

Thinking About KFW's Mission

The mission of the Kentucky Foundation for Women is to promote positive social change by supporting varied feminist expression in the arts.

KFW carries out this mission through:

1. Two Grant Programs: Each year the foundation awards \$200,000 to feminist artists and arts & social change organizations in Kentucky through two grant programs: *Art Meets Activism* and *Artist Enrichment*. See *Thinking About Which Program Is Right For You* for more information.

2. Retreat and Residency Programs at Hopscotch House: KFW's Retreat Program at Hopscotch House offers artists, activists and allies who live and work in Kentucky day and overnight stays to create art, gain a deeper understanding of feminism, and strengthen their work for social change. The five-bedroom house, located on 10 acres of land in eastern Jefferson County, is available on a regular basis by request to artists, activists and allies, both individuals and groups, that support KFW's mission. See *Thinking About Which Program Is Right For You* for more information.

3. The KFW Hot Flash: E-News for Everyone: KFW staff provide weekly and Special Edition emails, including announcements, KFW community member news, and opportunities for artists and activists. Email team@kfw.org to sign up for the Hot Flash.

4. Providing resources about feminism and social change: Check out the resource page and the KFW Feminist Timeline at www.kfw.org, or you can request a stay at Hopscotch House and find additional resources in the Library there.

Is KFW's mission a good match for me?

This is the first question to ask yourself. The three major parts of the mission statement are "feminism," "social change" and "art." Please take a moment to think about how you would answer the following questions: What is feminist art? What does feminist art mean in Kentucky today? How does feminist art promote social change? What is positive social change? If you decide to request time at Hopscotch House, the process of completing the request will challenge and inspire you to think through your own understanding and practice of feminism and social change, in your own context.

Which resources are right for me, at this time?

KFW is committed to supporting a wide range of feminist art for social change throughout the state. The KFW grant program is open to artists in all stages of their development, from beginning to highly experienced. KFW grants and resources are available to artist groups and organizations as well as individuals and also to allied individuals and organizations working with the power of art to advance social change. Please carefully consider which of the following KFW resources would best support your artmaking, feminism and social change goals.

- For instance, if you are just learning about feminist art and social change, you could **sign up for the Hot Flash** to receive weekly information about opportunities in your region and throughout the state, connect with feminist social change artists and find out about workshops, programs, and retreats.
- Maybe you are an artist, feminist, or social change activist or ally who isn't ready to apply for or doesn't need a grant, but what will help you most is a short term or long term stay away from your daily life to plan new work or explore new ways of being creative, develop as a feminist or consider how you can best work for social change. You could **request a retreat at Hopscotch House** for from one to five or six days.
- If you are an artist who is experienced in one form but would like to explore new ways of making art, you might not have a work sample ready for the grant program. If so, you might consider **requesting a retreat at Hopscotch House** for time and space to develop your artwork. You could use your time there to create a work sample that "points in the direction" of where you want to go. Then you would have a new sample ready to apply for a grant or to seek other forms of support for your new art work.
- Perhaps you are looking for ways to develop your feminist art and social change impact and you know there's a workshop that you think would move your artwork forward by leaps and bounds. You may want to **apply for an Artist Enrichment grant** for funds to support your participation in the workshop. Or perhaps you need focused time and space in a nurturing environment to advance your art, then you may want to **apply to participate in the Summer Residency Program**.
- Or, maybe you are a social change organization that wants to partner with an artist or you want to use your artistic skills to engage community members in creating art for social change in some way. You may want to **apply for an Art Meets Activism grant** to support your artmaking work with the community.

As you can see, there are many ways to tap into KFW resources. There are also many ways to access support in your community for your artistic work and development, beyond applying for a KFW grant. KFW staff asks you to think through what you really need, so that you can best choose the path that makes most sense for you.