



Princess Grace Foundation 2021 Awards Program Overview

Table of Contents

Princess Grace Foundation Program Assessment..... 2

Key inquiries for the Taskforce 3

Princess Grace Foundation Mission Statement..... 4

Eligibility and Updated Nomination Process..... 5

Updated Eligibility for Nominators..... 5

Princess Grace Award 5

Submission and Application Process..... 6

Adjudication Process..... 6

Princess Grace Awards Summit: September 2021 7

The Commitment to Award Winners 8

Princess Grace Foundation Program Assessment

Purpose: Assess the Princess Grace Foundation's current grant model with the following intents: 1. Recognizing that the landscape of theater, dance and film has changed since our grantmaking activity began and the need to adapt our grants processes to ensure we are best serving our artistic communities; 2. Ensure we are staying true to the core mission of supporting and elevating extraordinary emerging talent; 3. assessing how to best serve artists during and post the COVID-19 pandemic.

Taskforce Members: Melia Bensussen, Diana Kemppainen, Barbara Lehman, Serena Lese, Georgiana Pickett, Brisa Trinchero

Participating Arts Advisory Board Members: Melia Bensussen, Linda Blackaby, Terese Capucilli, Kent Gash, Eduardo Garcia, Billy Luther, Bonnie Oda Homsey, Georgiana Pickett, Ted Rawlins, Helene Alexopoulos Warrick

Phase 1 | Series of Listening Panels

Conversation(s) with leaders, artists, funders, change makers in the artistic landscape.

Participants: Anne Bogart, Suzy Delvalle, Brett Egan, Vanessa Erazo, Virginia Johnson, Victoria Le Vine, Annie-B Parson, Marjan Safinia, Rachel Sussman, Eduardo Vilaro, Emily Waters, Larry Wilkner, Tamilla Woodard

Phase 2 | Survey of Award winners

Distill the broad conversation from Phase 1 into surveys for Award winners and key constituents (donors, Trustees),

Phase 3 | Implementation into our Awards program and grants

Utilizing Phase 1 & 2 to update how the Princess Grace Awards grants to best serve our mission and the artistic communities

Key inquiries for the Taskforce

Mission & Values

How do we deepen and reaffirm our commitment to our mission of identifying extraordinary emerging talent in theater, dance and film.



Solution

Assess the mission statement; replace excellence with extraordinary to be more inclusive. Define how the Princess Grace Foundation views key terms in our mission “extraordinary” and “emerging” and add a set of values around our mission and identifying artists.

Access & Equity

How do we make the Princess Grace Awards more accessible to artists who may not work in “traditional” settings with companies or attend professional training programs? How do make the Princess Grace Awards program equitable to artists who may not be skilled in grant-writing or have access to dedicated development staff.



Solution

Open the nomination process to Award winners as nominators allowing for peer nominations

Create a 2-Step application process to allow artists with limited resources (i.e. time, grantwriting skills, etc) the ability to submit an application, and for nominators, simplify the process for both individual and organizational nominators allowing development resources to be applied elsewhere.

Artists Working at Cross-Sectors of Disciplines

How might we consider making space for artists who don’t fit neatly into specific categories?



Solution

Standard application across disciplines and creating multi-disciplinary review process

COVID-19

How do we think about identifying artists and funding across the industries we support while dealing with the long-term effects of COVID-19 on those industries?



Solution

In 2021 the Princess Grace Foundation will offer unrestricted cash grants for the artists.

Princess Grace Foundation Mission Statement

*The Taskforce's work began with defining the two key terms in the Princess Grace Foundation's mission – **Artistic Excellence**, and **Emerging** – through internal and external conversations.*

During the Listening panels it became clear that “excellence” was a weighted word and should be replaced with “extraordinary”, furthermore the Princess Grace Foundation should develop a set of values/organizing statements around “extraordinary” and “emerging” to help artists, nominators and the larger artistic community understand how the Princess Grace Foundation defines those words and assesses applicants in its grantmaking.

