

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: Theatre & New Forms 2026

Villa Albertine is pleased to announce the 2026 call for applications for Theatre & New Forms, its grant program supporting contemporary theater, circus, puppetry, and street arts collaborations between France and the U.S.

This call for applications supports projects taking place between May 1, 2026, and August 31, 2027

Since 1999, Villa Albertine has proudly undertaken a comprehensive program dedicated to theater. This initiative aims to encourage and support collaborative endeavors between French and American artists in contemporary theater, circus, puppetry, street theater, and hybrid forms by allocating grants to French and American nonprofit venues.

The Albertine Grants Theatre & New Forms are made possible thanks to the support of the French Ministry of Culture and the Institut français, and the generous support of Mélanie and Frédéric Biessy.

Two Types of Grants

1. Touring Grants

This grant supports tours, series, or large-scale presentations of productions. Funding is offered to French productions in the U.S. and U.S. productions participating in major international festivals in France.

- A tour must include at least two different U.S. venues that are financially involved.
- A series consists of either a minimum of seven consecutive performances or multiple thematically focused works by the same choreographer, all presented at the same U.S. venue
- A large-scale production must involve a minimum of 10 performers on stage. It may be considered for funding even if presented by a single U.S. presenter.

2. Creative Grants

This grant supports creations and commissions envisioned collaboratively by France- and U.S.-based artists, including:

- U.S. productions of text-based projects by contemporary French or Francophone playwrights translated into English (classical French theater is not eligible).
- U.S. productions that involve a France-based director collaborating with a U.S.-based company on a contemporary theater, puppetry, circus, or street theater production.

NB: Villa Albertine has compiled a database of texts by French or Francophone playwrights already translated into American English. If you are interested in viewing our selection, please check the [ArtCena- Contxto](#) database, or contact our program officer.

Eligibility Criteria

For both grants, applicants must demonstrate a clear artistic and financial commitment towards the project.

Only non-profit organizations are eligible. Individual artists are not eligible to apply.

- U.S. applicants must demonstrate their 501(c)(3) status granted by the IRS.
- French organizations must provide proof of nonprofit status.

Projects must involve active collaboration between artists and organizations from both countries:

- American applicants must present a project that involves France-based artists supported by French cultural institutions.
- French applicants must present a project that involves U.S.-based artists supported by U.S. cultural institutions.

Projects must take place between May 1, 2026 and August 31, 2027.

Artistic Criteria

- Grants support contemporary and innovative projects. Classical French repertory theater is not eligible.
- Priority will be given to projects that involve Villa Albertine residents or artists whose works have never or rarely been presented in the partner country.
- Projects should involve artists whose works reflect the diversity of the French and/or U.S. contemporary artistic scene.

For Touring Grants:

- Priority will be given to projects presented sequentially at a minimum of two distinct venues within the United States. Applications must include a signed letter of commitment from each collaborating partner.
- For a series or a large-scale production, applications can be considered for a single venue.
- Projects presented in the U.S. must be performed in English or with English subtitles. Projects performed in French without subtitles are not eligible.
- When performed in France, productions including texts in English must include French subtitles or simultaneous translations.

Please note that French or France-based artists seeking an exploratory/research residency in the United States are encouraged to apply to the [Villa Albertine residency program](#).

Funding Details

Creative and Touring Grants support up to **50% of project costs**, covering expenses such as housing, per diem, travel, visa fees, and equipment rentals related to the production, with the following limits:

- \$20,000 maximum for Creative Grants
- \$15,000 maximum for Touring Grants

Grants cannot cover the presenting organization's operational and front-of-the-house expenses.

The budget must include artist fees.

Application Timeline

The application platform opens on December 1, 2025, and closes on January 30, 2026.

- The application consists of narrative questions and supplemental materials, including artistic project details, a detailed budget, proof of nonprofit status, outreach activities, a communication plan, and additional documents, such as letters of engagement from presenting partners and related project texts.
- February 2026: Applications will be screened for eligibility by Villa Albertine staff.
- March 2026: Eligible projects will be evaluated by a committee comprised of French and American performing arts professionals.
- End of April 2026 : Results will be announced.

CONTACT US

To verify your eligibility, contact us by [email](#) before the application deadline.

- Please indicate the subject line: TNF2026, [Project Title].
- Provide a brief overview of your project.
- Please note that appointments will only be granted in exceptional cases.

Louise Dodet, Program Officer, Performing Arts

louise.dodet@villa-albertine.org

Performing Arts Department

performingarts@villa-albertine.org
