

aljira emerge

A strategic career management and exhibition program for emerging artists

SPRING 2008 APPLICATION & GUIDELINES

The application process is competitive and the class is limited to 22 artists. The program meets bi-weekly on Saturdays at Aljira, a Center for Contemporary Art in downtown Newark, New Jersey and off-site locations from April to June.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Solid career-building skills and opportunities to exhibit and present new work are essential to the artistic and professional development of today's artist.

Aljira Emerge is a strategic career management and exhibition program for emerging artists. Artists are taught an approach that challenges assumptions about working artists. Under the tutelage of experienced artists and professional coaches—including past presenters Colleen Keegan, Ela Troyano, Tracie Morris, Matthew Geller, and Jeffrey Gibson—artists learn how to manage their careers as arts professionals and to develop a personal strategic plan. The program is designed to provide emerging artists with the resources to overcome obstacles, focus on goals, and move forward in their creative careers. Aljira Emerge attempts to address practical areas of concern to artists, such as curatorial practice, legal and financial issues, gallery representation, exhibition and public art opportunities, and marketing. The program culminates with a group exhibition and fully illustrated catalog.

Aljira Emerge was introduced in 1999 to train artists living and working in and around the New Jersey/New York metropolitan region to organize, plan, and sustain their careers and to provide an opportunity to show their work. Over the past 9 seasons, this highly acclaimed program has proven to be a career- and life-changing experience for emerging artists.

PLAN AHEAD! If accepted into the program, you must commit to attending all of the scheduled workshops and talks.

SPRING 2008 WORKSHOP SCHEDULE Saturdays

April 5 (T)	May 31 (PDW)
April 19 (PDW)	June 14 (PDW)
May 3 (T)	June 28 (T)
May 17 (T)	

(T = talk, 2–4pm; PDW = Professional Development Workshop, 9:30am–5pm)

Providing a program of this nature and quality for emerging artists is costly. If accepted to the program, you will be asked to pay only 5% of the estimated cost of this program, or \$350, as an investment in your career and a commitment to the program. We welcome all eligible artists to apply—limited, additional need-based financial assistance is available.

All applications must be postmarked by January 26, 2008 or delivered to Aljira by 4 pm on Saturday, February 2, 2008.

ELIGIBILITY

Aljira Emerge is open to artists living and working in and around the greater New Jersey/New York City area, independent of age, gender, and nationality. Artists working in any medium or discipline, e.g. drawing, painting, sculpture, photography, installation, new media, sound-based or performance art, film/video art, or other emerging art forms or interdisciplinary work, are encouraged to apply.

The program does not accept applications from:

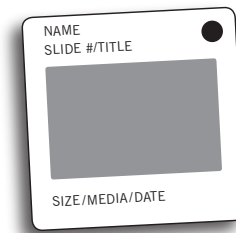
- Commercial artists;
- Artists with exclusive commercial gallery representation;
- Artists enrolled in a college or degree-granting program or those participating in a similar career development program between March and July 2008; and
- Emerge alumni.

APPLICATION

HOW TO APPLY IN SIX EASY STEPS

Please complete and sign the *Application Form* and include the following:

1. Current resume with exhibition history.
2. Statement describing your work (i.e., content, form and audience engagement), your professional goals, and how Emerge will help further your career (maximum 300 words).
3. 8–10, 35mm slides of your recent work in a slide sheet, **clearly LABELED and NUMBERED, with complete information as indicated in the slide sample below.** You may also submit



digital images (jpeg) on a CD. Video clips of 2 minutes or less on VHS and DVD are also acceptable.

For proper viewing, place a red dot on the slide mount to indicate top right.

DO NOT INCLUDE ORIGINAL WORKS, PHOTOGRAPHS, GLASS-MOUNTED OR ADDITIONAL SLIDES.

4. A numbered image identification sheet on a separate piece of paper listing title, size, media, and date. Brief descriptions of the work may also be included on this page.
5. Self-addressed stamped envelope with correct postage if you wish the materials to be returned.
ALJIRA IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR RETURNING MATERIALS WITH INSUFFICIENT POSTAGE.
6. **\$35 NON-REFUNDABLE APPLICATION FEE.** Check or money order; no cash accepted. **Payable to Aljira, Inc.**

INCOMPLETE OR LATE APPLICATIONS WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.

