



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Desert X Board Launches Artist Emergency Relief Initiative**

Artists in need across Southern California are invited to apply now for emergency relief grants



Palm Springs, CA– The Desert X Board announced today that it has established an emergency relief fund to support visual artists living in Southern California. The initiative, funded by the Desert X Board and team will provide emergency grants to artists whose economic well-being has been affected by lockdown, exhibition and museum closures, and loss of commissions and employment as a result of global efforts to curb the spread of the coronavirus pandemic.

One-time unrestricted cash grants of \$1,000 will be distributed on a rolling basis until all monies have been awarded. Visual artists working in various mediums who are living in Southern California, including the Coachella Valley and desert environs are invited to [apply online](#) now.

”At this critical time working artists need an easily-accessible route to financial assistance”, said Desert X Founder and President Susan L. Davis. “I am especially touched that the Desert X Board and members of our team have come together with kindness, generosity and a desire to provide vital support.”

Individuals and organizations are invited to donate to the Desert X Artist Relief Fund so that grants can be provided to a greater number of artists in need. The newly-established relief initiative has secured in excess of \$34,000 to date, over and above donations made for the forthcoming 2021 edition of Desert X and is expected to grow with new donations. Fully tax-deductible gifts can be made directly [here](#).

Artists are invited to submit applications online now [here](#).

Guidelines for the Desert X Board Artist Relief Fund include:

All Applicants must apply online and submit the following:

- A CV and examples of a sustained commitment to their artistic career, including exhibition history and arts education.
- Verification of current residence in Southern California (Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and San Diego counties).
- Proof of direct financial hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, i.e. an exhibition or commercial opportunity cancelled, supplemental income to support artistic practice ceased, etc.
- Proof of being at least 21 years of age, and a U.S. citizen, permanent resident or green card holder.

Complete instructions and guidelines can be found at [desertx.org](https://www.desertx.org)

Image credit: Desert X installation view of Jeffrey Gibson, *Alive!*, 2017, photo by Lance Gerber, courtesy of the artist and Desert X.

### **About Desert X**

Desert X is produced by The Desert Biennial, a not-for-profit 501(C)3 charitable organization, founded in California to produce international contemporary art exhibitions that activate desert environments through site-specific installations by acclaimed artists from around the world. <https://www.desertx.org/>

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