

## **Kathleen Betsko Yale Literary Arts Fund Honoring Kathleen Betsko Yale**

The Kathleen Betsko Yale Literary Arts Fund was established to celebrate and recognize the life, work, values, and significant contributions of Kathleen Betsko Yale to the arts and cultural community. She was a passionate advocate for playwrights, especially women playwrights who faced challenges in publishing their work within a male-dominated field. Her groundbreaking book, "Interviews with Contemporary Women Playwrights," co-authored with Rachel Koenig in 1987, remains a landmark piece—the first collection of its kind. The pioneering nature of this work has gone on to inspire numerous similar publications.

Kathleen's career gained momentum with her autobiographical play, *Johnny Bull*, staged at Yale Repertory Theater in 1982 under the direction of the late Lloyd Richards. The play was later adapted into a television film in 1986, featuring Jason Robards, Colleen Dewhurst, and Kathy Bates. Kathleen continued to thrive as a playwright, screenwriter, actor, educator, and poet.

The fund provides three individuals with a grant of \$500 each to support their literary arts endeavors. The grant is intended to aid in project development, completion, professional development, or advancement opportunities. Its purpose is to help aspiring creatives in the literary arts achieve specific goals or advance their projects, serving as a small yet impactful investment in their future.

Who is eligible:

- Individuals who are at least 21 years old and actively involved in the literary arts
- Have a specific project or purpose that could be advanced with KBY grant
- Are not enrolled as a full-time student in any degree seeking or certification program
- Must be a resident of Erie, Niagara, Genesee or Wyoming Counties
- Must be a U.S. Citizen or have established permanent residency in the United States

Timeline:

1) Applications open now and due 11:59 pm April 6, 2026.

2) Awardees notified April 30, 2026

3) Awards Thursday, May 14, 2026 (Tentative date)

Applications should be submitted to: [Literaryarts2026@gmail.com](mailto:Literaryarts2026@gmail.com).

KATHLEEN BETSKO YALE LITERARY ARTS FUND  
APPLICATION. 2026

**Name of applicant:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Information: Email** \_\_\_\_\_ **Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Project Title:**

(Limit 10 words)

**Application Category**

Playwriting \_\_\_\_\_

Screenwriting \_\_\_\_\_

Libretto \_\_\_\_\_

Poetry \_\_\_\_\_

Fiction (novel) \_\_\_\_\_

Acting or Performance \_\_\_\_\_

Professional Development \_\_\_\_\_

*Attach project summary and project description to the application. One page only.*

**Project Summary**

Provide a clear and concise summary of your project in two sentences. (25 word limit)

**Project Description**

Describe the work the KBY grant will be used to support. "Work" is defined as your original contribution to a theatrical production or performance or publication, or continuation of a work in progress, for example a play you are writing, or preparing a poetry collection for publishing, or writing lyrics to a musical/opera or professional writing/poetry/playwriting workshop. Include as much information as possible. Example: where, when, and for whom the work in question might be performed. A timeframe for completion of the work. (120 Word Limit)

## Artist Resume/CV/Bio

*No more than one page attached to this application.*

Links to any work samples, e.g. audio files (No more than 3 minutes), video clips (No more than 3 minutes) Samples must be queued to correct point) Longer than 3 minutes will not be viewed. No more than three samples.

Links:

Website (If any):

Audio

Video

References (limit three) Name and Contact Information (Phone/Email)

Reference

1 \_\_\_\_\_

Reference

2 \_\_\_\_\_

Reference

3 \_\_\_\_\_

Submission deadline: April 20, 2026, 11:59 pm. Late applications will not be accepted.

Send to: [Literaryarts2026@gmail.com](mailto:Literaryarts2026@gmail.com)