

Work Sample Requirements

In order for applications to be considered by MacDowell's admissions panels, applicants within each discipline must adhere to the following work sample requirements.

Work submitted must support the proposed project. All submitted work samples should have been completed within the past four years. A note of explanation should accompany any work sample completed outside of this timeframe.

Architecture & Landscape Architecture

- Architects proposing to work on a design project must submit 3 copies of the following: drawings or images of two finished projects, along with a clear explanation of significant features.
- Architects proposing to work on a text must submit 3 copies of either a published article or a 10-page writing sample related as closely as possible to the proposed project.

Acceptable Formats: text, images (JPEGs, photographs, or photocopies)

Film/Video Arts

- Film/video artists must submit 2 different film or video samples on DVD with running times clearly marked. Do not use adhesive labels on DVDs.
- For feature-length or other films that exceed five minutes, a five-minute excerpt is also required in addition to the complete work.
- Whenever possible, applicants should submit a sample of the proposed work along with a sample of finished work.
- Screenwriters should submit 3 copies of one script and a treatment, along with one copy of a visual sample, if available.

Acceptable Formats: DVD, text

Interdisciplinary Arts

- Interdisciplinary artists must submit documentation of 2 different projects, the context of which should be clearly identified.
- If a visual presentation includes text, a hard copy should be submitted. If submitting a script, please send 4 copies.
- Proposals that include work in several mediums should be supported with documentation in each medium.
- If the total running time of a DVD exceeds five minutes, please submit a five-minute excerpt along with the complete work.
- Do not use adhesive labels on DVDs or CDs.

Acceptable Formats: DVD, images (JPEGs, photographs, or photocopies), audio CD, text

Literature

- All writers must submit 6 copies of a written sample that is representative of the genre (see below) in which they intend to work at the Colony.
- Manuscripts should be single-sided and double-spaced and printed in an easily readable, 10- or 12-point font. The applicant's name should appear on each copy. Whenever possible, a sample of a work-in-progress should be submitted.

Fiction writers: Submit a novel excerpt or 1 to 3 short stories, no more than 25 pages total.

Nonfiction writers: Submit a book excerpt or 1 to 3 essays or articles, no more than 25 pages total.

Poets: Submit 6 to 10 poems.

Translators: Only those translating work into English are eligible to apply. Following the general guidelines above, submit one copy of the work in its original language, plus 6 copies of the English translation.

Music Composition

- Composers must submit 2 copies of 2 different, clearly reproduced bound scores — one of which must have been completed within the last four years — along with a complete recording of each piece (one movement per track).
- Composers who do not use traditional scores should include a note of explanation in the work sample section of the application.
- Applicants who would like the admissions panel to listen to something other than the first five minutes of a submitted work sample should clearly mark the score and track where the excerpt begins. Do not use adhesive labels on CDs.

Acceptable Formats: audio CD (and score, if applicable)

Theatre

- Playwrights must submit 3 copies of a complete playscript. In addition, please mark a 20-page excerpt in one of the copies.
- Librettists must submit 3 copies of a complete or excerpted score, accompanied by a recording, if available. Do not use adhesive labels on CDs.

Acceptable Formats: text, audio CD

Visual Arts

- Moving images and video stills are not accepted in the visual arts category.
- Submit 8 digital images (JPEGs) through our upload process, 2 of which show detail or installation views of the work submitted.
- Uploaded JPEGs must have an RGB color space. Each image should be high-resolution. File size for each image should be no larger than 1 MB.