Kelly Strayhorn Theater
5941 Penn Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Offices + The Alloy Studios
5530 Penn Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

kelly-strayhorn.org
t 412.363.3000
f 412.363.4320

Freshworks Fall 2022

Program Guidelines

Application Timeline

- **Monday, May 5:** Application Opens
- **Tuesday, May 17th, 6:00pm - 7:00pm:** Information Session on Zoom & Facebook
- **Friday, May 20th, 11:59pm:** Early Submission Deadline for Feedback
    - Applicants who submit by the above deadline will get feedback on their application from KST Staff and will be able to edit/modify their application prior to the final submission deadline.
- **Sunday, May 22nd, 2022, 11:59pm:** Feedback on Early Submission Returned to Applicants
- **Sunday, June 5, 11:59pm:** Application Closes
- **Wednesday, June 15:** Applicants Notified

Freshworks is KST's creative residency for artists and collaborators based in the greater Pittsburgh region. Freshworks made its debut in 2013 and supports playful exploration in performance through interdisciplinary work in contemporary dance, theater, music, and multimedia.

The program provides artists with planning support and guidance, studio space, production staff, lighting and sound design,and encouragement for creative risk taking. Artists are invited to apply either as an individual or as a collaborative group.

Each residency will take place over a two-month period. During these two months, artists will develop a 30-minute showing that is a first draft of an original piece.

The first month is intended for planning; this includes what form the piece will take, securing collaborators, and brainstorming design. During this time, artists will meet weekly with KST Programming and Production Staff to chart out production and scheduling needs as well as utilize their outside perspectives. The intention is that KST Staff is present to pose questions that can help the artist think through various aspects of their ideas.

The second month is focused on in-studio rehearsal and creation of a 30-minute draft of the work. Weekly meetings with KST Staff continue and shift focus towards actualizing production needs. The residency will culminate in a two-night in-person showing of the draft of the piece at KST's Alloy Studios. This includes showing the work-in-progress and a Q&A with the audience.

The goal of the residency is for the artist to experiment and explore early iterations of ideas and share a draft of these concepts in front of an audience. At the end of the process, they will hopefully have valuable insight into further developing the work.

An info session for Freshworks Fall 2022 with KST Programming Manager Chanel Blanchett and Programming Director Ben Pryor and will take place Tuesday, May 17th at 6:00pm on Zoom. The event will also be broadcast to KST's Facebook and available for viewing after the initial broadcast. The info session will talk attendees through the application process and hold time for answering questions from prospective applicants.

Applications will be reviewed and residencies awarded by KST's Artist Council members in conversation with KST's Programming Team.

Fall 2022 Residency Periods
Residency Period 1: August and September, Showing on October 7 & 8, 2022
Residency Period 2: September and October, Showing on November 4 & 5, 2022
Residency Period 3: October and November, Showing on December 2 & 3, 2022

Read on for...

- Program Goals
- KST Responsibilities
- Artist Responsibilities
- Sample Application
- Available Residency Dates
- Studio Details
- Sample Production Week Schedule

Program Goals

- To provide artists across diverse disciplines and experience levels access to financial and administrative resources to help develop their craft.
- To encourage artists to explore their ideas and work within the context of a community-minded performing arts center.
- To share a short draft of a new work followed by a Q & A with feedback from an audience.
- To engage and educate our audience about the creation process of new artistic work and to facilitate their feedback for the artist's development of the work.
- To create pathways for the presentation and touring of contemporary performance.
- To bring artists into a dynamic community of creative practitioners.

KST Responsibilities

- KST will grant each chosen artist a two-month residency at KST's Alloy Studios.
    - During the first month, KST staff will meet with artists on a weekly basis to plan their residency including their creation process, technical rehearsals, and showing.
    - During the second month, KST will make up to 80 hours of studio time available for the artist at KST's Alloy Studios. KST's Programming Manager will work with artists in order to schedule this time.
    - KST will administratively support the artists in putting together and promoting their 30-minute draft showing.
    - KST's Programming Manager will moderate the post-showing Q&As with the audience.
- Each artist will be provided with a $1,000 honorarium, paid as $500/month for the two month residency.
- Each artist will be provided with a $1,500 resource budget for additional project expenses.
    - Kelly Strayhorn Theater recognizes that the honorarium and resource budget will most likely not cover all of the artists' costs.
- Each artist will receive 16 hours of technical rehearsal with two crew members (Lighting & Sound/A.V.) during their presentation week outside of show calls.
- Each artist will be provided with photo and video documentation of one night of their two night showing.

