

**THE FRED AND LOIS MILLS (MILLS) GRANT APPLICATION GUIDELINES FOR
STUDENTS IN THE SCHOOL OF ART
ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY**

Fred and Lois Mills, along with family and friends, contributed funds to create an endowed fund to encourage and support research and creative work by both faculty members and students in the School of Art.

Eligibility:

In academic years beginning with an even number (e.g. AY2014-15) students pursuing the BA, BS, BFA, MS, MA, or MFA degree in art (any studio discipline, art history, art education) may apply for a Mills Grant. The grant may be used for projects in the fall term, spring term or those that span the entire academic year.

Priorities of the Grant:

The awarding of grants is based on the strength of the proposal with priority being given to projects that show the likelihood of completion within a realistic timeline outlined by the student and the faculty member selected to oversee the project. It is expected that the outcome of the project will result in meaningful products (e.g. a cohesive body of artworks, a significant research project, travel for in-depth research purposes, field study, teaching experiences beyond those required programmatically, conference attendance, etc.).

Provisions of the Grant:

One grant of up to \$500.00 will be awarded. As the endowed fund earnings grow, the amount of the award may increase. Funds may be used to offset the cost of materials, supplies, travel, etc. in keeping with the regulations established by Illinois State University for research, development, and travel funds and those established by the ISU Foundation. Those given a Mills Grant are still eligible for support from other endowed funds; scholarships; Friends of the Arts Grants; external grants; and any other opportunity that may arise. A one-page report on the outcome of the project is due within 90 days of the end of the stated timeline. Failure to submit this report on time will result in a loss of eligibility for subsequent Mills Grants.

Application:

Applications must be received by the second Friday of October in even years (October 10).

- Cover sheet to include name, proposal title, abstract of proposal in 50 words or less
- Description of proposed project not to exceed 750 words: basic ideas, problems, works, questions the project will examine; current state of the proposed project, timeline, milestones expected; relationship of study to your progress toward your degree; projected use of project's product(s)
- Name of the faculty member who will oversee the project

- Bibliography, if relevant
- Budget
- References from two faculty members, one of which must be from the School of Art faculty member who will oversee the project

Selection Process:

All applications must be submitted to the Director of the School of Art by the close of business on the second Friday of October in academic years beginning with an even number. Any late or incomplete applications will not be considered. The Director of the School of Art will review the applications, seek input from the Advisory Council of the School of Art, identify the strongest applications and make the final decision as to the grant awardee.