term: April 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018

Grant Agreement: Those selected to receive a grant will be required to attend a mandatory orientation. Funds cannot be disbursed until Houston Arts Alliance receives an executed signed copy of the Grant Agreement, ACH banking deposit form and a signed IRS W9 form. Grant award will be distributed in two payments (50%/50%).

Crediting support of the City of Houston and Houston Arts Alliance: Please include HAA and City of Houston credit line and logos on all promotions

- Required Credit line: "*This project is funded in part by the City of Houston through Houston Arts Alliance*"
- Required City of Houston Seal: www.houstonartsalliance.com/news/logos/

FINAL REPORT: The final report is a presentation after the end of your grant term. Additionally, you will need to digitally submit up to three samples of your funded work or promotional materials for reproduction for HAA marketing use and financial documentation of all expenses detailed in your contract and paid during the grant term.

Funding for this grant program is provided by the City of Houston utilizing [Hotel Occupancy Taxes \(HOT\)](#)

NEED ASSISTANCE?

We want you to apply for this grant so if you have any hesitation please ask. There is no question too small. To speak with the grants staff at Houston Arts Alliance, please call (713) 527-9330 or email Grants@haatx.com



Accessibility and Special Needs

Houston Arts Alliance works to make its grant application process, assistance and workshops open to all interested parties. Applicants with special needs should contact Houston Arts Alliance grants staff. If you would like to attend an application workshop and need special accommodations, please contact Houston Arts Alliance grants staff one week in advance [if possible] at 713.527.9330.



VISIT MY NEIGHBORHOOD – PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

Community	Lead Organization
Acres Homes	Acres Homes Multi-Service Center Community Advisory Committee, Inc. http://www.houstontx.gov/health/MSC/acreshomesmsc.htm
Gulfton	Center for Health Advancing Together (CHAT) http://chattx.org/
Near Northside	Avenue CDC http://www.avenuecdc.org/
Second Ward	East End Chamber of Commerce https://www.eecoc.org/
Third Ward	The Third Ward Community Cloth http://www.communitycloth.org/

STORYTELLING PROMPT



Part of the City of Houston Art Collection

Photo: Fine Arts Appraisal Service

Details: Artist: James Surls. Title "Point of View". Date: 1999. Location: Market Square Park, Houston, TX.

INSTRUCTIONS

Observe the image above and use it to tell a story through your artistic/creative lens.

Stories can be submitted in one of the following formats (for visual submission please include a narrative no more than 1 page.):

- Writing samples: no more than 1 page
- Video: no more than 2 minutes and upload to Youtube or Vimeo and provide link.
- Audio: no more than 2 minutes and files no larger than 10MB
- Images: no more than 5 images and files no larger than 10MB

Submit application materials via email to Grants@haatx.com no later than

Thursday, March 1, 2018 at 5:30 pm.

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