Artist Responsibilities

- Artists will be granted a two-month residency based on dates selected through their application and must complete their residency during their granted timeframe.
- Artists must participate in a program orientation with the KST Programming team.
- Artists must sign a residency agreement committing to make full use of their allocated time and resources and participation in proposed residency activities.
- Artists are required to use at least 25 hours of the given studio time.
    - We encourage artists to spend at least 5-10 hours per week in the studio to encourage a deeper exploration of not only the work-in-progress, but the artist's practice.
- Artists must take initiative throughout the process to brainstorm, plan, and execute how they will use their time and resources during the residency.
    - The artist will be responsible for communicating these ideas to the KST staff in a timely manner.
- At the end of their two month residency, each artist will present two showings of a 30-minute draft of the piece and participate in audience Q&As following each showing.

Freshworks Fall 2022: Sample Application

The application questions are in black text; examples and sample answers are included in the Narrative Questions in pink.

Demographics

Name (First & Last)
Zip Code
Email
Phone Number
Race
Gender Identity
Sexual Orientation
Age
Do you identify as disabled? (It is not necessary to tell us how)
How long have you lived in Pittsburgh?

Artist Details

1. What is your artistic discipline(s)? (Theater, Dance, Visual Art, Music, etc)
2. Are you applying as an individual or part of a collaborative group?
3. If you are applying as a group, please list all members.
4. Please share your website and/or social media if it is relevant to your work (optional)
5. Upload Resume or CV (optional)

Availability

Please let us know when you are available for a residency in Fall 2022. The residency dates are fixed and cannot be changed. Please do not apply if you are not available for at least one of the below periods.

Each residency is two months (one planning month and one in-studio month) with the showing the first Friday and Saturday of the following month.

Residency Period 1: August and September, Showing on October 7 & 8, 2022
Residency Period 2: September and October, Showing on November 4 & 5, 2022
Residency Period 3: October and November, Showing on December 2 & 3, 2022

Narrative Questions

Please answer the following questions in the fields provided below. **All questions in this section are required.** Each response has a word limit; however, please be as brief or lengthy as you need within that limit.

Your responses should provide detailed insight into your art you create, the goals you'd like to focus on during the residency, and the project you're proposing. Your answers will help our panelists get a better sense of who you are and the artistic ideas you are passionate about exploring.

If you prefer, you can submit your answers to the narrative questions in video or audio form.

If you prefer to submit your answers to these questions via audio or video, please record yourself answering all of the questions below and submit the answers. Video answers should be in a single video uploaded to YouTube or Vimeo and shared via link/URL; audio answers should be a single file uploaded in MP3 or WAV format.

If you choose to respond by video or audio, please write "Submitting Video/Audio" in each answer field below and then add your video or audio to the "Narrative Answers Audio/Video Upload" field at the end of the section.

1. **Please provide an artist's bio. This should describe your artistic work and what you make work about, highlight some of your achievements, and share a little about yourself and background.** (200 words)

   Jane Doe is a multi-disciplinary theater artist who creates immersive performance pieces. Her art examines the nuances of Black womanhood through movement and puppetry. Jane devises and choreographs work that combines her own experience as a global majority artist with the repurposing of items associated with the Black culture she grew up with in order to create physical representations of Black women's interior life.

Her latest piece, *Parallel Trains*, is about the tension Black women experience to fit into mainstream white society while holding onto their heritage. The piece takes place in a room split down the middle, each side with objects representing one aspect of this tension. Through puppetry of these objects, Jane voices her thoughts and questions surrounding what it means to be a Black woman in America.

Jane is a Pittsburgh Artists to Watch 2019 grant recipient and has presented her work at Tucson Fringe Festival and Philadelphia Fringe Festival. She is currently an assistant puppetry teacher at New Road School, where she works with high school students to help them tell their stories in creative ways.

2. **Please tell us about the specific project you intend to work on during the residency. Keep in mind that Freshworks projects are intended to be drafts instead of fully realized versions of larger pieces. If you plan to work on a section of a larger/more realized project, please tell us the specific aspects you are choosing to work on during the residency and why.** (400 words)

During the Freshworks residency, I would like to begin work on a performance piece tentatively called "At the Stop," which will be about the experiences I've had and the people I've met at bus stops around Pittsburgh. As someone who takes the bus at all hours of the day (from extremely early in the morning to very late at night) from various parts of town, I feel like it has given me a look into the lives and routines of many Pittsburgh citizens. There are so many rich stories and encounters that have happened along the bus route, from the wildly hilarious to the tragic. During the pandemic, this was a way for me to glimpse into how others were dealing with this unexpected shift in all our lives. It was at the same time a moment of connection and isolation.