REVIEW & SELECTION PROCESS

ALL APPLICATIONS ARE REVIEWED AND EVALUATED, BASED ON:

- Originality and quality of the artwork as demonstrated by the visual documentation submitted.
- Commitment to chosen profession as demonstrated in resume and statement.
- Potential impact of the program on the artist's professional growth and artistic development.

**EACH SEMESTER ARTISTS ARE
SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN ALJIRA
EMERGE THROUGH A 3-STAGE
PROCESS:**

STAGE #1

Aljira identifies prospective applicants by open call inquiries, active solicitation by Aljira staff, and recommendations by artists and arts professionals. After an initial review of all applicants' materials, Aljira will schedule a short list of up to 40 artists to participate in a group interview with the Aljira Emerge selection committee.

STAGE #2

The artists selected from Stage 1 will participate in a group interview with the selection committee, made up of artists and arts professionals from the field of contemporary art. Artists will have an opportunity to discuss their work based on the materials submitted in their application and explain how the program will impact their professional development and advance their respective career goals. Group interviews have been scheduled for the week of February 23, 2008 (subject to change).

STAGE #3

Based on the review and evaluation criteria, Aljira and the selection committee will make the final selection of as many as 22 artists to participate in the Aljira Emerge program.

**MAIL APPLICATION
MATERIALS TO:**

**Aljira Emerge 10
Aljira, a Center for Contemporary Art
591 Broad Street
Newark, NJ 07102-4403**

DEADLINE:

**ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE
POSTMARKED BY JANUARY 26,
2008 OR DELIVERED TO ALJIRA
BY 4 PM ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY
2, 2008.**

Notifications of acceptance will be released by Monday, March 3, 2008.

**THE ALJIRA EMERGE PROGRAM
BEGINS SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2008.**

Aljira, a Center for Contemporary Art fosters excellence in the visual arts through exhibitions and educational programs that serve as a catalyst for inclusiveness and diversity, promote cross-cultural dialog, and enable us to better understand the time in which we live. Public understanding and support of the visual arts are strengthened through collaboration and community-based educational programming. Aljira seeks out the work of emerging and under-represented artists and brings the work of more established artists to our community. Through the visual arts Aljira bridges racial, cultural and ethnic divides and enriches the lives of individuals.

Aljira's operations and programs are made possible, in part, by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts; Johnson & Johnson; The Prudential Foundation; the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation; the New Jersey Cultural Trust; the JPMorgan Chase Foundation; The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey and individual contributors.



TTY 1 800 852-7899



aljira A CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART

591 Broad Street
Newark, NJ 07102-4403
p. 973 622-1600 f. 973 622-6526
www.aljira.org

Please cut along dotted line.

ALJIRA EMERGE APPLICATION FORM (SPRING 2008)

CONTACT INFORMATION

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Work/day Phone (_____) Home/evening Phone (_____)

E-mail address _____ Mobile Phone (_____)

PERSONAL INFORMATION (FOR STATISTICAL USE ONLY)

Please help us by supplying this personal information. It is compiled anonymously for reports in support of funding for Aljira and the Aljira Emerge program. It has no impact on a candidate's consideration for admission to the Aljira Emerge program.

Date of Birth (month/date/year) _____ Country of Birth _____

I am a: U.S. Citizen Permanent legal resident

Gender: Female Male

Ethnicity: African American Asian/Pacific Islander American European American Latino American Middle Eastern American
 Native American Multi-heritage Other (please specify) _____

How did your hear about the Aljira Emerge program? _____

I meet the eligibility requirements and the information provided is true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that Aljira is not liable for damage or loss of materials submitted and if accepted into the program they may use images of my work for promotional and educational purposes only. Beyond formal notification, Aljira will not enter into any verbal or written correspondence regarding the decision of the Aljira Emerge selection committee.

Artist's Signature _____ Date (month/date/year) _____