

The logo for ArtistRelief.org is a blue square with the text "ArtistRelief.org" in white, and "support for artists affected by COVID-19" in a smaller font below it.

ArtistRelief.org
support for artists affected by COVID-19

CERF+ Joins Artist Relief as Field Partner

*Acclaimed organization to lend expertise, regranting support,
and fundraising capabilities to aid COVID-19 relief coalition.*

NEW YORK — September 9, 2020 — [Artist Relief](#), the coalition of national arts grantmakers, is proud to announce [CERF+ - the Artists Safety Net](#), as its new Field Partner. CERF+ is an organization that provides readiness, resilience, and relief programming for artists to help them build sustainable careers. In this partnership, CERF+ will lend its expertise in the world of craft, invest directly into the relief fund to act as a regranting channel for independent artists in that field, and support the overall development and refinement of Artist Relief's efforts to assist artists affected by COVID-19.

A national, multidisciplinary partnership between [Academy of American Poets](#), [Artadia](#), [Creative Capital](#), [Foundation for Contemporary Arts](#), [MAP Fund](#), [National YoungArts Foundation](#), and [United States Artists](#), Artist Relief is a coalition formed to provide emergency \$5,000 grants and information resources to artists in the midst of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Artist Relief's discipline-specific Field Partners, which also includes [The Design Vanguard](#) and [Sundance Institute](#), are integral to scaling the coalition's efforts during this unprecedented emergency.

"We've admired Artist Relief since its launch, and were so impressed by the sense of urgency and the wherewithal that were required to put an initiative of this scope together so quickly and effectively. We are proud to partner in this effort, supporting Artist Relief's work and looking to the needs of craft artists across the country as this crisis continues," said **Cornelia Carey**, **Executive Director of CERF+**.

Artist Relief launched on April 8th with \$10 million, consisting of \$5 million in seed funding from [The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation](#) matched with \$5 million in initial contributions from an array of foundations across the United States listed [here](#). Its Field Partner program appears alongside a sustained fundraising campaign designed to continually expand the coalition's impact. In the four months since launch, Artist Relief has distributed 2,400 grants, at an average rate of 100 per week, with \$1.1 million spent to support 220 craft practitioners.

“We’re thrilled to welcome CERF+ as an Artist Relief Field Partner. For more than thirty years, CERF+ has been a leader in the artist support and craft worlds, their name synonymous with emergency readiness, response and recovery. As the conversation trends toward recovery and reopening, thousands of artists continue to struggle. Partnering with CERF+ will be a tremendous help as we continue our efforts to assist as many artists as possible,” said **Deana Haggag, President and CEO of United States Artists, a coalition member of Artist Relief.**

Since opening applications, Artist Relief has been met with an overwhelming response from the country’s artists. As expected, applications for the \$5,000 emergency grant have dramatically outpaced Artist Relief’s resources. As such, Artist Relief is continuing to fundraise, relying on the support of a growing number of foundations and individual donors, and will continue to evolve as the needs of the country’s artists shift over the coming months.

Tax-deductible donations can be made at artistrelief.org; 100 percent of donations will be applied directly to aid.

ABOUT ARTIST RELIEF

Artist Relief is an initiative organized by the Academy of American Poets, Artadia, Creative Capital, Foundation for Contemporary Arts, MAP Fund, National YoungArts Foundation, and United States Artists—all small to mid-sized national arts grantmakers—that have come together in this unprecedented moment guided by the understanding that the wellbeing of artists has financial, professional, social, and mental dimensions, and should be fostered with a holistic framework of support.

ABOUT CERF+ - THE ARTISTS SAFETY NET

CERF+ was started by artists for artists in the craft community as a grassroots mutual aid effort in 1985 and has since emerged as the leading nonprofit organization that uniquely focuses on safeguarding artists’ livelihoods nationwide. CERF+ serves artists who work in craft disciplines by providing a safety net to support strong and sustainable careers. Its core services are education programs, advocacy, network building and emergency relief. CERF+ champions readiness, response and recovery for studio artists, ensuring that they are as protected as the work they create. Additional information is available at www.cerfplus.org.

ABOUT COALITION PARTNERS

Academy of American Poets — The Academy of American Poets is a national membership-based organization that supports American poets at all stages of their careers and fosters the appreciation of contemporary poetry.

Artadia — Artadia is a national non-profit organization that identifies innovative visual artists and supports them with unrestricted financial awards and connections to a network of opportunities.

[Creative Capital](#) — Creative Capital supports innovative and adventurous artists across the country through funding, counsel, gatherings, and career development services.

[Foundation for Contemporary Arts](#) — Founded in 1963 by John Cage and Jasper Johns, and still led by artists, the Foundation for Contemporary Arts (FCA) encourages, sponsors, and promotes innovative work in the arts made by individuals working in dance, music/sound, performance art/theater, poetry, and the visual arts.

[MAP Fund](#) — The MAP Fund invests in artistic production in live performance, as the critical foundation of imagining, and ultimately co-creating, a more equitable and vibrant society.

[United States Artists](#) — United States Artists is an independent nonprofit and nongovernmental philanthropic organization dedicated to supporting artists and cultural practitioners—in all disciplines and across the country—with unrestricted awards.

[National YoungArts Foundation](#) — National YoungArts Foundation (YoungArts) identifies the most accomplished young artists in the visual, literary and performing arts, and provides them with creative and professional development opportunities throughout their careers.

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