"At the Stop" would be a performance made up of poems and movement based on these experiences. As a woman of color, I've had very different conversations and encounters depending on the location of the bus stop in the city; some of these conversations were welcome verbal ones between two strangers, and others were non-verbal interactions meant to send more negative messages. "At the Stop" would explore the different ways in which I've moved through the city, experienced connection (or lack thereof) with others, and how the experience of taking the bus is both somehow fundamentally human and intensely spiritual.

During the Freshworks residency, I would like to focus on figuring out 3 key stories to tell that will be the anchors of the piece, as well as explore how to add

puppetry to the storytelling. The residency would help me decide how to approach the format of the piece as well as give me a chance to experiment with different elements of design that could help establish setting.

3. **How is your project relevant to the world today and the current moment?** (200 words)

   This project is relevant to the current moment because it examines the ways in which community members intersect and diverge during this time where it is harder to have perspective on the experiences of others. Due to the pandemic, the political climate, and other ongoing social and economic issues, people are broken into silos and tribes. It gets increasingly harder to find common experiences and to meditate honestly on the nature of our differences. The docu-narrative style of "At the Stop" hopes to ground the audience in the humanity of the mundane everyday as a path to focusing on what can be done to build small connections and epiphanies amidst the overwhelming tide of global issues.

4. **What are your short and long term artistic goals? How will the Freshworks residency help you reach these goals?** (250 words)

   My short term artistic goal is to have a defined weekly schedule for my art practice. Currently, I am working on my projects whenever I can grab time, which has made it difficult for me to consistently bring my ideas to life, as I lose track of creative threads. This lack of regularity also makes time management hard when it comes to grant deadlines. The weekly meetings with KST staff will be a great start to having a specific time each week to work on my craft, and the in-studio times that I can schedule as part of the residency will help me build blocks of time for art into my weekly schedule and help me learn what times of day work best for me.

   My long term goal is to design and lead workshops before each of my performance projects. The workshops would be a way for the audience to engage with the themes, methods, and materials within the project; therefore, they would have deeper insight to the work and the process of making it. The in-studio time within the residency will help me hone in on the parts of my creative process that are essential so that I can begin to craft workshop activities. Additionally, the audience Q&A after each showing will provide better insight into what audience members are curious about and interested in knowing about my work.

5. **Please outline how you anticipate spending the $1,500 resource budget. The budget can be used on collaborator fees, design materials, or other items that help with your project and your art.** (200 words)

The majority of my budget will be spent on puppetry materials, costuming, and a set designer. I would also like to possibly consult with a documentarian to learn more about writing stories based on true and observed behavior.

Puppetry Materials (these are based on prices found on Amazon and JoAnn's Fabric Store)
Felt: $50
Glue Gun: $25
Glue Gun Sticks: $15
Wooden dowels: $20
Paint: $80
Fabric: $150
TOTAL BUDGETED FOR PUPPETRY: $340

Costumes: The costumes to embody the bus stop characters will be items such as hats, jackets, and scarves. Ideally, I would thrift these items.
TOTAL BUDGETED FOR COSTUMES: $120

Set Designer: This person would work collaboratively with me to help me bring a bus stop environment to life within the studio.
TOTAL BUDGETED FOR DESIGNER: $400
TOTAL BUDGETED FOR SET PIECES: $250

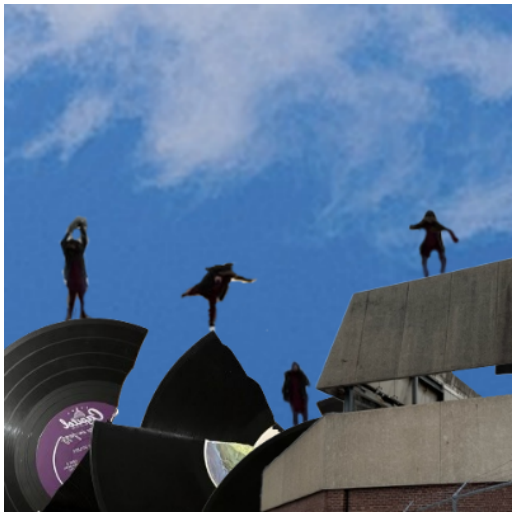
TOTAL BUDGETED FOR DOCUMENTARIAN: $200

AMOUNT OF ANTICIPATED SPENDING: $1,310

I would like to put the rest of the budget towards unexpected and miscellaneous costs.

