



On-Ramp Creative Entrepreneur Accelerator 2024 Fellowship Project Descriptions

On-Ramp Participant	Fellowship Project Description
Akilia McCain , Lake County	Akilia McCain will utilize the fellowship funds to help produce and record her debut album. The recording will commemorate the 35th Anniversary of the 1991 album, "Spirituals in Concert," by Jessye Norman and Kathleen Battle. The artist intends to use the album to promote a concert tour.
Alexandra McNichols , Vigo County	Alexandra McNichols' funds will be used to produce a solo exhibition in Indianapolis that focus on indigenous communities in North and South America that are restoring and protecting the natural resources of the planet from climate change.
America Carrillo , Marion County	America Carrillo will utilize fellowship funding to support the development of a downtown painted window scavenger hunt this Holiday season for her hometown city of Huntington, Indiana.
Brandon Meeks , Marion County	Fellowship funds will be used to support expenses for the 3rd Sunday Jazz Concerts Series, providing free, high-quality jazz performances that engage the community and inspire the next generation of jazz enthusiasts. This initiative will help solidify Meeks' role as a creative entrepreneur in the local music scene and expand his professional network.
Christina Hollering , Boone County	Christina Hollering's fellowship funds will support the creation of a community mural focused on native Indiana herpetofauna. This project will enhance community engagement, foster collaboration with local experts, and promote the appreciation of local ecosystems. Additionally, it will help the artist reach her creative career goals by expanding her mural portfolio and honing her skills to attract new clients.
Dana Caldera , Allen County	Dana Caldera will utilize the fellowship funding to collaborate with established artists working with paper pulp through video or in-person consultations, critiques, or studio visits to develop a unique method for large scale papermaking with collage inclusions. The artist will test and refine the process in her studio and create a series of new work using this method.

<p>Elisabeth Hegmann, Jennings County</p>	<p>Elisabeth Hegmann will utilize fellowship funds to work with a literary arts business coach to grow her fan base and find an agent for her next novel. The artist will blog her journey throughout the year-long fellowship grant period, increasing her online presence, and will send out a monthly newsletter that spotlights other artists in her community.</p>
<p>Emily Casella, Porter County</p>	<p>Fellowship funds will help expand Emily Casella’s ability to create outdoor art spaces to showcase and sell her art and have others uniquely experience artmaking. The funds will also help achieve the artist’s longtime dream of the project, "Ceramics Go Outside" an art book, presenting photographs of her ceramic figures in local areas around Northwest Indiana, strengthening connection to places and the community.</p>
<p>Emily Wilson Gillespie, Monroe County</p>	<p>Fellowship funding will support Emily Wilson Gillespie in the creation of ten new paintings, which will be exhibited at a gallery in Central Indiana in late spring of 2025. The opportunity to show work in a new location will allow the artist to grow her audience and build new connections as a professional artist.</p>
<p>Essence London, Monroe County</p>	<p>Essence London’s fellowship will support the development of a board game “Yet Another Lit Mag (YALM).” The game invites writers and editors to generate new work and to dream up new futures for the literary community. YALM beta testing will launch at the 2025 Indiana University Writers’ Conference in Bloomington, Indiana.</p>
<p>Evan Lee Reagan, Clinton County</p>	<p>Evan Lee Reagan’s fellowship will center on creating a guide for other musicians to learn how to publish and distribute music as a verified artist online. This includes publication to all major streaming services (Spotify, iHeart, YouTube Music, etc.) as well as making music available for sale and digital download through major marketplaces like Amazon and Apple iTunes.</p>
<p>Freddy Rodriguez, St. Joseph County</p>	<p>Freddy Rodriguez’s fellowship will support the acquisition of materials to create works for his solo show “Trapped Visions Art Unleashed.” The artist will create works on mousetrap canvases challenging traditional notions of what a canvas can be, highlighting ingenuity and resourcefulness. Rodriguez invites viewers to see beauty and meaning in unexpected places, emphasizing the power of art to reinvent and repurpose the ordinary.</p>
<p>Jamika Smith, Lake County</p>	<p>Jamika Smith will utilize the fellowship funds to help scale her creative upholstery business by tapping more into the social media market. The artist’s goal is to build and launch her first online course. The course will be</p>

