



MARKETING TOOLKIT

For questions, reach out to:
grantsprogram@artscouncilsc.org

2026-27 INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS FELLOWSHIP



ARTS
COUNCIL
SANTA
CRUZ
COUNTY



ABOUT

The Individual Artists Fellowship supports and celebrates California artists across disciplines—recognizing those shaping culture through their work and leadership. **Regional celebrations to be announced Spring 2027.**

Excellence defined by:

- A distinct and compelling artistic voice
- A sustained, committed creative practice
- Meaningful engagement with and impact on community and culture

Fellowship Levels

- **Emerging** — \$5,000
- **Established** — \$10,000
- **Legacy** — \$50,000

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Location

Central Coast California

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About the Fellowship: A program of the California Arts Council, administered on the Central Coast by Arts Council Santa Cruz County in partnership with regional arts agencies.

The fellowship provides unrestricted funding to artists and culture bearers across all disciplines, supporting the continued development of their creative work.

This year, 14 artists and culture bearers from across the Central Coast have been selected to receive fellowship awards. Meet 2026 Central Coast Fellows

 [CLICK HERE](#) to explore artist profiles and learn more about their work.

Legacy

- Consuelo Alba-Speyer — Curatorial — Santa Cruz
- Ellen Bass — Literary — Santa Cruz
- Tammy L. Hall — Music — Monterey

Established

- Akua Naru — Opera — Santa Cruz
- Cristal Gonzalez Avila — Theater — San Benito
- Fernando Salinas — Literary — Ventura
- Harold Brown — Music — San Luis Obispo
- Joshua Escobar — Literary — Santa Barbara
- Kadirı Vaquer Fernandez — Literary — Monterey
- Marcus Eriksen — Visual Art — Ventura

Emerging

- Alexandra Rocha-Alvarez — Culture Bearer — Santa Cruz
- Hossein Zarrat Shoaiee — Film/Video — Santa Cruz
- Miguel Orozco — Theater — Ventura
- Renee Lopez — Visual Art — San Luis Obispo

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