



## EMPOWERMENT: 2024 APPLICATION



The City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs' Performing Arts Division (DCA|PERF)'s EMPOWERMENT Initiative returns for its second year. Honoring women artists and activists who have impacted and redefined the human experience, EMPOWERMENT is a festival-style weekend of performances, social action, creative activities, workshops, and documentary screenings. EMPOWERMENT will honor **Choreographer Bella Lewitzky** and **Writer Maxine Hong Kingston** as part of its investment in the North Hollywood (NoHo) Arts District. The events will take place from **April 26-28, 2024** at the Lankershim Arts Center.

### ABOUT THE PROJECT COMMISSION

DCA|PERF is offering eight, \$2,500 commissions to spoken word and dance/movement artists ***for the purpose of presenting original spoken word or dance pieces that celebrate and/or are inspired by the work of Bella Lewitzky and/or Maxine Hong Kingston.***

The commission is to be used for artists' fees, rehearsal space, music rights & composition, and other expenses directly related to the creation and performance of the proposed work. Artists groups will receive reimbursement for costumes and/or props upon submission of receipts/paperwork, up to \$500 per group. Please note commission payments will be made after the completion of the project and may take up to seven (7) months to be disbursed.

All performance styles of dance and spoken word are welcome to apply. Proposed work must be suitable for audiences of all ages.



**CONTACT INFORMATION**

- Name of Applicant (as it appears on on your tax returns): \_\_\_\_\_  
  - a. Popular Name if Different: \_\_\_\_\_
- Pronouns of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_
- Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_
- Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_
- Full Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
  - a. If different, physical address: \_\_\_\_\_
- Council District of Address: \_\_\_\_\_
- Website: \_\_\_\_\_
- Social Media: \_\_\_\_\_

**NARRATIVE**

- Are you submitting in the DANCE or SPOKEN WORD category?
- Provide a brief description of your creative process, vision, and body of work. What influences you to create? — 300 words maximum.
- What does the word “empowerment” mean to you as an artist? Give an example of when you have created artistic work around social justice issues or civic engagement. — 300 words maximum.
- How has the work of Bella Lewitsky and/or Maxine Hong Kingston impacted you as an artist? — 300 words maximum.
- Describe the piece you intend to present including your creative vision, genre/style, music, run time, and visual/production elements (lighting, projection, costumes, etc.). Why is this work a conceptual fit for the EMPOWERMENT Initiative? — 300 words maximum.
- How would you break down the \$2,500 commission fee? Please include specifics on what you will pay yourself and any collaborators.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- Resume or CV — Maximum of 3 pages
- Provide a 4-5 minute video work sample of you or your work being performed.
  - a. If the video is longer than 5 minutes, provide timestamps for the panelists. Otherwise, the panelists will view ONLY the first five minutes.



- b. Highly edited reels and/or marketing materials are not acceptable work samples.
  - c. The video does not need to be of the piece you are submitting.
- If using music as part of your proposed performance, please provide the song(s)/artist(s) and appropriate credit.
    - a. NOTE: You must have the right to use the music selected, and indemnify the City of Los Angeles against all claims by the music rights holder(s).

## DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

*DCA is committed to equitable access and participation in the process and distribution of arts resources in service to the diverse cultures of Los Angeles. Any data shared in this section will be used to monitor our progress in achieving this goal — NOT as part of our evaluation of your application. Your responses will remain confidential and be used for internal purposes only.*

1. Which gender(s) do those involved identify? (select any/all that apply)

- a. Female
- b. Male
- c. Non-binary
- d. Gender non-conforming
- e. Intersex
- f. Transgender
- g. 2S (Two Spirits)
- h. Prefer not to answer

2. What age(s) is represented? (select any/all that apply)

- a. 18 to 27
- b. 28 to 37
- c. 38 to 47
- d. 48 to 57
- e. 58+
- f. Prefer not to answer

3. Which ethnic heritage(s) is represented? (select any/all that apply)

- a. Arab
- b. Arab American
- c. Middle Eastern
- d. North African
- e. Asian
- f. Asian American
- g. Asian Indian
- h. Indian American
- i. African
- j. African American
- k. Black
- l. Indigenous
- m. Native Alaskan
- n. Native American



- o. Latin American
- p. Hispanic/Latino(a)(x)/Mexican/Mexican American/Chicano(a)(x)
- q. Native Hawaiian
- r. Pacific Islander
- s. White
- t. Prefer not to answer

4. Do you identify as a person with a disability?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Prefer not to answer

**CERTIFICATION STATEMENT**

The undersigned hereby certifies statements and information set forth above and/or attached to this application are true to the best of his/her/their knowledge and materials submitted in support of this application represent the applicant or organization's own work. It is understood and agreed to by the undersigned that the Department of Cultural Affairs may rely thereon in determining this application for certification, and the making of any knowingly false statement or fraudulent submission in connection with this application will result, in either the denial thereof or in the revocation of any performing arts organization's certification based on such application. The undersigned further certifies and claims eligibility for this funding opportunity because the organization is headquartered in the City of Los Angeles.

The undersigned acknowledges that submission of a proposal for this event does not constitute a commitment on the part of the City of Los Angeles to include the artist or arts group in the event. All final event selections are subject to panel decision.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proposer's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proposer's Printed Name