



Smithsonian  
*Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage*

## **Smithsonian Tibetan Artist in Residence (STAR)**

The Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage supports diversity and creativity of artists and tradition bearers around the world. We offer the STAR program for Tibetan artists to spend two to four weeks in residence in the United States.

The goal of the STAR program is to facilitate the documentation and archiving of traditions, heighten STAR participants' professional profiles, enrich their knowledge of both the content and role of their work, and garner increased support for their future projects.

Participants will engage in activities designed to increase exposure to their work and provide them with knowledge and tools that they can bring back to their communities to help sustain their cultural heritage and that they can use to build their careers.

Broadly, the STAR program aims to support culture bearers in:

- Increasing visibility of cultural traditions at international, national, and local levels
- Generating prestige for artists' local communities and fellow tradition bearers
- Shaping ever-evolving tastes and aesthetics
- Increasing demand for cultural products such as music, craft, and artwork
- Encouraging intergenerational transmission of traditional knowledge
- Stimulating the local economy
- Securing the existence and support growth and evolution of endangered languages and cultural heritage

The Smithsonian will coordinate STAR participants' schedules in line with their respective interests. Programming for STAR participants may include:

- Attending cultural exhibitions, performances, and lectures in their field
- Giving presentations about their work at museums, universities, and cultural institutions
- Meeting with artists and artisans in their field
- Meeting with scholars and researchers in their field
- Meeting with cultural heritage professionals to discuss policy issues that affect cultural traditions
- Attending marketing events like trade shows and trunk shows

The Smithsonian covers the following costs:

- ❖ International airfare
- ❖ Lodging
- ❖ Local transportation
- ❖ Per diem
- ❖ Honoraria

## APPLICATION

**Deadline: January 30, 2017**

### Eligibility:

- The STAR program welcomes applications from Tibetans in China who are currently engaged in culture or the arts or those who are interested in sustaining cultural traditions.
- Applicants may be intellectuals, visual artists, filmmakers, dancers, musicians, craftspeople, or people who practice folk traditions like Tibetan medicine, debating, storytelling, riddles, speech giving, felting, tent-making, herding, farming, weaving, embroidery, environmental knowledge, etc.
- They are selected based on the level of their mastery of the tradition and their commitment to sustaining traditions.
- No English, Chinese, or formal education required.

### A. Applicant Profile:

Preferred Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Official Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

What languages do you speak? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been abroad?

- Yes  
 No

Have you been to the United States?

- Yes  
 No

### B. Submit:

**500-word/1-page narrative or 3- to 5-minute audio or video recording describing:**

1. Your cultural tradition
2. The importance of your tradition to you and to others
3. How your participation would benefit your work
4. Examples of your work or CV

You may submit your application in Tibetan, English, or Chinese. Please email it to [CFCH-STAR@si.edu](mailto:CFCH-STAR@si.edu).

For more information, please contact [CFCH-STAR@si.edu](mailto:CFCH-STAR@si.edu).