About Us

The Artist Protection Fund (IIE-APF) is a program at the Institute of International Education that fills a critical unmet need by providing fellowship grants to threatened artists. IIE-APF places these artists at host institutions in safe countries where they can continue their work and plan for their futures.

Supported by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, IIE-APF collaborates with international arts organizations and academic institutions. Threatened artists from any field of practice may be eligible for support.

How It Works

IIE-APF receives urgent applications from artists around the world. Applications go before a Selection Committee, where they are reviewed for artistic merit, potential, and the severity of the threats that the applicant faces. Awarded fellows are placed within host institutions for up to one calendar year. Preference is given to artists who:

- are facing or have recently fled from immediate, severe, and targeted threats to their lives and/or artistic practice in their home countries or countries of residence;
- demonstrate accomplishment and promise in their artistic practice.

Interested in Hosting?

IIE-APF designs and develops innovative residency programs by partnering with international hosts including academic institutions, arts organizations, and cultural centers.

- Host institutions are required to match the fellowship funds financially or through in-kind contributions such as housing, studio space, materials and supplies.
- 100% of the IIE-APF Fellowship award goes directly to the artist.

Essential to the hosting arrangement is the active engagement of hosts in welcoming threatened IIE-APF Fellows into their community, facilitating contact with fellow artists and thought leaders, and providing access to the full range of resources available.

CONNECT WITH US!

Apply online or refer a threatened artist to IIE-APF by visiting artistprotectionfund.org. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

“I see the Artist Protection Fund as very much part of social responsibility here at the university… How do artists get involved in struggles for people’s rights? For the right to speak in situations where there’s censorship? ...I think Silvanos is the living and breathing version of that.”

— James Thompson
Vice President - Social Responsibility & Professor of Applied and Social Theatre, The University of Manchester
If you are interested in hosting an artist, please contact us at APF@iie.org. If you are an artist, please visit our website at artistprotectionfund.org.