

Content Emerging Artist Award 2025

Silicon Valley Creates

Applicant Information

Before you begin, please review the [Content Emerging Artist Award Guidelines and Application Instructions](#).

Application requirements include: narrative questions, links to work samples hosted online, artist resume, and letter of recommendation. **Plan to allow plenty of time to request a letter of recommendation.**

Application tips:

- Please read each question carefully.
- You may draft your answers in a separate document and copy/paste them into the fields provided.
- Character counts are a guide to maximum length, your answers may be shorter. You may use bullet points. On average there are 6 characters per word.
- Your answers will save automatically. Once you start an application you can return to it through your Applicant Dashboard (click the "home" icon at the top of the page) and click the "edit" link.

If you have any questions, please contact Alyssa Erickson at alysae@svcreates.org.

Application Deadline: March 21, 2025 at 5:00 pm.

*This is a hard deadline, extensions will **not** be granted.*

Project Name*

This is a required field in our system - please enter your first and last name.

Character Limit: 100

Award Category*

This year we have dedicated funding for **one** award to be granted to an Emerging Artist whose work is focused in South Santa Clara County, in the communities of Morgan Hill, Gilroy, or San Martin. NOTE, artists may live outside those cities, or in adjacent counties, but the majority of their work must be performed or presented in South Santa Clara County.

Two additional awards will be granted to artists applying as part of the county-wide pool.

Please select which grant award you wish to apply for.

Choices

County-wide

South County

Eligibility Check

Review eligibility requirements and confirm eligibility below.

Applicant must:

- Be an artist in their 2nd-10th year of creative practice, post-student status (if applicable), with some track record of creating and presenting full work (not beginning artists), and artists who are NOT at a point in their careers where they receive consistent development and production opportunities and significant recognition, awards, and acclaim (not mid-career or established artists).
- Be at least 18 years of age at the time of the application deadline.
- Spend at least five-ten hours a week on and may derive income from the practice/creation of art.
- Have exhibited, performed, presented and/or published artistic work in a public context within the last three years.
- Be the principal creator/performer or the sole author of work(s) submitted.
- Be a resident of Santa Clara County or one of several bordering counties (Alameda, San Mateo, San Benito, and Santa Cruz Counties) for at least one year prior to the application deadline, AND can demonstrate through professional history that artistic activity has had an impact on residents of Santa Clara County.
- To be eligible for the South County Emerging Artist Award, artists must be presenting or performing their work in Gilroy, Morgan Hill, or San Martin.

Applicant must NOT:

- Be enrolled as an undergraduate student.
- Be a prior recipient of the Content Emerging Artist Award or Artist Laureate Award from SVCREATES or Arts Council Silicon Valley.
- Be a current employee or board member of SVCREATES or have been employed by or served on the board of SVCREATES within the past 5 years.

By typing in your name and the date below, you confirm that you meet the eligibility requirements of this grant program.

Name*

Character Limit: 50

Date*

Character Limit: 10

Predominant Areas of Artistic Practice*

While we recognize that many artists work in a variety of art forms, please indicate your **predominant** areas of artistic practice. See descriptions below. (check all that apply)
If you select "Other," please describe in the first narrative question below.

Choices

Visual Arts
Performing Arts
Literary Arts
Other

- **Visual Arts:** including two and three-dimensional work that is created in the studio or in community spaces; including drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture in all media, photography, video, mixed/multiple media, installation, new or alternative media and social practice art.
- **Performing Arts:** including art that is presented for an audience on a formal or informal stage. Applicants would include artists creating work that is developed offstage, backstage, or pre-performance (choreographers, composers, stage directors, stage/set/costume designers). Or performers themselves (dancers, actors, spoken word artists, instrumental/vocal musicians).
- **Literary Arts:** all written literary art forms, including poetry, prose, stage or screenplay.

Artist Summary*

Provide one sentence indicating your public/pen/stage name, your artistic medium(s) or practice(s), and the central audience/community for your work.

Character Limit: 300

Narrative Questions

Narrative Questions

This section asks for a narrative discussion of your work. The next section requests work samples. These two sections should complement each other, strengthening the reviewer's understanding of your work. To avoid repetition, **please review all four questions before completing your answers.** The character limit is a maximum guide, your answers may be shorter. Strive to be clear and concise. Recommendations on the number of paragraphs for each answer have also been provided.