6. **Please submit an image that can represent you and your project in KST marketing materials if you are selected.**

These are examples of Freshworks images KST has used in the past



(courtesy of Justin Kelly & Ariel /)

(courtesy of Christina Kenney)

(courtesy of Jacquea Mae)

7. **Narrative Answers Video Upload (If you submitted written answers above, please skip this field)**

8. **Narrative Answers Audio Upload (If you submitted written answers above, please skip this field)**

Work Samples

Please submit samples of your artistic work. Work samples should demonstrate the core principles and ideas mentioned in your narrative answers.

All artists should include a brief description of each work sample. (limit 75 words for each description).

For visual artists (photographers, painters, sculptors, costume designers, etc.) please upload 3-5 images of your work

For writers, please upload a writing sample no more than 10 pages in length.

For time based artists (performance, video, music, etc.), please include links to at least 2 work samples on Vimeo, YouTube, or other video or audio platforms with passwords as necessary. Please provide a three minute timeframe (ex. 00:00 - 03:00) for panelists to review. In addition we ask that you submit a link to the entire works regardless of length.

Work samples must be sent in addition to any video responses to the narrative questions above.

Read on for more details about KST's Alloy Studios where the Freshworks Residencies take place.

KST's Alloy Studios
5530 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA, 15206

Freshworks residencies will take place at KST's Alloy Studios! KST's Alloy Studios contains two studio spaces designed to accommodate performance events, classes, workshops, and more. The ground floor studio features an LED theatrical lighting plot, professional sound, and sprung dance floor. Performances will take place in the downstairs studio. The upstairs studio is a spacious, mirrored dance studio that overlooks Penn and Stratford Avenues. Rehearsals may take place in the downstairs or upstairs studio.

