

San Francisco International Arts Festival
May 16 – June 3, 2012
Application Guidelines

Things to Know about the San Francisco International Arts Festival (SFIAF)

- SFIAF is not a regular presenting organization endowed with a large reserve to automatically pay artist fees.
- All projects that take place as part of the Festival are independently financed.
- Each Festival includes the active participation of about 20 Bay Area based 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations committed to raising money for one or more projects within the scope of the overall Festival.
- Participation in the Festival requires a commitment on the part of the artist or the artist manager to play an active role in fund development for their respective project.
- SFIAF's primary venues are the multiple performance spaces at the Fort Mason Center.
- SFIAF presents multiple performances in the same venue each day. SFIAF also often presents split bills featuring Bay Area artists sharing the stage with an international company. Contact the SFIAF office for more information.

What constitutes a strong proposal?

We have found that the strongest proposals tend to include at least one or more of the following:

- Projects where the artist has already initiated contact with a Bay Area based 501(c)(3) organization about committing to the project and where at least one other 501(c)(3) has also declared an interest in the project and a willingness to participate in fundraising in support of the project (this could be the artists own non-profit organization or fiscal sponsor).
- Projects that will be one of the main areas of focus for fund development for the artist in the fundraising period January-November 2011.
- New work featuring Bay Area artists with a strong and consistent creative track record and whose new project idea speaks to the SFIAF theme.
- Completed work (repertory) by either Bay Area or international artists with a strong and consistent creative track record that speaks to the SFIAF theme.
- International artists who have a solid record of professional touring but who have never performed in the United States.
- International artists who have the financial backing of their government in travelling to the United States.
- Proposals that include both Bay Area artists and international artists.

If you have questions please call our office at 415-399-9554 or send an e-mail to info@sfiarf.org
For more information on past and upcoming San Francisco International Arts Festivals please visit our website at <http://www.sfiarf.org>

For completed works (see next page for the creation of new works) applications are accepted from:

- Individual artists, self-producing artist companies or agents representing individual artists or artistic companies based in the San Francisco Bay Area or in countries outside of the United States (other US based artists should contact the SFIAF office before applying).
- San Francisco based presenting organizations.

Application Procedure:

1. Send the Application Form (see attached) and Support Materials (lead artist bio, work sample*, comprehensive tech rider, reviews and promotional materials). SFIAF will accept one proposal from each artist gratis. For artists and agents submitting multiple applications there will be a \$25 fee for each additional proposal.
2. *Work samples should include: A DVD or CD of the proposed work. Please include one work sample that is approximately 5 minutes in length as well as the complete performance(s) of the proposed work. For dance and theatre work samples, please do not send highly edited promotional materials but samples that give an authentic as possible representation of a live performance. **DO NOT** send VHS tapes. If your chosen medium does not allow for any of the above contact the SFIAF office to discuss appropriate work samples.
3. The proposals are processed and reviewed by SFIAF staff. **N.B.** Do not send proposals in any kind of external binding, as all proposals are placed in identical manila folders upon processing.
4. Projects featuring companies based outside of the Bay Area that are deemed of no interest to the Festival will be eliminated. **N.B.** all applications submitted by Bay Area based artists and arts organizations will be reviewed and considered.
5. SFIAF staff may contact individual applicants for more information about their proposal or to request information that might be missing from a proposal.
6. Selection panel(s) will be convened in late November or early December to review the proposals and to make decisions on which projects will move forward. The panels will be comprised of artists, presenters and other experts in the field. **N.B.** The only information the panelists will receive prior to the panel is the three sentence summary of the project.
7. E-mail notifications will be sent out in early December.
8. Proposals that are reviewed favorably will be sent a Letter of Intent.
9. Fundraising activity commences in January 2011 with final contracts issued upon agreement of terms no later than December 2011 for the 2012 Festival.

In Office Deadline for Project Proposals Friday October 1, 2010

San Francisco International Arts Festival
870 Market Street, Suite 1256
San Francisco, CA 94102

For the creation of new work (see above for completed works) applications are accepted from:

- Individual artists or self-producing artist companies from the San Francisco Bay Area or agents representing Bay Area based artists.
- San Francisco based presenting organizations.

Application Procedure:

1. Send the Application Form (see attached) and Support Materials (lead artist bio, work sample*, reviews and promotional materials).SFIAF will accept one proposal from each artist gratis. For artists and agents submitting multiple applications there will be a \$25 fee for each additional proposal.

Work Samples* should include: A DVD or CD of relevant past work by the lead artist(s) that should be approximately 10 minutes in length. For dance and theatre work samples, please do not send highly edited promotional materials but samples that give authentic as possible representation of a live performance. DO NOT send VHS tapes. If your chosen medium does not allow for any of the above contact the SFIAF office to discuss appropriate work samples.

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