

Artspace Accepting Applications Through Sept. 12 for Free, 18-Month Cohort, “Artspace Immersion: Memphis,” to Build Local Capacity for Creating and Maintaining Space for Creative Pursuits

Expanded Program Includes \$5,000 Stipend Per Organization and Travel to Minnesota

Minneapolis, August 27, 2018—

Artspace today announced the Sept. 12 application deadline and details of the expanded “Artspace Immersion: Memphis” program. The competitive process will award six to 10 arts organizations entry into the 18-month cohort, designed to build local capacity for creating and maintaining affordable space for arts, cultural, and creative pursuits in Memphis, TN. The original launch date was postponed as Artspace worked to secure resources to



The Artspace Immersion: Detroit Cohort Visits Minnesota

expand the free program, which now includes a \$5,000 stipend for each organization that successfully completes the program; as well as a two-day learning tour to Artspace’s headquarters in Minneapolis, MN. “We are thrilled to expand the program so that participants will not only build their plans, skills, and networks; but will also receive seed funding to put their plans in action,” said Anna Growcott, Artspace Director of Consulting & Strategic Partnerships.

The application is available at www.artspaceimmersionmemphis.org. Groups that are not traditionally represented—including those that are led by people of color and indigenous peoples—are strongly encouraged to apply. Applications are due Sept. 12, with participants to be selected by Oct. 2. The first Memphis workshop will take place Oct. 17, 2018 and will run through March 2020.

Artspace is committed to serving arts, creative, and cultural organizations in various stages of facility planning in Memphis. Previously hosted in Detroit, MI, and currently running in Minneapolis and Saint Paul, MN, the program provides invaluable insights for arts administrators seeking to address their space-related goals – from relocating to buying a building to expanding in existing space. Curriculum will include:

- Workshops that feature presentations from experts in the field, collaboration with other cohort participants, and small group discussions
- Individualized technical assistance consulting from Artspace
- Access to templates and documents created by Artspace

- Mentorship throughout the duration of the program
- An all-expenses paid roundtrip to Artspace headquarters in Minneapolis to meet real estate experts on Artspace staff, tour Artspace commercial buildings, and share experiences and knowledge with the “Artspace Immersion: Twin Cities” cohort
- A \$5,000 planning stipend per organization to advance their project goals, provided at the conclusion of the program

The program covers topics such as: project management, concept refinement, budgeting for space, site assessment, financing and loans, fundraising strategy, partnerships, marketing and communications, and navigating city resources.

An “Artspace Immersion: Twin Cities” cohort participants said that there “was always a lot of energy and a lot of hope [in our organization planning process], but not a lot of direction. We just didn’t have it all together and didn’t have a path to follow. And then we started going to the sessions...this Immersion program was the answer that we were looking for.”

The Artspace Immersion program is generously funded by the Kresge Foundation.

About Artspace Immersion

Artspace Immersion is an 18-month cohort program designed to build local capacity for creating and maintaining affordable space for arts, cultural, and creative pursuits. The program meets regularly, bringing together arts and cultural organizations in various stages of facility and real estate planning. Cohort participants will build skills, strengthen their networks, and receive technical assistance to advance their space-related initiative. The program immerses participants in Artspace’s mission-driven, artist-led process and connects them with other local experts in the field. Artspace draws upon its three decades of experience developing, operating, and consulting on affordable arts facility projects across the country as it assists cohort participants. Arts organizations interested in learning more about the upcoming Immersion program in Memphis can contact Anna Growcott at anna.growcott@artspace.org.

About Artspace Projects, Inc.

Artspace's mission is to create, foster, and preserve affordable and sustainable space for artists and arts organizations. Artspace was founded in 1979 to support artists being displaced by rising costs – the unintended consequences of the positive community changes that they inspired. Through both the adaptive reuse of historic buildings and new construction projects, Artspace creates affordable places for artists, arts organizations, and other creative enterprises, retaining ownership to ensure that the buildings remain permanently affordable, mission-focused, and high quality. Today, Artspace's unique portfolio includes 50 projects nationwide, including South Main Artspace Lofts in Memphis. Artspace properties ensure that creative communities flourish, benefitting the neighborhoods where they reside. With headquarters in Minneapolis and offices in Denver, New Orleans, New York, Seattle, and Washington D.C., Artspace is renowned as America’s leading nonprofit real estate developer for the arts and arts-based community development. Artspace also leverages its expertise to support the next generation of transformative art spaces, with a robust consulting division that has worked on more than 250 projects coast to coast, including city-wide planning projects, arts districts, and more. Embracing the value that the arts bring to individual lives, Artspace champions the once-radical idea that the arts can leverage fundamental social change. For more information, please visit www.artspace.org.

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