

REAL ART AWARDS • FAQ

What are the Real Art Awards?

The Real Art Awards is an open call competition for emerging artists. Each selected artist receives a solo exhibition, cash prize of \$2,500, commissioned essay, professional documentation, curatorial assistance, and other support. Participation for artists is free of charge.

Who should apply to the Real Art Awards?

This process is extremely competitive. Last year we received nearly 500 applications, 6 artists are chosen. Those applying should be early in their careers or otherwise embarking on new, innovative works. Applicants are encouraged to get to know the programming at Real Art Ways before applying.

What does the jurying process look like?

Jurors begin by looking at images. To be competitive, artists should submit the highest quality samples of their work. Other information is viewed later in the jurying process.

How do I know if I'm "emerging"?

Our definition of "emerging" is intentionally flexible. Artists should not have received major solo exhibitions, grants, or other awards at this stage in their career. Age is not taken into consideration when determining an artist's status as "emerging." Artists who can make a compelling case to be considered as emerging may also apply; the jury will determine their competitiveness based on review criteria (Please see "Eligibility" in the Application Rules for further clarification.)

What is Real Art Ways?

Real Art Ways is a multidisciplinary art organization in Hartford, Connecticut. Artists have always been central to Real Art Ways' mission. Over the last 45 years, our programming has focused on innovation, community, and artists. Our galleries and arthouse cinema are open 7 days a week. Education programs offer students a chance to connect with contemporary art and film. For 15 years we have offered a juried open call for artists. Here's an example of what we do: since our founding in 1975, Real Art Ways has worked with 42 MacArthur Genius Grant Recipients.

Does work submitted have to be available for exhibition?

Work submitted should have been created within the last 3 years. Upon selection, artists will work with Real Art Ways to plan their project or exhibition, which can include new work.