

## Next Generation Leadership Development Fellowship

# APPLICATION WORKSHEET

**Capacity Building: Grand Rapids** is a two-year technical assistance and strategic planning intensive for up to 15 arts and cultural organizations throughout greater Grand Rapids and surrounding towns. Launching in 2025, the program is fully underwritten by the Dick and Betsy DeVos Family Foundation.

To expand its service to the local arts ecology, the program will provide up to five Next Generation Leadership Development fellowships to up and coming leaders within the nonprofit sector of the greater Grand Rapids area.

### About the Fellowship

The **Next Generation Leadership Development Fellowship** is designed to support and empower emerging leaders. It seeks to cultivate the next generation of changemakers dedicated to advancing their organizations and communities through a hands-on leadership development experience that combines nonprofit management training with real-world application.

Up to five Fellows, recognized for their leadership potential and commitment to driving meaningful impact, will be selected. Fellows will attend and participate in group intensives in a peer-to-peer setting. Additionally, Fellows are invited to shadow a full strategic planning process for a participating nonprofit organization, gaining direct insight into the complexities of long-term planning and organizational leadership.

Through this experience, Fellows will emerge with a heightened sense of leadership confidence, an expanded network of peers, and the tools to help create lasting impact in the greater Grand Rapids nonprofit community.

### Eligibility

This opportunity is open to individuals in greater Grand Rapids and surrounding towns. Fellows will be selected through a competitive application process.

Successful applicants will demonstrate the following:

- **Sector Involvement:** Currently employed in a managerial, curatorial, or administrative role within an arts, culture, heritage, service, advocacy, or arts education organization in greater Grand Rapids, or are committed to pursuing a future in these sectors or related fields.

- Leadership Potential: A clear passion for leadership in the nonprofit sector and a desire to grow as a leader.
- Community Focus: Deep commitment to the arts and its transformative potential for communities and individuals.
- Alignment: Applicant can clearly articulate how the fellowship aligns with personal and professional goals.
- Commitment: Availability to fully participate in the program, including attendance at group intensives (January 2025- December 2026).

Additionally, applicants will be asked to:

- Provide a compelling rationale for participation
- Provide a signed commitment
- Provide your professional resume
- If applicable, provide one document describing your current organization (such as a season brochure, annual report, etc.)
- Provide an email or letter of support from your current supervisor

### Online Application

To apply for the Next Generation Leadership Development Fellowship, please click [HERE](#). The deadline to apply is Friday, November 1, 2024.

### Contact Information

- Please provide your name, email, phone number, organization, and title/position.

### Application Questions

1. Do you currently work for an organization in the arts and culture sector?
  - Yes: Please describe your primary responsibilities in your position and the structure of your position within the organization. To whom do you report and who reports to you?
  - No: Please describe your interest in the arts and culture sector.
2. Which disciplines are of most interest to you? Please select all that apply.
  - Theatre, Music Performance (Opera, Symphony, Choral), Museums and History Centers, Dance, Multi-Disciplinary/Community Art Centers, Visual Arts, Arts Education, Arts Advocacy, Community-based or Service Organizations, Other
3. How would the Fellowship serve as a resource for you at this stage in your career?

4. In your opinion, what does the cultural environment in Grand Rapids need the most? How would you use the Fellowship to benefit the area?

## Documentation

5. Please provide or upload your resume.
6. If applicable, please provide information describing your current organization (season brochure, annual report, etc.)
7. Please provide an email or letter of support from your current supervisor.

## Final Considerations

8. Please describe any other considerations important to you.

## Program Terms of Agreement

If invited to participate in this Fellowship, I commit to the following:

- I will participate actively in all training activities, both in-person and virtual;
- I will maintain regular communication with Institute staff as it pertains to program participation; and
- I will attend all group intensives.

*A signature and acknowledgement of these terms is required to submit the application.*