Downstairs Studio

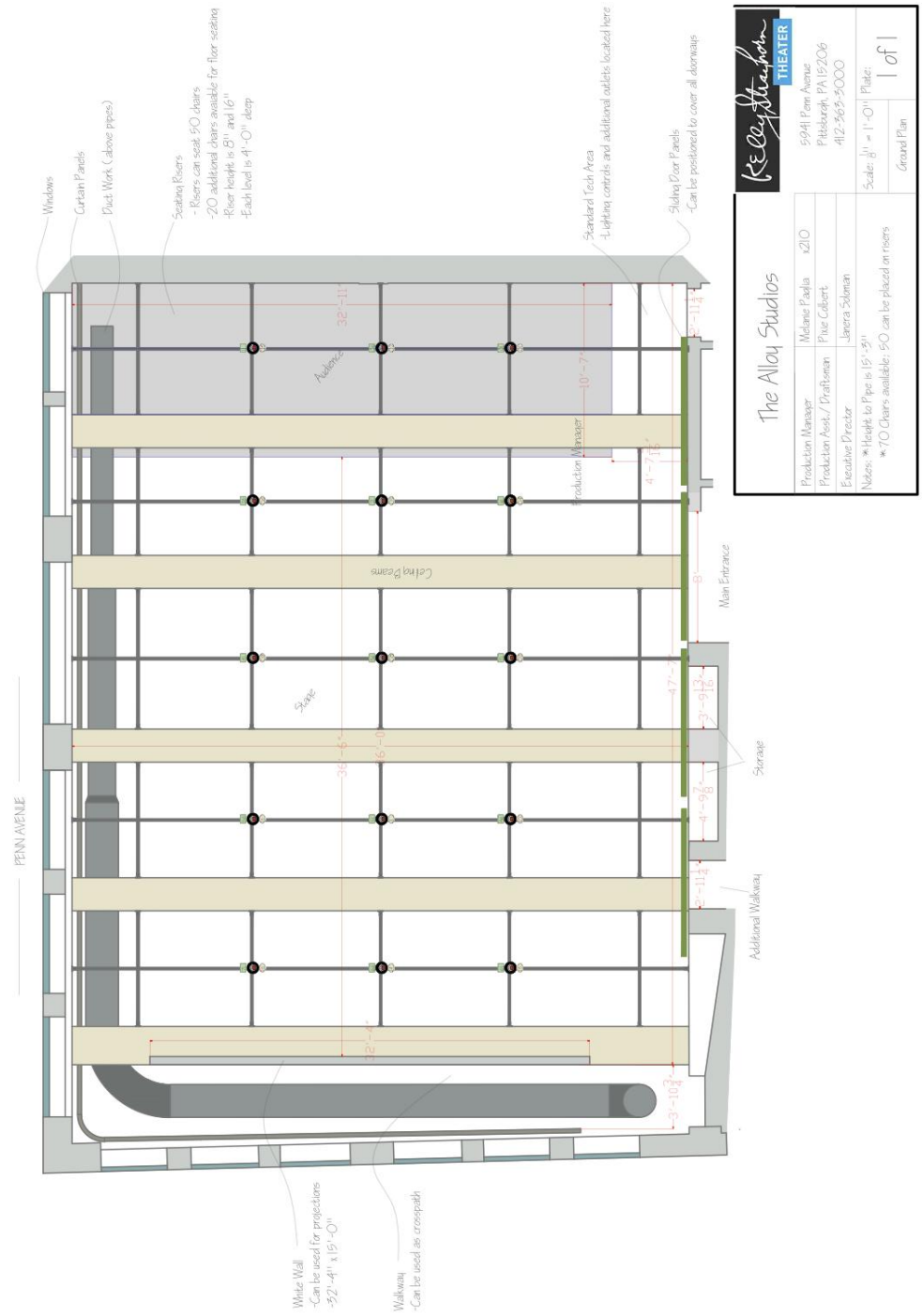
Upstairs Studio

Kelly Strayhorn Theater
5941 Penn Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Offices + The Alloy Studios
5530 Penn Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

kelly-strayhorn.org
t 412.363.3000
f 412.363.4320

PRODUCED BY AN AUTODESK EDUCATIONAL PRODUCT



PRODUCED BY AN AUTODESK EDUCATIONAL PRODUCT

PRODUCED BY AN AUTODESK EDUCATIONAL PRODUCT

PRODUCED BY AN AUTODESK EDUCATIONAL PRODUCT

Kelly Strayhorn Theater
5941 Penn Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Offices + The Alloy Studios
5530 Penn Ave
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

kelly-strayhorn.org
t 412.363.3000
f 412.363.4320

SAMPLE PRODUCTION WEEK SCHEDULE

Project: Freshworks: Name of Artist
Date(s): October 1st and 2nd
Coordinated by: KST Production Manager

Project Schedule

PRE-EVENT				
Day	**Date**	**Time**	**Description**	**Persons Involved**
Monday	9/27	TBD	Set Install Fog Test	Residency Artist
Tuesday	9/28	TBD	**Dry Run** Rehearse without crew Run of show for KST Staff Last day to turn in set/cue list for Crew	Residency Artist
Wednesday	9/29	3:00PM	**Tech Rehearsal** Discuss the piece and Lighting/Project/Sound with crew Run through show with crew Program Lighting, Sound, and Projection Run with tech elements	Crew, Residency Artist
Wednesday	9/29	9:00PM	END OF DAY	Crew, Residency Artist
Thursday	9/30	3:00PM	**Tech Rehearsal** Tech notes and work problems first At least 2 full runs of the show Work moments as needed	Crew, Residency Artist
Thursday	9/30	9:00PM	END OF DAY	Crew, Residency Artist
DAY OF / RUN OF EVENT				
Day	**Date**	**Time**	**Description**	**Persons Involved**
Friday	10/1	3:00PM	**Tech Rehearsal / Crew Call** Work notes / run as needed	Crew, Residency Artist
Friday	10/1	5:00PM	**Photocall / Dress Rehearsal** Run with photographer moving in the space to take live shots	Crew, Residency Artist, Photographer

			Select specific moments to pose to photography	
Friday	10/1	6:00PM	FOH Call	FOH
Friday	10/1	7:00PM	Lobby open Pre Show music playing Possible slideshow	FOH
Friday	10/1	8:00PM	Show start KST introduction Live taping of the show Still Photography of the show	Crew, Camera, Residency Artist
Friday	10/1	8:30PM	Q&A Joseph Hall to moderate	Joseph, Residency Artist
Friday	10/1	9:00PM	End of Event	All
Friday	10/1	10:00PM	Audience Clear Strike set	All
Friday	10/1	11:00PM	END OF DAY	
Saturday	10/2	6:00PM	FOH / Crew Call Set restore	FOH, Crew
Saturday	10/2	7:00PM	Lobby open Pre Show music playing Possible slideshow	FOH
Saturday	10/2	8:00PM	Show Joseph to introduce	Crew, Residency Artist
Saturday	10/2	8:30PM	Q&A Joseph Hall to moderate	Joseph, Residency Artist
Saturday	10/2	9:00PM	End of Show	All
Saturday	10/2	10:00 PM	Audience clear	All
Saturday	10/2	11:00PM	END OF DAY	