

Liu Shiming Art Foundation Announces Opening of Fourth Annual Liu Shiming Artist Grants Application Period

New York, NY, June 1, 2026 — Liu Shiming Art Foundation is pleased to announce that the grant application for **Liu Shiming Artist Grants** is now open as of today, June 1, 2026 until August 31, 2026. Established to support the work of visual artists during the first decade of their careers, the Liu Shiming Artist Grants enable the creation of new projects that explore the interplay between traditional, cultural, or historical influences and contemporary artistic practice. Each year, up to five artists are selected to receive a \$5,000 grant.

"We are thrilled to open applications and witness the extraordinary work emerging artists are bringing into existence, as they truly are the backbone of the art world," said Puiking Hui, Executive Director of the Liu Shiming Art Foundation. "Watching past grant recipients grow in their practices has been one of the most rewarding parts of this program and is exactly what Liu Shiming believed in. He dedicated a great portion of his life to creating space for younger artists to find their voices, and through this program, that spirit continues to live on."

The Foundation's artist grants program stems from the value Liu Shiming (1926-2010) placed on supporting younger generations of artists during his sculpture career and his tenure as a teacher at the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing. In keeping with this ethos, the Foundation will host an exhibition ***Bio-Morph*** spotlighting the work of five Liu Shiming Artist Grant recipients from past grant cycles, bringing their practices into dialogue with Liu Shiming's as well as each other's through their shared sensitivity to organic form and artistic transformation. In *Bio-Morph*, Sergei Zinchuk's *Belated Arrivals* series (2022-2026) and Jing Huang's *Infinity #3* (2026) were made possible by their Liu Shiming Artist Grant. The exhibition will be on view from June 12 to August 28.

Visual artists who have been working for between two and ten years are invited to apply for a Liu Shiming Artist Grant in support of a current or new project. Final awardees will be chosen by a distinguished panel of art world professionals. Successful applicants will be notified via email by December 2, 2026.

In addition to the Liu Shiming Artist Grants program, the Foundation has established scholarship programs at over 40 universities and art institutions across five continents, supporting students studying art and art history at undergraduate and graduate institutions. The Foundation also supports adjunct studio art professors through their [Distinguished Educator Award](#) and the next generation of art professionals through the [Liu Shiming Internship](#) at Guggenheim New York.

Artists interested in applying for a Liu Shiming Artist Grant should visit smartfund.org/grants for the application and additional information.

About The Liu Shiming Art Foundation

Established in 2021, the Liu Shiming Art Foundation supports contemporary art worldwide while elevating and preserving the art of renowned Chinese artist Liu Shiming (1926-2010). Based in New York, the Foundation curates contemporary art exhibitions and provides scholarships, grants, and exchange opportunities to cultivate and grow a global arts discourse that recognizes common humanity, as Liu Shiming did as a teacher, through his art and life. smartfund.org.

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