

COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

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The College of Fine Arts will support students who engage in travel, study abroad, and research and creative activity. Awards will be recognized at the College of Fine Arts Awards Reception with invitations to members of the college and supporters and stakeholders internal and external to UTRGV. Funding will come from college funding but there is an opportunity for College of Fine Arts supporters to name awards in their honor/memory through an endowed gift.

CFA Global Citizenship Scholarship supports students to study abroad. \$500-2,000 scholarship.

<u>CFA Student Research Travel Scholarship</u> supports students who want to attend conferences or other professional venues to present their research and creative activities. *\$500 scholarship*.

<u>CFA Undergraduate and Graduate Research Grants</u> support students to conduct projects in collaboration or under the mentorship with faculty members in the college. \$500 scholarship, \$250 travel award or stipend for faculty mentor.

Timeline. The timeline for student scholarships is:

Date	Activity
Any time	Students complete application packets to be submitted to the CFA Dean's Office via email to cofa@utrgv.edu. CFA Dean's Office will forward to the College Leadership Council.
Subsequent CLC meeting	College Leadership Council will confer and make decisions regarding CFA Awards and Grants.
Following CLC meeting	CFA Dean's Office will notify student and faculty mentor of the award and will make arrangements for use of scholarship funds.
May ???	Global Citizenship and Travel Scholarship and Research Grant winners and their faculty mentors from the entire fiscal year will be recognized at the College of Fine Arts Awards Reception



Application and Evaluation Process

- 1.. Students will submit their application packet to CFA Dean's Office via email (cofa@utrgv.edu) at any time.
- 2. If a student is traveling as a part of a group (i.e., study abroad, ensemble tour), each individual student must submit an application. A single, joint application for all members of an ensemble or group will not be accepted, as the College of Fine Arts Dean's Office has to verify a student's eligibility for the scholarship.
- 2. CFA Dean's Office provides all application packets to the College Leadership Committee who conduct the evaluation process as outlined in this document.
- 3. Students and their faculty mentors will be informed of the committee's decision after the meeting has concluded.
- 4. Student winners and their faculty mentors from the entire fiscal year will be invited to the College of Fine Arts Awards Reception to be recognized.

Eligibility Requirements

- 1. All full-time UTRGV College of Fine Arts students are eligible.
- 2. A student can only receive one student scholarship of any category per fiscal year.
- 3. A faculty mentor can only receive one mentor award per fiscal year.



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Preparing the Application Packet

Each candidate should assemble a **single PDF file** that includes all items listed below. The candidate's name and award category should be clearly identified in the file's name (e.g., JaneVaquero_StudentTravel). Packets should be submitted via email to the CFA Dean's Office at cofa@utrgv.edu. All documents are expected to adhere to the page limits specified in these instructions. Candidates that do not follow the guidance outlined in the instructions below are subject to disqualification.

Application Packet Contents

- 1. Cover Page containing the following information:
 - a. Scholarship award category
 - b. Full name of student
 - c. Major, Expected Graduation
 - d. UTRGV email address
 - e. Phone number
- **2. Scholarship/Grant Request** (Max. length: Two (2) pages). The letter should summarize the candidate's travel plans and/or research/creative project, including:
 - a. Name of project, conference, or study abroad program.
 - b. Description of project, conference, or study abroad program.
 - c. Expected costs of project, conference, or study abroad program.
- **3. Faculty Mentor letter of endorsement** (Max. length per letter: One (1) page). The student should request an endorsement letter from one faculty mentor who supervises/collaborates research, teaches in or oversees study abroad program, and/or advises/supervises travel (ensemble director, trip organizer). This letter should articulate the value of the travel/research in the student's educational experience.



CFA Global Citizenship Scholarship supports students to study abroad. \$500-2,000 scholarship

Criteria. Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- 1. Student must be full-time, pursuing a degree in the College of Fine Arts.
- 2. Study abroad enhances the educational experience of the student.

Helpful Tips.

- The members of the Committee are likely to be from different disciplines than the candidate, meaning that clear and simple prose (rather than discipline-specific jargon) is helpful.
- Student should be specific in their description of the study abroad opportunity in how it will positively enhance their educational experience.
- Faculty mentor should clearly identify their role in the study abroad opportunity.

CFA Student Research Travel Scholarship supports students who want to attend conferences or other professional venues to present their research and creative activities. *\$500 scholarship*

Criteria. Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- 1. Student must be full-time, pursuing a degree in the College of Fine Arts.
- 2. Travel enhances the educational experience of the student.

Helpful Tips.

- The members of the Committee are likely to be from different disciplines than the candidate, meaning that clear and simple prose (rather than discipline-specific jargon) is helpful.
- Student should be specific in their description of the travel opportunity in how it will positively enhance their educational experience.
- Faculty mentor should clearly identify their role in the travel opportunity.



CFA Undergraduate and Graduate Research Grants support students to conduct projects in

collaboration or under the mentorship of faculty members in the college. \$500 scholarship, \$250 travel for faculty mentor

Criteria. Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- 1. Student must be full-time, pursuing a degree in the College of Fine Arts.
- 2. Research or creative activity enhances the educational experience of the student.
- 3. A description of expenses associated with the research project should be clearly described in the "Scholarship/Grant Request." Expenses may include, but are not limited to, materials, travel, venue and equipment rental, and conference registration. *Funds cannot be used for personnel or to purchase equipment.*
- 4. Research or creative project can be associated with a course, but the student should have a significant role in the project (*i.e.*, *PI or co-PI*). Projects where students are serving as a research assistant or as a performer in a faculty-led performance will not be considered.

Helpful Tips.

- The members of the Committee are likely to be from different disciplines than the candidate, meaning that clear and simple prose (rather than discipline-specific jargon) is helpful.
- Student should be specific in their description, including expenses, of the research project in how it will positively enhance their educational experience.
- Faculty mentor should clearly identify their role in the research project (*e.g.*, supervisor, collaborator (if so, describe faculty and student roles in collaboration)).