

Artspace Projects is excited to announce the **Rafala Green Fellowship Program**, made possible with funding from the Ford Foundation. The purpose of this diversity fellowship program is to promote equity and inclusion for people of color and Indigenous people in the real estate and arts-based community development fields.

The Rafala Green Fellowship Program is named in honor of the late Rafala Green, an African-American artist, community activist, and former Artspace board member who helped Artspace make enduring bridges into the Twin Cities African American community in the 1990's. Green is best known for her painting, loom-work, mosaics, and her mentorship. She is also known for her development of the Touchstone Plaza, a cultural cornerstone at Peavey Park in Minneapolis, and her renowned ability to use art as an effective tool for social change.

## ABOUT THE RAFALA GREEN FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The Rafala Green Fellowship is open to people of color and Indigenous people who are interested in becoming the next generation of leaders working at the intersection of arts, real estate, and community development. The program will provide these fellows with the tools to master core competencies that will allow them to advance future complex, arts-centered community development work. Artspace will select four fellows, each for a two-year fellowship.

Rafala Green fellows will work full-time at the Artspace headquarters in Minneapolis, MN and support current projects in the Artspace development pipeline, learn Artspace best practices, gain access to national leaders in the field, and expand their network in a series of professional development activities.

Development support activities and opportunities include, but are not limited to:

- Development of housing, commercial, mixed-use, performance, and exhibition projects
- Project capital and operational financial modeling
- Site evaluation
- Community engagement
- Federal, state, and local government relations
- Architectural and engineering design input, review, and due diligence
- Lender and investor relations, selection, and negotiation
- General Contractor selection, negotiation, and oversight
- Funding application completion
- Securing development entitlements, such as zoning and permitting
- Attendance at national and regional housing and community development conferences
- Access to a robust and experienced Board of Directors, mentors, and leaders in the field
- Access to educational and engaging travel experiences including work in distinct cultural communities
- Engagement with foundations, funders, and national leaders in the creative economy
- Peer review and mentoring across sectors of development, consulting, and fundraising
- Arts-centered engagement with Artspace's prolific network of artist residents, tenants, and community partners

Each Fellow will receive a \$50,000 annual salary during the two-year term of their fellowship, as well as a comprehensive benefits package.

## YOU ARE INVITED TO APPLY

The Rafala Green Fellowship Program is open to people of color and Indigenous people who are involved in community development work and interested in real estate development. Apply today or share this opportunity with others who would welcome this unique opportunity to work and learn at Artspace.

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## PROGRAM TIMELINE

*Application Deadline May 2, 2018*

**Fellowship Cohort I,  
September 2018 - August 2020**

**Cohort I Fellows Announced**  
July 2, 2018 *\*orientation date following*

**Fellowship Cohort II,  
August 2020 - July 2022**



# The Rafala Green Fellowship: An Artspace Program

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

It takes a “village” to advance an Artspace project. Artspace development teams interface with a wide range of people from across the country. Our organization’s ability to engage with community stakeholders, culturebearers, artists, developers, architects, philanthropic leaders, private investors, city and state officials, and the greater community that surrounds our buildings is the key to our success. Applicants to the Rafala Green Fellowship program are preferred, but not required to have the following traits, skills, and or experience:

- Bachelor’s Degree in one the following fields: Finance, Economics, Political Science, Community Development, Urban Planning, Business, Non-profit Management, or a related field
- 3 - 5 years of professional experience
- Desire to learn and take on complex problems
- Comfortable working in rural and urban communities, and with people from various ethnic, cultural, or regional backgrounds
- Value artists and creative communities
- Familiarity with the various public and private financing tools for real estate and economic development
- Strong analytic skills and proficiency in the use of Excel spreadsheet software
- Confident presenting and public speaking skills
- Professional writing skills including both story-telling and technical writing
- Ability to take initiative and think critically under pressure with the goal of finding creative solutions to complex and technical problems
- Ability to work well both independently and as part of a team with employees and colleagues at all levels
- Ability to effectively manage and coordinate multiple projects concurrently

## HOW TO APPLY

To apply for the Rafala Green Fellowship program, please prepare the following application materials:

1. One page cover letter expressing your interest in the fellowship with a summary of your relevant professional experiences
2. Resume
3. Three letters of recommendation
4. Answer the three questions below in essay form. Response to each question should be no longer than one page.
  - What do you hope to gain as a fellow in The Rafala Green Fellowship program? How do you feel your personal and/or professional goals intersect with the Artspace mission?
  - Tell us about a project where you had to work closely with a community to complete a project. What were the challenges and triumphs of that work?
  - Describe a time you faced mounting challenges at work. What actions did you take to overcome those challenges?

## SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION

- Application materials should be submitted via email, in PDF format to Shaela Wilson at [shaela.wilson@artspace.org](mailto:shaela.wilson@artspace.org)
- **Application must be received by 6 pm Central Standard time on May 1, 2018.**

For more information about this program contact Shaela Wilson at [shaela.wilson@artspace.org](mailto:shaela.wilson@artspace.org)

Fellows will be announced on July 2, 2018.

**Apply today for this opportunity to advance change in your community!**

*Applications for Fellowship Cohort II will open in 2020.*

Artspace’s mission is to create, foster, and preserve affordable and sustainable space for artists and arts organizations.

**artspace**