

# Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation

## Boschen Fund for Artists Guidelines

Since 1987, the Martha Boschen Porter Fund has supported artists in the northwest Connecticut region with over 50 grants for a wide range of projects, including research for a novel, a travel grant to a photographer, funds to purchase a kiln, help a filmmaker complete a documentary film, support a composer developing a new work, and enable a dancer/choreographer to present her work. The fund has also made small grants to arts organizations in the area. The Boschen Fund for Artists at Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation was formed in 2006 by the Martha Boschen Porter Fund, Inc., to carry on its work into the future.

### **Vision**

The Boschen Fund for Artists supports artists working alone or in collaboration, as they advance to the next level of their development or in the presentation of their work in innovative ways. The core belief of the Boschen Fund is that the world is made a better and more humane place if artists have the resources they need to create work and make it available to the public and have the opportunity to think in new ways about their future as artists. The Boschen Fund seeks, in its modest way, to help create a more innovative and nurturing climate for artists in the Berkshire Taconic region by making grants available at important points in an artist's career. While the focus of the fund remains on individual artists, it also accepts proposals from organizations in the region that commission artists or provide artists with new opportunities to work or present their work to new audiences.

### **Eligibility**

Artists, both creative and interpretive, in all media may apply to the Boschen Fund; "creative artists" refers to artists who originate work while "interpretive artists" refers to artists who interpret work, such as dancers, singers, musicians, and performers. This includes visual and craft artists; writers (poets, fiction and creative nonfiction writers); installation, performance or cross-disciplinary artists; and artists who work in digital and new media.

Applicants must have been full-time residents in the Berkshire Taconic region (Berkshire County, MA; Columbia County and northeast Dutchess County,\* NY; Northwest Litchfield County,\*\* CT) for two years prior to applying. Artists with a significant connection to the area are also welcome to apply. Artists who have received an award from the Boschen Fund may reapply no sooner than five years after the date of their previous award.

\* Amenia, Clinton Corners, Dover Plains, Millbrook, Millerton, North East, Pine Plains, Stanford, Washington, Wassaic and Wingdale, NY.

\*\* Bantam, Canaan, Colebrook, Cornwall, Cornwall Bridge, Falls Village, Kent, Lakeville, Lime Rock, Litchfield, Norfolk, Salisbury, Sharon, Taconic, West Cornwall and Winsted, CT.

## Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation

271 Main Street, Suite 3, Great Barrington, MA 01230-1972

T: 413.528.8039 F: 413.528.8158 E: [info@berkshiretaconic.org](mailto:info@berkshiretaconic.org) [www.berkshiretaconic.org](http://www.berkshiretaconic.org)

**To apply, please send:**

- A completed application form.
- A letter of up to two pages describing your work and what you plan to accomplish with a Boschen Fund grant. Please be specific about your proposed project as well as the medium and nature of your work.
- A bio or resume including your date of birth, education, art training, and performance, gallery or publishing affiliations.
- Samples of work you have completed within the last five years. Please label everything so that it may be returned if you choose. Work should be submitted on slides, on a CD or DVD (no more than 10 pages of a manuscript or music cued to a 10-minute segment).
- A self-addressed stamped envelope for return of materials.

**Awards**

The fund awards grants directly to the applicant artist or organization to carry out the work outlined in the application. The grants usually range between \$1,000 and \$5,000 and may be applied to any expense that may enhance the artist's ability to create new work. Awards are counted as income and artists are responsible for all applicable taxes. Berkshire Taconic will file a 1099 form with the Internal Revenue Service to report each award. The artist will be asked to send a letter to Berkshire Taconic documenting the work performed under the grant.

**Deadline**

Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation must receive applications to the Boschen Fund no later than 5 p.m. on July 1<sup>st</sup>. If the first falls on a weekend or holiday, the deadline will be no later than 5 p.m. on the next business day.

**Review Process**

An advisory board for the Boschen Fund will review all applications. The board comprises artists and arts professionals in a variety of artistic disciplines from the greater Berkshire Taconic region. Their recommendations will be sent to Berkshire Taconic for approval. The advisory board will use the following criteria in their review:

- The excellence of the artist's work as evidenced by samples of recent work submitted as part of the application.
- The potential of the project to advance the artist's work.
- The potential of the grant from the Boschen Fund to advance the artist's work.

If an application includes a plan for public presentation, please include evidence of a commitment between the artist and the organization where the work is to be exhibited/performed/published.

**More Information**

For questions or more information, please contact [grants@berkshiretaconic.org](mailto:grants@berkshiretaconic.org) or 413.528.8039. More information about the Boschen Fund for Artists and Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation is available at [www.berkshiretaconic.org](http://www.berkshiretaconic.org).

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# Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation Boschen Fund for Artists Application Form

Please complete and submit this form with your application.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount requested: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Medium: \_\_\_\_\_

Summary of request – What new work or next level of development will be achieved with the support of a grant from the Boschen Fund for Artists?

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