



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  
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## HomeMakers 2023

### Program Guidelines

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#### Application Timeline

- **Application Live:** Tuesday, November 1st, 2022
- **Information Session:** Thursday, November 17, 2022  
6:00-7:00pm on Zoom and Facebook
- **Application Close:** December 1st, 2022
- **Applications Reviewed by KST Staff:** by December 9th, 2022
- **Applicants Notified:** December 12th - December 15th, 2022

**HomeMakers is KST's new and reconfigured version of the Artist Council.** Taking inspiration from bell hooks' essay "Homeplace (a site of resistance)," **HomeMakers is a committee of Pittsburgh artists and community members that work with KST Staff to advocate for and support Kelly Strayhorn Theater's programs and supported artists.** The committee will be comprised of six artists across a diverse range of identities and artistic disciplines.

HomeMakers are integral members of the KST Community. They act as community champions and leaders, helping KST Staff to spread awareness of KST's programming and mission. **This is achieved through quarterly meetings, promotion of and attendance at KST Presents events with community members, and participation as a panelist in the Freshworks residency award process.** HomeMakers also bring their varied and unique perspectives to the table during meetings and programming panels as part of KST's ongoing commitment to community dialogue, equitable practices, and engagement with the East Liberty community we call home.

**Each HomeMaker will serve a one year term with the option to extend their participation into a second year once the first year is complete.**

**An info session for HomeMakers 2023 with KST Programming Director Ben Pryor and Programming Manager Chanel Blanchett will take place Thursday, November 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 program and the application process and hold time for questions from prospective applicants.

Applications will be reviewed and residencies awarded by KST's Staff.



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## KST's Criteria for HomeMakers

KST is looking to shape a committee of artists and creators:

- From a variety of disciplines and artistic aesthetics
- That represent diverse demographics
- Whose work and/or practice is aligned with KST's mission
- Who can use their presence and engagement in the Pittsburgh community to help KST achieve program goals
- Who are willing to advocate for KST, its programs, and its artists through attending events, providing insight into potential artist resources, and promoting KST within their networks
- Willing to honor the time commitment by attending all designated meetings
- Practice open mindedness when it comes to reviewing potential artists and programs

## HomeMakers Duties & Responsibilities

### Quarterly Meetings

- Wednesday, January 25, 2023, time TBD (1.5-3 hour anticipated duration)
- Wednesday, April 19, 2023, time TBD (1.5-3 hour anticipated duration)
- Wednesday, June 28, 2023, time TBD (1.5-3 hour anticipated duration)
- Wednesday, October 11, 2023, time TBD (1.5-3 hour anticipated duration)

### KST Presents Event Promotion & Attendance

During the first quarterly meeting, HomeMakers will sign up to lead community building and promotion efforts for specific KST Presents events in the 2023 season.

HomeMakers are expected to do the following for the KST Presents events they sign up to lead:



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- Choose a day during the run of the show to attend.
- Invite 10-15 people to their chosen night of the show, using the provided discount code.
- Participate in word-of-mouth advertising for the event by promoting the event within in-person networks and by making 1 post on your Instagram or Facebook feed, 2-5 Instagram or Facebook stories, and sharing the event email KST provides to at least 10 people.
- Arrive at the event 30-45 minutes before curtain.
- Connect the patrons they bring to the event to other KST community members in attendance, both pre and post show.

### Panel Participation

- HomeMakers will be contacted by KST's Programming Manager via email 3-4 weeks prior to the Freshworks panel on which HomeMakers participation is desired.
- Panels are conducted in person at KST's Alloy Studios. HomeMakers will receive:
  - \$25/hr in compensation
  - Snack or Meal during panel process, depending on time of day
- The panel process is facilitated by KST Programming Staff. HomeMakers Members are asked to do the following during panels:
  - Read through each application, reviewing the answers to the narrative questions with an eye towards what is successful, what are possible growth areas, and how the proposal aligns with KST's mission
  - Lead the discussion of assigned artists applications and participate in the discussion of all artist applications. View work samples for each artist with the rest of the panel
  - Score each application on the scoresheet provided by KST
  - All review of applications, as well as the materials needed to score applications, will be provided by KST
  - HomeMakers are not expected to review applications prior to the set panel time, though they are welcome to once KST distributes them via the application packet for the panel.

### **Compensation**

HomeMakers will receive the following for their duties:

- **\$25/hr** for quarterly meetings and participation in the Freshworks panel
- **\$100 total stipend for shows they are assigned to promote and attend** (\$50 for promotion efforts prior to the event and \$50 for their attendance at the event )
- **Free admission and one (1) comp ticket** for a plus-one to the performances they are assigned to promote and attend.
- **Two (2) free drink tickets at the event** they are assigned to promote and attend.



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## HomeMakers 2023: Preview of Application

**The application questions are below.** We recommend reviewing these questions and drafting your narrative answers in a word document prior to filling out the Google Form application. This will allow you to save your answers, edit sentences, and check word count prior to final submission.

### **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. Please describe your artistic practice and/or medium. (75-100 words)
2. Website
3. Social Media Handles
4. Upload Resume

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### **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 the types of artistic and community work you do and what you're passionate about. Your answers will help KST get a better sense of who you are.

**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



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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. **Audio and video submissions should be no longer than 10 minutes long in length.**

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)
2. What is your current relationship to KST and why are you interested in being a HomeMaker? (200 words)
3. KST's mission is to be "a home for creative experimentation, community dialogue, and collective action rooted in the liberation of Black and queer people." In what ways do you and your artistic practice align with the spirit of KST's mission? (200 words)
4. What is your relationship to the city of Pittsburgh and what communities and/or groups are you involved in? (200 words)
5. What unique skills and perspectives will you bring to the HomeMakers program? (200 words)
6. HomeMakers aims not only to bring new community members to KST Presents Events, but also to create community bonds between diverse peoples. What are the ways in which you currently work to create community and bring people together? (200 words)
7. HomeMakers are part of application review panels for KST Programs such as our Freshworks Residency. These programs often seek to give opportunities to early career artists or those who have not had the chance to work with artistic institutions. What is your approach to giving constructive feedback and what advice would you give to early career artists? (200 words)
8. Narrative Answers Audio/Video Upload



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## Questions? Contact Us!

KST is working to make our applications and processes as accessible as possible. If there are elements of the program or the application you don't understand, please reach out! We'd love to hear from you. Questions can be sent to KST's Programming Manager, Chanel Blanchett, at [chanel@kelly-strayhorn.org](mailto:chanel@kelly-strayhorn.org).