MARCELLA BRENNER GRANTS FOR FACULTY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

OVERVIEW
Marcella Brenner Grants for Faculty Development and Research fund projects that contribute to the faculty member's professional, creative, or scholarly research and development.

WHAT BRENNER GRANTS FUND
Brenner Grants can be used for, but are not limited to, the following activities:

● Costs associated with the fabrication of one’s work, such as materials.
● Costs associated with publications, exhibitions, or other forms of public dissemination of one’s research, creative work, or professional practice.
● The full purchase price of software or equipment up to, but not exceeding, $2,000 after taxes and fees.

Please note the following: purchases exceeding the $2,000 threshold will not be reimbursed (for any amount). Software and equipment purchases must be disclosed in the budget of your application, should not be combined with any other purchases, and will become the property of the awardee.

● Conference attendance to present one’s research, scholarship, or creative practice.
● Travel and related costs to support giving public speeches and presentations such as keynotes, lectures, or talks, related to one’s research, scholarship, or creative practice.
● Costs associated with copyright and image rights for publication.
● Costs to support research opportunities that advance one’s scholarship or creative practice such as workshops, colloquia, or residencies related to one’s research, scholarship, or creative practice.

WHAT BRENNER GRANTS DO NOT FUND
● The grant does not fund activities associated with the improvement of curriculum and teaching at MICA (see Lucas Grant Prospectus).
● The grant does not fund rental fees such as studios, offices, and other workspaces.
● The grant cannot be used towards paying individuals for contracted labor (eg: hiring independent editors, photographers, videographers, or assistants).
ELIGIBILITY
All full-time faculty are eligible to apply for Marcella Brenner Grants. Part-time faculty who have taught nine credits per academic year for the past two consecutive years are also eligible to apply for Marcella Brenner Grants. Previous awardees are eligible for funding in consecutive rounds only if they have closed out their grant from the previous round by the current round’s deadline. “Closed out” is defined as submitting all expenditures and filing a grant report with the Office of Research.

AWARD PERIOD
Beginning with the Fall 2020 cycle, spending for grants must be completed within 12 months from the date funds were awarded. Awardees may request a single extension of up to 6 months; approval of such extensions are at the discretion of the Office of Research. The total award period is never to exceed 18 months.

EVALUATION PROCESS
The Faculty Grants Committee individually scores each eligible application and then meets to review and finalize the awards. The criteria used in the decision-making process are outlined below.

EVALUATION CRITERIA
Grant Proposals will be evaluated using the criteria outlined in the rubric below. New grant proposals will be given priority consideration over resubmissions of older proposals. In the event that two or more proposals are considered to be of equal merit by the committee, priority will be given to an applicant who did not receive an award in the previous awards cycle.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>MARCELLA BRENNER GRANTS FOR FACULTY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH RUBRIC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Quality of the Application</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Satisfies all application requirements</td>
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<td>Clarity of writing</td>
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<td>Thoroughness of budget</td>
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<td><strong>Quality of the Project</strong></td>
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<td>Participation of the applicant</td>
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<td>Feasibility</td>
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BRENNER GRANT APPLICATION
Submit applications via SlideRoom [here](https://www.slideroom.com). SlideRoom requires applicants to login (as an existing user) or sign-up (as a new user) in order to access the application form. SlideRoom will ask you for basic demographic and contact information as well as provide prompts for each of the following items:

- **Project Name/Title**
- **Project Abstract (750 Character Limit)**
  
  Write in the 3rd person in a manner suitable for publication to our community.
- **Please outline your participation in the proposed activity. (750 Character Limit)**
- **Explain how the proposed activity contributes to your individual development as an artist, design professional, or scholar in your field. (750 Character Limit)**
- **Describe the proposed activity’s contribution to your field of scholarly research or artistic/design practice. (750 Character Limit)**
- **Provide a brief work plan describing what you will accomplish through the use of grant funds. Outline your method(s) and clarify the part or stage of the activity that will be supported by the grant. (750 Character Limit)**
- **In what ways does this project represent a unique or original idea or practice? In what ways does it represent a revisioning or expansion of your research or artistic practice? You may also use this space to outline local impact and/or national/international visibility. (750 Character Limit)**
- **Total Funds Requested**
● BUDGET (1 page)

Upload as a single PDF attachment in SlideRoom. A template to assist you with the budgeting process can be found here.

- Separate from the Project Description, the budget itemizes detailed expenses, including but not limited to conference or workshop dues and registration fees, travel, lodging, and per-diem.
- Reference MICA’s Business and Travel Expense Policy to make sure your proposed expenditures are allowable by the college.
- If the grant request is retroactive, include a list of itemized costs already existing in receipts. If the grant request is for the future, be as specific as possible about expected costs.
- Include a TOTAL of funds requested.

● Recent RESUME or CV (up to 4 pages)

Upload as a single PDF attachment in SlideRoom.

● SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS (Optional)

Upload as a single PDF attachment in SlideRoom.

Supplemental information may include images with captions, conference programs, and letters of invitation or support. Letters of support may be written by a MICA faculty peer or an outside colleague, sponsor, or organization in or associated with the field of research. Letter writers should be familiar with the project and able to situate it in the context of the larger field in which it participates, speaking to why the project is important and timely.

NOTE: Letters of support should be collected by the applicant. This is not a blind reference or recommendation letter; letter writers should be made aware that the applicant will have access to the document.

Failure to include the above materials as requested may jeopardize funding.

PDF TIPS & GUIDELINES

For assembling Supporting Documents into one PDF, the following link provides information about how to merge multiple documents:

http://www.wikihow.com/Merge-PDF-Files

ACCESS TO FUNDS

At the time of notification, Faculty who are awarded funds will receive information about the methods for accessing these funds. Most awardees will access their funds through the Expense Report process in Workday. For more information about completing this process please refer to this JobAid provided by finance. When preparing supporting documentation, please refer to MICA’s Business and Travel Expense Policy for guidelines about transportation, accommodations, allowances, and acceptable documentation of expenses.

updated 2.1.2021
Any projects involving human subject research will not be eligible to receive funds without the proper approvals from the college’s Institutional Review Board (IRB). Applicants need not seek IRB approval until after the grant application has been approved.

If the plans for an awarded grant proposal drastically change or differ greatly from the original application, or the project is canceled, the recipient is expected to inform the Office of Research immediately. Although the Faculty Grants Committee may review a request for modification, recipients will likely be asked to forfeit the granted funds in full, and reapply with a new or alternative proposal in a future grant cycle. Project modifications must be submitted to the Office of Research and approved by the chair(s) of the Grants Committee. The Chair(s) assess the changes against the original project’s scope. Requests for modifications that are outside the original scope or timeframe of the original project may require the forfeiture of funds and/or reapplication in a future grant cycle.

REPORT

Within three months of the project’s completion, the grantee is expected to upload a report using this form summarizing the delivery and use of the grants, any publication, or accomplishments achieved with the award. This report should be 250–500 words and include an overview of activities, notable outcomes, and self-evaluation of the project. This report will be used as a record for the Office of Research and Provost’s Office and will be shared with the College community via the Faculty Grants website. Additionally, faculty recipients may be called upon to share their project in intra-institutional events.