

# THE DAVID PRIZE

## 2022 – 2023 SUBMISSION QUESTIONS

### STEP 1 INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the 2022 Open Call for The David Prize!

A few things before you start to make sure The David Prize and our process will be a good match for you and your ideas - we don't want to waste anyone's time. Please read and re-read the info on [thedavidprize.org](https://thedavidprize.org) to review the Prize parameters before proceeding (including our FAQ). Once you're sure you're a match, filling out this Step 1 Submission should take no more than 30 minutes. Yes, 30 minutes. We're not looking for complete grant proposals or mini-novels; we're seeking extraordinary individuals with ideas that may not be easy to describe. We're not going to get judge-y about sentence structure!

The David Prize is all about New Yorkers: people with the hustle, grit, and passion that epitomize our city. We're laser-focused on the individual - even more than their work or idea - and what makes them the best possible person to do what they're setting out to do for New York. We can't wait to hear what you're up to.

### STEP 1 QUESTIONS

**1. In one sentence, tell us how you plan to make New York City a better place for more of us.**

*280 characters. Give us a short and sweet, clear and concise, to-the-point description of what you do or plan to do. Check out previous [finalists](#) and [winners](#) for guidance.*

**2. Now expand on your answer; give us a broader view into your plans and tell us more specifically what you're going to build or do in New York City.**

*1500 characters. Seriously, 1500 max (spaces count). If you're working on more than one idea, share how they connect to a bigger vision. Give us a sketch of the steps, partners, and / or timeline to hatch your plans.*

**3. Why are you uniquely positioned to do your thing?**

*1500 characters. We want to know exactly what - your personal narrative, your experiences, your work history, your unparalleled grit - led you to the vision you're sharing. This is your chance to share your story and how it makes you the best person to do the work.*

**4. Share a link that will help us learn more about your ideas and work (optional).**

*Think website, social media, portfolio, video, etc. Don't stress if you don't have any of these things yet.*

**5. What sector or field best describes your work?**

*We know this is limiting, but select the one that best describes what you're up to.*

Multiple choice:

- Civics (know your rights, voting, public participation, etc)
- Creativity & culture (nightlife, arts, performance, etc)
- Education (teacher support, interrupted education, integration, etc)
- Environment & sustainability (transit, food access, waterfront, etc)
- Health (frontline workers, behavioral health, maternal health, etc)
- Human rights & justice (immigration, disability, race & LGBTQ+ justice, etc)
- Jobs & economic opportunity (skills training, labor, entrepreneur support, etc)
- Neighborhoods, home & community (placemaking, housing, social connection, etc)
- Technology & science (virtual reality, digital equity, research, etc)

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### 6. Which borough do you live in?

Multiple choice:

- The Bronx
- Brooklyn
- Manhattan
- Queens
- Staten Island
- Outside 5 Boroughs

### 7. What's your zip code?

*TIP! Start typing and your ZIP code will pop up; if it doesn't, use "Other" and a space to type your ZIP will appear. PO Box ZIP codes aren't included.*

Thanks for helping us understand if we're successfully and equitably spreading The David Prize opportunity into every part of the city.

### 8. Neighborhood?

*Start typing and neighborhood options will drop down.*

### 9. How did you hear about The David Prize?

*Word of mouth? Instagram? A billboard? Please share all the ways you've heard about the Prize. Your response will help us reach more New Yorkers next time.*

### 10. Have you applied for The David Prize before?

Multiple choice:

- Yes
- No

### 10a) If yes, which year?

*Check all that apply:*

- Fall 2019
- Fall 2020
- Fall 2021

### 10b) If yes, how have your ideas and work progressed - or completely changed - since you were last in touch?

*Max 1500 characters. Don't skip on this one, it's the most important question for returners. Tell us what's different this time around: how you've changed and/or how the work has changed. Show off what you've accomplished.*

## STEP 2 INTRODUCTION

Note that each response can contain a maximum of 1500 characters *including spaces*. 1500. That's it. Keep your answers short and sweet. We're not looking for brilliant grant writing or novels.

### A few tips:

- We have your Step 1 Submission on file, so there's no need to duplicate what you've already shared. You can view your Step 1 responses via your Submittable account if you need a reminder.
- If you're thinking, "This question overlaps with another one I've already answered," that's OK! It's about the combination of answers, recognizing that different people need different pathways to fully express their ideas.

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- The David Prize is all about **individuals** - finding those with the grit and vision to make New York's future better for more of us. That said, we know many folks aren't going it all alone. If your work happens in collaboration and community with others, tell us about that (and your role).
- Fitting your life's work into a few boxes is a tall order. Be creative, think outside those boxes, surprise us. We can't wait to get to know you.

Onward...

### STEP 2 QUESTIONS

#### 1. Tell us about YOUR New York.

*Explain the context you'll be working within, the questions / opportunities / issues you're interested in tackling, and how you see the city. Connect this to your big vision (e.g. if you are providing a service, share the scale of the need in NYC).*

#### 2. Why does New York, in particular, need this idea right now?

*This year has been tough. Our city is rebuilding, re-imagining, and reinventing to be better than it's ever been. Explain why the questions / opportunities / issues you're thinking about are so important in New York right now. Help us understand what solutions may already exist and why they aren't enough. Frame with NYC-specific data or stories where possible (even if it's a national issue, locate it in NYC for us).*

#### 3. If your work is successful, how will New York be a better place?

*Think, "In 5 years when my plans are fully realized, who will be better off and how?" Paint a bold and beautiful picture of a future New York.*

#### 4. What have you done to move your idea forward?

*Tell us about your 'skin in the game' so far. Even if we're the first to hear about this idea, describe the time you've put in, any financial contributions, classes completed, informal interviews conducted, products tested, etc. that illustrate your commitment to and capacity for getting it done.*

#### 5. Tell us what difference \$200K would make for you & your idea. What and where will it get you?

*Share how David Prize funding would catalyze your idea. How could this free you up to make it happen?*

#### 6. Attach something that captures your work (optional).

*Feel free to attach anything - a document with a longer narrative (if you need more space), pictures, a poem, a pitch deck, a report, a playbill, resume - to help us better understand your work.*

#### 7. With specific regard to your David Prize-worthy idea, how much money have you raised during the past year?

*We're looking for a total dollar amount, including any types of funding (from fundraiser donations to family gifts, revenue to foundation grants, and everything in between). If you've received significant in-kind donations, include their estimated value in the total you share. It's definitely ok if you haven't raised any money to date - need is one of our criteria!*

Multiple choice:

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- \$0 - \$10,000
- \$10,001 - \$50,000
- \$50,001 - \$100,000
- \$100,001 - \$250,000
- \$250,001 - \$500,000
- Above \$500,000

**8. Describe any awards, prizes, fellowships, recognition or scholarships you've received for the work you're sharing.**

*Have you and your work ever been in the spotlight? No problem if not.*

**9. Please share your story.**

*Most of this application asks about your plans to shape NYC for the better. Tell us how the city has shaped you.*

**10. Add a video introducing yourself (max 30 seconds) (optional).**