Proposed Updated Mission Statement:

The Princess Grace Foundation–USA is dedicated to honoring the legacy of Her Serene Highness Princess Grace of Monaco, (née Grace Kelly). The Foundation honors Her continued influence by educating and inspiring the world to ensure Her purpose and passions live on. Her commitment to advance the arts in the United States is sustained by the Princess Grace Awards which supports and elevates extraordinary early career artists in theater, dance and film through game-changing grants; and nurtures and supports Princess Grace Award winners throughout their careers.

In its consideration of the mission during the evaluation of Princess Grace Award applicants, the selection panel considers the promise and potential of the applicant to be extraordinary; evaluating “extraordinary” with a multi-prong definition: artistic intentionality, demonstration of technique in artistic practice, potential for innovation or impact of the artist on their field. Applicants are not expected to already be extraordinary but demonstrate the promise of extraordinary.

The Princess Grace Awards are for emerging artists, or artists in the onset of their careers. In its evaluation of emerging, the selection panel considers the aggregate of the applicant's work.

Values of the Princess Grace Foundation:

- The Princess Grace Foundation is interested in artists' unique voices and trajectories; and evaluates each artist through the lens of their individual journey.
- The Princess Grace Foundation believes that extraordinary talent is found across diverse groups of artists and is committed to identifying and supporting diversity in all its forms: gender, racial, sexuality, accessibility, etc.
- The Princess Grace Foundation is committed to curating Selection Panels that reflect the diversity of the artistic landscapes (including form, geography, etc) and diversity of artists including gender, race/ethnicity when selecting Panelists.

Eligibility and Updated Nomination Process

Eligibility for the Princess Grace Awards

- The Princess Grace Awards recognize both creative generators (including but not limited to theater directors, designers, choreographers, film directors) and performance-based creatives (including but not limited to actors, dancers).
- Open to U.S. based artists currently living and working in the United States.
- An artist can only be nominated by 1 organization or individual in a given year and applications are evaluated on the individual artist's artistic merits.

Updated Eligibility for Nominators

A key conversation topic of the Taskforce inquiry was evaluating access and equity in the Princess Grace Awards, especially for artists who may not work in traditional settings with companies or attend professional training schools. It is also important to acknowledge that the Princess Grace Foundation does not have the organizational structure or bandwidth to handle the influx of applications that removing a filtering process like a nomination process creates.

Nominations are welcome from:

- Academic institutions such as universities, colleges and non-profit professional training program; Organizations such as non-profit theater companies, dance companies, media arts centers
 - Non-profit theater and dance companies and media arts centers must meet the following criteria:
 - Be in continuous operation as an independent 501(C) (3) company or have a fiscal sponsor
 - Employ professional administrative staff
 - Theater companies, dance companies and media arts centers may only nominate 1 artist per year
 - Universities, colleges and non-profit professional training must meet the following criteria:
 - Professional training program or accredited university
 - Universities/Colleges may one nominate 1 undergraduate artist and 1 graduate artist per year
 - Non-profit training programs may only nominate 1 artist per year

New in 2021:

- Previous Princess Grace Award winners and honoraria
 - Nominations from Award winners do not need to be within their discipline, however Award winners should be able to speak authoritatively regarding the nominee's artistic practice
 - Princess Grace Award winners and honoraria may each nominate 1 artist per year

Princess Grace Award

In 2021 The Princess Grace Foundation will an unrestricted cash grant of \$10,000 that supports the artist directly. Reflecting both Listening Panel conversations and the survey of Award winners' assessments that a cash grant option would be of use, particularly as artists recover from the devastating effects of COVID 19 and projects and commissions may not take place, the Princess Grace Foundation is taking away the requirement for the funds to go to a specific activity. Instead the grants will be unrestricted allowing the artist to use it as needed i.e., housing, studio space, childcare needs, R&D, project specific support, tuition, etc.

Submission and Application Process

The Princess Grace Foundation will redesign the submission and application process into a standard application process across the disciplines of theater, dance and film; and create a 2-Step application process.