Artistic Practice*

Describe your current artistic practice. What mediums, subject areas, thematic focuses, aesthetic styles, forms or practices are you working with? What are you discovering in your work? What are your strengths?

If you work across disciplines, or in multiple disciplines, discuss how that impacts your creative practice.

Recommended length: 3-4 paragraphs.

Character Limit: 3000

Emerging Artist Career Stage*

In what ways do you consider yourself "emerging" as an artist or in your artistic practice? What are the areas you wish to devote more time and attention to to move your work forward?

Recommended length: 2-3 paragraphs

Character Limit: 2500

Artistic Growth*

How do you continue to challenge, inspire and grow yourself as an artist?

Recommended length: 1-2 paragraphs

Character Limit: 2000

Audience/Community Impact*

This award recognizes artistic merit, commitment to craft, AND a commitment to embracing a role as part of a larger community of artists and citizens, with specific engagement with audiences/communities in Santa Clara County.

Who are the specific social or artistic communities/participants/audiences you seek to engage/inspire/impact through your work? What is your connection to these communities and what is your desired impact? If you are applying for the South County award, specifically describe your impact in the Gilroy/Morgan Hill/San Martin area.

Recommended length: 1-2 paragraphs

Character Limit: 2000

Work Samples

Work Samples

- Please provide links to work samples that document your artistic practice.**
- You may provide **one link for each type of work sample** listed below, each link can include multiple work samples. (For example, one link to a webpage that has 15 images on it.)
- The types of work samples you submit should be reflective of your work and support your application. **You are not required to submit all sample types.**
- All samples must be submitted via web link to an image file (such as Google Photos, or a webpage), a video file (such as YouTube or Vimeo), audio file (such as SoundCloud), or document on a web page, Google folder, social media account, etc.

- Check your links to make sure they work. Links must remain stable through May 2025.

***If you have any obstacles to providing links to work samples, please reach out to Alyssa Erickson to submit them another way: alyssae@svcreates.org, 408-998-2787 x204*

- **Include a brief description of your work samples in the text boxes provided:**
 - Identify images by number, title, media, dimensions, date of completion.
 - Describe performances, including titles of works, dates, venues and names of other artists or performing groups.
 - Identify written work samples by number, title and date of completion. Indicate if individual samples are excerpted from larger works and provide publication or production status.

Digital images: maximum 15 images (one link):

Character Limit: 2000

Digital Images Description

Identify images by number, title, media, dimensions, date of completion. *Please provide a password for private links, as necessary.*

Character Limit: 5000

Audio/Video Excerpt 1: maximum 5-minutes duration (one link):

Note: you may combine more than one audio or video excerpt in one work sample.

Character Limit: 2000

Audio/Video Excerpt 1 Description

Describe performances, including titles of works, dates, venues and names of other artists or performing groups. *Please provide a password for private links, as necessary.*

Character Limit: 5000

Audio/Video Excerpt 2: maximum 5-minutes duration (one link):

Note: You may combine more than one audio or video excerpt in one work sample.

Character Limit: 2000

Audio/Video Excerpt 2 Description

Describe performances, including titles of works, dates, venues and names of other artists or performing groups. *Please provide a password for private links, as necessary.*

Character Limit: 5000

Writing Sample

Excerpt(s) of writing sample or music score: maximum 20 pages (one link):

Character Limit: 2000

Writing Sample Description

Identify written work samples by number, title and date of completion. Indicate if individual samples are excerpted from larger works and provide publication or production status. *Please provide a password for private links, as necessary.*

Character Limit: 5000

Letter of Recommendation

Letter of Recommendation*

Submit **one** letter of recommendation from someone who works in the arts and who knows your work well. Letters should be no more than one page, signed by the recommender and address the following questions:

- What is your relationship to the artist? How do you know their work?
- In what way is the artist an asset to the arts community in Santa Clara County?
- Why should this artist be recognized as a Content Emerging Artist?

Click the "Upload a file" button to submit your Letter of Recommendation.

File Size Limit: 5 MB

Artist Resume

Resume Text or Upload

Artist resume of professional activities and achievements:

- Begin with most recent listings.
- Include significant awards and training, selected exhibitions, performances, presentations and/or publications. Please list the city, state, and country (if outside the U.S.).

You may copy and paste your resume into the space provided or upload your resume using the "Upload a file" button below.

Character Limit: 6000 | File Size Limit: 5 MB