

2024 Jeff Impact Fellowship Artist Application and Program Details

Purpose

The Jeff Awards organization is proud to continue the **Jeff Impact Fellowship**, designed to inspire emerging early-career artists of color in the Greater Chicagoland area to pursue artistic excellence. As part of this journey, the Jeff Impact Fellowship will support them in their professional, academic, and/or personal development. Again this year, the Fellowship will provide two (2) artists with an allocation of \$10,000 each to support their work.

Who is eligible?

Eligible recipients are early-career artists of color who reside in or are based in Chicago or a Chicago suburb and who are at least 18 years of age and have been involved in Chicago theater for a minimum of one (1) year and a maximum of five (5) years. Eligible persons include actors, directors, stage managers, designers, theater technicians, dramaturgs, cabaret artists, playwrights, music directors, theater composers, theater musicians, and improvisational performers.

Timeline for the Fellowship Application Process

- March 26, 2024 – Application Process Open
- June 30, 2024 at 5:00 pm (CDT) – Application Process Closed

How the Jeff Impact Fellowship Will Work

In keeping with the mission of the Jeff Awards to recognize theatrical excellence in the Chicagoland area, we encourage applicants to use the Fellowship as a way to best pursue their artistic vision. We further ask that applicants are committed to applying the funds from the Fellowship towards continued work as a Chicagoland theatre artist. Six months following award issuance, a personal check-in will be made with both awardees to assess progress on their projects as well as determine if any additional assistance is needed to realize their artistic objectives.

The application for the 2024 Jeff Impact Fellowship is included here. Additionally, two (2) letters of recommendation are required, one of which must come from an Artistic Director of a Chicagoland theatre company that has produced theatre in the area for at least two (2) years. Instructions on how to submit the letters of recommendation are included below. Please note that only two letters will be considered in the selection process.

Applicants with questions are encouraged to email John Glover, Chair of the Jeff Awards, at chair@jeffawards.org. A phone conversation with an applicant may be arranged upon request.

Submission Process

- ❖ The artist should submit the completed application by email to fellowship@jeffawards.org.
- ❖ The completed file should be titled “[Applicant Name] - Jeff Impact Fellowship 2024.”
- ❖ The email subject line should read “[Applicant Name] - Jeff Impact Fellowship 2024.”
- ❖ The application is best filled out via computer. Please download the application, add/type in your responses within the application document, save as a new file and submit the file as a PDF.
- ❖ Letters of recommendation should be sent directly from the recommender by email to fellowship@jeffawards.org. The completed file and email subject line should read “[Applicant Name] - Letter of Recommendation - Jeff Impact Fellowship 2024.”

Applications must be submitted no later than 5:00 PM (CDT) on Sunday, June 30, 2024.

Jeff Impact Fellowship

2024 Application

Name:

Pronouns:

Email:

Phone:

Years Active in the Arts:

Demographic Information

The Jeff Impact Fellowship is specifically awarded to Chicagoland artists of color, which is why we ask applicants to self-identify their race/ethnicity. Additionally, this information will be used for internal purposes only and specific answers will not be shared with anyone outside of the selection committee.

Race/Ethnicity: please select one

1. Please provide your professional biography. *(Please limit your answer to no more than 500 words. Additionally, you may include a PDF copy of your theatrical resume with your completed application; however, a resume cannot be used in lieu of answering this question.)*

2. Use this space to introduce yourself in a way that will help us get to know you beyond your professional biography/resume. *(Please limit your answer to no more than 500 words.)*

3. Share why you are passionate about your craft and describe how the Jeff Impact Fellowship will allow you to build on, challenge, and/or deepen your artistic vision. *(Please limit your answer to no more than 500 words.)*

4. Use this space to provide any additional information you think is pertinent to your application but was not asked in the previous questions. *(Please note this question is optional.)*

Artist Signature

In submitting this application, you acknowledge that all the above responses are factual and that you are a resident of Chicago or a Chicago suburb. You further acknowledge your commitment to apply this Fellowship towards your continued work as a Chicagoland theatre artist.

Name (will function as signature):

Date: