

GUIDELINES

OVERVIEW

The International Society for the Performing Arts’ (ISPA) Global Fellowship provides one-year access to ISPA’s extensive international network of arts professionals to mid-career leaders from the global performing arts community, with particular attention paid to applicants from the Global South. Participants join the ISPA membership and participate in the New York ISPA Congress, where they engage in the development and exchange of ideas with leaders from some of the world’s most significant presenting organizations, performing arts organizations, creative producers/arts managers, cultural policy groups, foundations, festivals and related professionals.

This opportunity is intended for those working in the management of the professional performing arts. Performing arts professionals who are deeply committed to increasing the global connectivity of the performing arts industry, as well as those who take initiative in their own professional development, are most likely to benefit. In considering applying, please be aware that the ISPA Congress is not a traditional arts market and opportunities for self-promotion are limited.

The Fellowship consists of four components:

Membership in ISPA	Fellows gain access to all ISPA member benefits including year-round online programming (ISPAconvenes and Genius Bar) and exclusive content on the ISPA website and newsletters.
ISPA Congress	Fellows participate in the New York ISPA Congress where they get the opportunity to engage in the development and exchange of ideas with an extensive global community of arts leaders.
Fellows Seminar	Fellows participate in Fellows-specific programming. This programming aims to cement a Fellows network through a series of peer to peer conversations and workshops.
Ongoing Networking	Fellows are paired with a current ISPA member as part of ISPA’s Community Building Program. Current members welcome Fellows to ISPA and help facilitate their participation.

Program dates:

ISPA Membership (2027)	September 2026 – December 2027
ISPA 2027 New York Congress	January 12 – 14, 2027
Fellows Seminar Day	January 11, 2027

ISPA would like to thank the **Mellon Foundation** and the many **donors** who make this program possible.

BENEFITS

Fellows receive:

- One-year ISPA membership with access to all member benefits
- Full Pass registration to the ISPA 2027 New York Congress (January 12 – 14, 2027)
- Travel subsidy which may include per diem, flights, and accommodation to support expenses related to attending the congress
- Introduction to a current ISPA member who will welcome the Fellow to ISPA and help facilitate their participation as part of ISPA's Community Building Program

ACCESS

For any questions pertaining to access needs and support, please contact Mara Driscoll, Program and Advancement Manager, at mdriscoll@ispa.org.

ELIGIBILITY

The Global Fellowship Program seeks to engage leaders working in the management of all professional performing arts. ISPA accepts applicants from all regions of the world, with more than half of Fellowships typically awarded to applicants from the Global South.

Applicants must:

- Be currently employed/working in the professional performing arts
- Have a minimum of seven (7) years professional experience in the performing arts field
- Demonstrate a need for financial assistance
- Ability to fully participate in the ISPA 2027 New York Congress (January 12 – 14, 2027)
- Have received no more than two ISPA Global Fellowships in the past (applicants are eligible for up to three one-year Fellowships)

Please note: For the purpose of ISPA's Global Fellowship, the professional performing arts includes individuals working principally in the management of the arts and culture sector either with organizations/institutions or as independent producers/managers. Generally, those working within academia, education, community organizations, and independent artists are not eligible. If you have questions about eligibility please contact Mara Driscoll at mdriscoll@ispa.org.

LANGUAGE

Participants must have a strong working knowledge of English to successfully participate in the Global Fellowship.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Those interested in applying for ISPA's Global Fellowship must submit an application form online.

Global Fellowship Application Form | <https://bit.ly/2027globalfellowshipapp>

Deadline | Friday, May 29, 2026 at 17:00 EDT

This deadline will not be extended and late submissions will not be reviewed.

Questions? Contact Mara Driscoll, Program and Advancement Manager at mdriscoll@ispa.org

Applications are reviewed and selected by a committee including ISPA staff and members. Applicants will be notified of the status of their application by **August 4, 2026**.

Submittable | When you access the application form, you will be prompted to sign in to a Submittable account:

- If you already have a Submittable account, click the *Have an account? Sign in* tab to sign in to your account.
- If you are new to Submittable and don't have an account, create a free account by filling out the *Create your account* form. Click the *Create Account and Continue* button to continue with your fellowship application process.

APPLICATION MATERIALS

Below are the main sections of the application form. Please use this as a guide to prepare answers.

About You | Applicants are asked to provide general personal information including name, country of residence, gender identity, email, and phone number.

Employer | Applicants are asked to provide general employer information including job title, employer name, address, website, type, and start date of employment.

Employment History | Applicants are asked to upload their CV/Resume in PDF format and answer several multiple-choice questions about work history.

Personal Testimony | Applicants are asked to answer four questions (Each limited to 250 words or less).

- Question 1 Tell us about what you are currently doing in relation to the performing arts and your aspirations/objective for the future both professionally and personally.
- Question 2 Why do you feel participating in ISPA at this time would be beneficial for you and/or your organization?
- Question 3 What do you feel you will contribute to both ISPA and the congress?
- Question 4 How will you use the knowledge and network you gain at ISPA to benefit your community and/or region?

Reference | Applicants are asked for the contact information of one professional reference (letters not required). Please be prepared to provide their name, job title, employer, phone number, and email.

Save Draft | Application drafts may be saved and returned to at a later date by [logging in](#) to your Submittable account. Once logged-in, click the *Save Drafts* tab and click *Continue* next to the England Fellowship Form draft. You'll be taken back to your saved draft, which you can then continue to fill out. If you are already logged into your Submittable account and you return directly to the submission form, you will see your prior form field entries filled in if you previously entered data and clicked *Save Draft*.

Submit | Applicants may do a final review of the application. When satisfied, please complete the application by selecting *Apply*. Once submitted, you will be redirected to the ISPA website where you will receive an on-screen message confirming receipt and well as an auto-generated email. If you do not receive the confirmation email, please contact Mara Driscoll at mdriscoll@ispa.org or +1 212 206 8490 x1 to ensure the application was received.

Questions? Contact Mara Driscoll, Program and Advancement Manager at mdriscoll@ispa.org

COST

There is no fee to submit an ISPA Fellowship application.

THANK YOU!
WE LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING YOUR APPLICATION