

Call for Proposals
Communities of Care
Gender Institute and the Center for Disability Studies
University at Buffalo (UB)

Individual Artist Grant – up to \$50,000

The UB Communities of Care project seeks to commission new and original artwork from local artists. We are looking for work based on the theme “Communities of Care”: What meanings and implications does it have for you? How does it relate to social justice? What voices are left out of public conversations about communities of care? These and other questions and concerns may be addressed through the proposed work. We are especially interested in creative work that explores the intersections of care, community, race, disability, gender, and sexuality. Artists may work in any medium. “Care” and “community” can be defined in expansive and innovative ways in proposed projects.

In the Communities of Care project, we focus on “communities of care,” in Buffalo to study the everyday ways in which poor, racialized, and disabled people navigate and negotiate living, working, and accessing vital healthcare and other needs in urban and suburban spaces that are lacking in critical healthcare and other infrastructure. We use “communities of care” as a means of extending our understanding of care networks beyond formalized healthcare settings to include the vital care that takes place in the home, in neighborhoods, and in other settings. We also consider care as work – both in its more formal settings and in the informal spaces in which it most often occurs. In this project we will think about the ways in which this work has been/is gendered and racialized and the implications that this has for the formation of caregiving/receiving relationships and worker organizing. This project will provide voice to those whose stories are not often heard, both the caregivers and those receiving care; and will focus on the intersection of disability, race, and gender.

In this project, we are working to bring together artists, scholars, and community people involved in giving and receiving care to interact around the “communities of care” theme.

Artists must agree to have their work displayed in a gallery or some other public space in Buffalo. Artists must agree to give a public facing talk about their work. Artists must agree to have their work digitized and made part of the permanent archive being created through the Communities of Care project. This grant is for individual artists. Organizations are not eligible to receive this grant.

Submit CV, a proposal narrative in which you describe your project and a timeline for completion and display of the work (maximum two single-spaced pages), 5-10 PDF work samples, a detailed budget, and two letters of reference to Michael Rembis, marembis@buffalo.edu. Proposals will be evaluated by an independent ad hoc committee of academics and local artists.

The amount awarded will be based on the project proposed and the detailed budget.

Deadline to submit proposals: May 31, 2024

Notification of award recipient(s): June 30, 2024

Artists commence project work July 1, 2024. Projects should be completed and displayed by June 30, 2025.

There will be an informational meeting held at 4 PM via zoom on March 27. If you are interested in attending, please send an email to Michael Rembis, marembis@buffalo.edu.