Round 1: *The Nomination & Artist Statement* / Deadline February 15

Round 2: *Full application from invited applicants* / Deadline May 1

The redesign of the submission and application process solves for 2 issues:

- Multi-disciplinary artists and artists working at cross-sectors of disciplines
 - Artists can identify a primary discipline and a secondary discipline if applicable
 - Artists can identify in what discipline(s) – theater, dance, film – they would like their application reviewed.
- Simplifying the application process, particularly during Round 1
 - For applicants: A less onerous application at the initial stage will allow artists with more limited resources (including grant writing skills, time, etc.) the ability to submit an application
 - For nominators: It simplifies the process for both individual and organizational nominators, allowing development resources especially for nominating organizations to be applied elsewhere

Adjudication Process

Princess Grace Awards will be adjudicated by a multi-disciplinary panel, composed of experts in each discipline of theater, dance and film. The Adjudicators serve a 3-year term and are nominated by the Arts Advisory Board, Director of Programs and CEO. Princess Grace Award Adjudicators participate and review applications in all stages of the review process, both online and in a 3-day panel to select the Princess Grace Award winners in theater, dance and film.

- Princess Grace Award Adjudicators will be joined by 3–4 additional panelists in each discipline for Round 1 and Round 2a (the 2 stages of the online review process). Additional panelists serve annually and review applications within their discipline expertise.
- For Round 2b (the Final Round) Princess Grace Award Adjudicators meet for a 3-day panel to review the finalists and select the Princess Grace Award winners.
- The Arts Advisory Board Chair and Director of Programs moderate both the online and in-person panel discussions; and are not voting members in the review process.

Princess Grace Awards Summit: September 2021

Taking the place of the annual Awards Gala, this elevated, two-day mission driven experience is designed to celebrate and educate the new class of Award Winners with an emphasis on building engagement and connections within the artistic community.

- Day 1 provides panels, conversations, and networking with Princess Grace Award alumni, Arts Advisory Board members, Adjudicators/panelists, and luminaries in the fields.
- Day 2 culminates with a Luncheon to celebrate the new class of Award winners in the presence of HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco.

Timed around UN General Assembly in NYC (September 14 – 30, 2021) to accommodate Prince Albert's schedule/attendance.

Aimed at:

- Fostering our Award winners' artistic connections
- Elevating skill-sets from the beginnings of their careers
- Building a community of artists of Arts Advisory Board members, Adjudicators, Panelists, Luminaries, and Award winners

The Commitment to Award Winners

The Princess Grace Foundation–USA maintains a long-term commitment to its Award winners. Recognizing that an artist will continue to need both financial support and encouragement as they pursue their craft, the Princess Grace Foundation–USA offers continuing grants to Award winners.

In 2021 the Princess Grace Foundation will offer Special Project grants, Works in Progress residencies and Professional Development grants. All other grants, particularly those that are discipline specific, or include commissions are on hold to prioritize funding opportunities to the larger Award winner population.

- **Special Project grants** offers project specific support for a unique and consequential opportunity at a critical juncture in your career. The Princess Grace Foundation–USA anticipates that the normal course of your artistic career will include staging new work, creating new films, choreographing new pieces, etc., and it considers these projects part of your natural artistic development. In contrast, the Special Project Grant supports projects that challenge and nurture your artistic growth. The AAB looks to fund projects that offer unique and consequential opportunities at a critical juncture in an artist's career.
- **Works In Progress Residencies** at Baryshnikov Arts Center offer Princess Grace Award winners and honoraria the opportunity for creative experimentation without the pressure to produce a final, finished product. Specifically the residency with BAC gives Princess Grace Award winning artists the space and resources for an incubation period to develop a particular project. Artists are given exclusive and full access to the selected studio space during the residency, and the residency enables the artist to explore, experiment and push the boundaries of their work in an environment that focuses on process over product.
- **Professional Development grants** (offered quarterly) recognizes that artists need to continue learn new skills and hone their artistic crafts, Professional Development grants provide funding to Princess Grace Award winners for opportunities such as seminars, classes, or conferences to develop capacity and knowledge in artistic development and/or arts management. Princess Grace Award winners are invited to seek out opportunities that will help strengthen their sustainability in the arts marketplace by developing a new artistic skill set, marketing and promotion efforts, and increasing management capacity.