	designed to encourage social and emotional healing using an inside out approach.
Kevin Tiitzer, Vanderburgh County	Kevin Titzer will film and edit a new promotional documentary film for an upcoming exhibition. This will capture, document, and communicate the creative process of his work and give viewers more insights into his motivations and methods.
Kimberly McMurray, Vigo County	Kimberly McMurray's fellowship will support the development of a Murder Mystery dinner theatre event. The funds will be used to cast and provide director support of rehearsals and live performances. The project will help McMurray reach her creative career goals of building a professional performing arts network and supporting local artists for their participation in Encore Dinner Theatre events.
Kristen Warning, Clark County	With the funds from the On-Ramp Fellowship, artist Kristen Warning will connect with families with special needs individuals, beginning with portrait sessions for the families, and present them to the families and community at an art reception. This project will expand the artist's community.
Liliana Guzman, Monroe County	The On-Ramp fellowship will allow artist Liliana Guzman to create and refine a new body of work for a community exhibition. The artist will continue to experiment with new materials, hone in on technique, and share new pieces in her on-going series "Next to Myself" with her local community.
Madelyn Heskett, Delaware County	Madelyn Heskett's fellowship funding will allow the artist to access and learn how to use advanced glass cutting equipment. The funding will support the purchase of supplies needed to start offering fused glass classes to the artist's community.
Maggie Ross-Barnhizer, Union County	Maggie Ross-Barnhizer will utilize fellowship funding to support the creation of a place where people can learn, heal, grow and find their purpose. Events centering around the visual, musical and performing arts as well as heirloom classes in gardening, homesteading and sustainable farming will be available to visitors.
Mary Ziliak, Vanderburgh County	Through the fellowship, Mary Ziliak will connect students of the Evansville, IN Diocese with students in Khandwa Diocese, Madhya Pradesh, India. Expanding use of "Tiny Teak", the artist's children's book, as a teaching tool the project creates four lesson plans for Grade 2 students.
Melody Johnson, Marion County	The fellowship funds will kickstart Johnson's pursuit of acquiring multiple MIDI controllers, enabling her to engage with a wider range of collaborators and apply the music development curriculum she's been crafting since

	September 2023. This investment not only expands the artist’s creative capabilities but also enhances her ability to bring her musical visions to life through collaborative efforts with IAC.
Micah Bornstein , Porter County	Micah Bornstein and his curatorial collaborative, Too Rad Comics, will use the IAC On-Ramp Fellowship funds to research, design, and fabricate a reusable exhibition display. This display will be used as a component in the exhibitions that Too Rad Comics curates featuring work by contemporary cartoonists. The exhibition display designed with the IAC fellowship funds will function as a model for future Too Rad Comics exhibition displays.
Miracle Hall , Hendricks County	Fellowship funding will support Miracle Hall’s creative career by allowing the artist to engage with her community. The “Paint and Plant” workshop supported through the fellowship will serve as a creative bridge, combining ecological education with creative expression.
Morgan Lee Smith , Madison County	As an epoxy artist, Morgan Lee Smith captures and preserves moments of significance utilizing items of relevance to continue telling their stories. This grant will allow community members the opportunity to do the same by funding the preservation of individual and collective memories from 1978-2024 through an event that honors local legacy, athletics, and the arts, as well as highlighting the artist’s own passion and services.
Phyllicia Carr , Marion County	Artist Phyllicia Carr’s fellowship funding will support an upcoming solo exhibition to help bring Carr’s artistic vision to life and share her work with the community of Indianapolis. Creating this solo exhibition will also aid in the advancement of the artist’s career by becoming an established artist.
Rodney Carlstrom , Hamilton County	The support from the fellowship will allow Rodney Carlstrom to attend World Fantasy Convention 2024 to network and build infrastructure with agents, editors, publishers, and other creatives to bring back and share with fellow Hoosier Creatives. This opportunity will also help build lasting relationships as the artist pursues a traditional publishing deal.
Shayla Fish , Vigo County	The fellowship funding will help artist Shayla Fish achieve self-sufficiency and stability as an artist by establishing a dedicated studio space and website. This studio will provide the artist with greater control over her time and productivity, fostering a more consistent and focused creative practice. The studio space will help the artist house, plan, and create, with the goal being to offer a unique art class opportunity to the public.

<p>Tiffany Radcliff, Marion County</p>	<p>Tiffany Radcliff will utilize the fellowship funding to relaunch “Art Effect,” an event that will highlight the intertwining of music and arts, focusing on enhancing BIPOC creativity and fostering community engagement. Funds will support marketing, workshops, a youth arts scholarship, high-quality DJ equipment, and photography. This will amplify local talent, promote cultural diversity, and capture stunning visuals, aligning with the artist’s career goals.</p>
<p>Utam Moses, Monroe County</p>	<p>Utam Moses will deploy fellowship funds to develop a site-specific interdisciplinary mini performance tour of Bloomington. It will be a pilot template that the artist can take into other cities, adapt to different times of the year, and serve as a participatory public art practice. The performance will help to create new partnerships with local spaces and businesses and develop the artist’s public art offerings.</p>
<p>Yorgo Douramacos, Madison County</p>	<p>Douramacos will utilize fellowship funds to help him acquire visual assets and rent space for two local book release events. The artist will be promoting his new books and his fiction brand with branded merchandise at multiple locations within the community, building new awareness of his work through engagement and striking iconography.</p>