



Atmospheric Music Alliance

2025 AMA Artist Grant Guidelines (WIP)

Deadline: Sunday, October 19, 2025 at 11:59 PM EST

1.0 – Overview

The AMA Artist Grant supports AMA members in creating new works in ambient music, offering flexible funding for projects, equipment, and artist development. The grant responds directly to member feedback that financial support is one of the most valuable resources for sustaining artistic practice.

In 2025, AMA will award a total of \$2,400:

- \$1,200 to one main recipient
- \$600 each to two runner-ups

Funding comes directly from AMA membership dues. The grant is intentionally flexible, allowing members to define what support looks like for their practice; from creating new work to purchasing gear, paying for studio time, or covering other costs that help them continue making art.

1.1 – Key Information

- Number of awards: Three
- Amounts: \$1,200 for one main recipient, \$600 for two runner-ups
- Eligible disciplines: All forms in the field of ambient and atmospheric music, including:
 - performance, recording, sound installation, instrument building, and multimedia work involving ambient sound. Noise projects leaning toward doom and dissonance are not eligible.

1.2 – AMA Artist Grant Goals

- Support AMA members in sustaining and advancing their artistic practice.
- Encourage experimentation and innovation in ambient and atmospheric sound.



1.3 – About the Atmospheric Music Alliance (AMA)

The Atmospheric Music Alliance is StretchMetal’s membership program, connecting artists and listeners in the global ambient community. AMA provides members with resources, discounts, networking opportunities, and collaborative projects, while ensuring that membership dues directly support artists.

1.4 – Use of Funds

The AMA Artist Grant is unrestricted. We trust AMA members to know best how to use resources to sustain and grow their practice. Recipients have full freedom to decide how to use the funds in support of their artistic practice. This could include, but is not limited to:

- Producing new work in ambient music
- Purchasing instruments, recording gear, or software
- Renting studio or rehearsal space
- Covering travel costs for performances, research, or collaborations
- Paying for professional services such as mixing, mastering, or design
- Funding participation in residencies, workshops, or training opportunities

2.0 – Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Be an active AMA member at the Guide, Gem, or Participant tier for at least 3 continuous months before the application deadline.
 - For the Fall 2025 cycle, monthly members must join by September 1, 2025 to be eligible
- Be at least 18 years of age.
- Work within the ambient, atmospheric, or experimental sound field.
- Be willing to share a brief public update on how funds were used (format flexible: text, photos, audio, or video).

The AMA artist grant is open to AMA members everywhere; however, the grant will be distributed in USD.

3.0 – Review Procedure



Atmospheric Music Alliance

After the application period closes, all submissions will be reviewed by StretchMetal staff and/or a designated review panel. The panel will select a shortlist of five finalists based on the evaluation criteria outlined in Section 3.1.

This shortlist will then be shared with all AMA members for the final voting process. Members may only vote once and may not vote for themselves. Voting will occur online, and the final awardees will be determined by majority member vote from the shortlist.

3.1 – Evaluation Criteria

Members will be encouraged to consider:

- Artistic merit: strength of artistic vision and quality of work samples.
- Clarity of proposal: how well the applicant explains their intended use of funds.
- Potential impact: how the grant could meaningfully support the artist's work or practice.

4.0 – Submitting an Application

Applications must be submitted online by Sunday, October 19, 2025 at 11:59 PM EST. If you have questions or need assistance, contact AMA at ama@stretchmetal.org.

4.1 – Application Questions

Applicants will be asked to answer:

1. Describe your artistic practice.
2. How would you use the AMA Artist Grant?
3. Artist bio.

4.2 – Work Samples

Applicants must submit up to 3 work samples. Accepted formats:

- Audio: .mp3 or .wav (max 10 minutes total per file)
- Video: .mp4 (max 5 minutes total per file)
- Images: .jpg or .png
- PDF for documentation or textbased work



Label all files clearly with your name and title of the work.

5.0 – Timeline

September 15, 2025: Applications open

October 19, 2025: Applications close

October 20 – November 9: StretchMetal review

November 9 – November 23, 2025: AMA voting period

November 23 – December 6, 2025: notify winners

6.0 – Questions & Support

For any questions or need accommodations in the application process, email ama@stretchmetal.org.