

## WHAT IS IT?

Artist Opportunity Grants provide funding support to Arizona artists as they take advantage of specific, unique opportunities that have the potential to significantly impact their work and career. This grant supports and empowers artists at critical stages in their creative lives as they work to raise the profile of their artistic practice and continue to innovate their work.

## WHO'S IT FOR?

Artists working in any discipline who live and work in Arizona. Whether you're just getting started or you have already experienced many career successes, the Opportunity Grant is available to help you take advantage of professional opportunities that will have a significant impact in advancing your artistic career.

## WHAT'S CONSIDERED A PROFESSIONAL OPPORTUNITY?

An "opportunity" may refer to many things:

- an invitation to exhibit at a gallery or museum;
- an audition for a major dance company performance;
- an invitation to undertake a project, performance, installation, etc;
- an invitation to present your work in a significant way that will expose your work to new audiences;
- the finishing/completion of new works, already underway, that will allow you to take advantage of a significant professional opportunity.

A significant "opportunity" can take many shapes depending on your medium and the stage of your career and so it is open for you to identify and define. In whatever way you define it, you will be asked to describe the significant professional impact that engaging in that opportunity will have on your career. An "opportunity" should not duplicate work or experience that you've had in the past but should be a new and exciting professional endeavor.

## APPLICATION & REVIEW TIMELINES

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. Applications are due the 15th of every month between February and May 2019. Applications will be reviewed, and applicants notified within two weeks of the due date. Funds are limited; grants will be awarded until all available funds are expended.

## DUE DATES

Friday, February 15  
 Friday, March 15  
 Monday, April 15  
 Wednesday, May 15

## FUNDING PERIOD

Eligible opportunities must take place between January 1 – June 30, 2019

### PRIMARY STAFF CONTACT:

Gabriela Muñoz  
 Artist Programs Manager  
 (602) 771-6530 | gmunoz@azarts.gov

### SUBMITTABLE TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Email: support@submittable.com  
 Phone: (855) 467-8264, ext. 2  
 Web: help.submittable.com

# AOG ARTIST OPPORTUNITY GRANT

## AWARD AMOUNT

Artists may request between \$500 and \$2,000 in funding. The number of grants awarded is dependent upon the amount of funds available. No match is required.

## ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

Grant funds may be used for any of the following (this list is not comprehensive):

- Equipment purchases, materials, or services needed to fulfill/engage in the opportunity;
- Rental fees, including equipment, instruments, facility, etc., which support the artistic opportunity;
- Preparation, freight, and/or shipping costs;
- Costs associated with the documentation of the opportunity;
- Travel necessary to engage in the opportunity;
- Professional fees.

## THE APPLICATION

When you're ready, go to <https://azarts.gov/grant/artist-opportunity-grant/> and click on "Apply Now." This will take you to a website called Submittable where you'll submit your application materials. Please note that late or incomplete applications will be ineligible for review or funding.

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## NARRATIVE PROPOSAL DETAILS

Answer each of these questions.

You can type up your proposal narrative (1000 words),

or

You can upload it in a video or audio recording (no more than 6 minutes in length).

- a) Describe the opportunity you will engage in with the grant funds. What are your specific proposed activities?
- b) Tell us about your artistic practice and why this unique opportunity is appropriate and vital to your work at this stage of your career.
- c) What is the impact you anticipate this opportunity will have on your career?
- d) How will engaging in this opportunity introduce your work to new audiences, expand your network or raise your artistic profile?

If you share your proposal narrative in a video or audio recording, keep it simple and to the point. Please do not include work samples, speakers other than yourself, or special effects. Production quality of this recording will not be considered in your review. Just make sure we can hear and understand you and keep editing and post-production embellishment to a minimum.

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## WORK SAMPLES

Submit work samples you've completed in the last 10 years which are relevant to the opportunity. From the list to the right, please choose the most appropriate artistic work sample format to represent your discipline.

- 3 minutes of recorded audio, or
- 3 minutes of recorded video, or
- 6 images, or
- 5 pages of double-spaced text or 3-5 poems, or
- Combination of materials listed above: Please edit accordingly for no more than a total of 3 minutes of reviewing time (2 images=1 min.)

Please do not submit promotional materials. Panelists can't assess your work based on an exhibition poster, an event program, or a published review. Remember to test your work samples as you upload them.

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## WORK SAMPLE DESCRIPTIONS

Provide a brief description explaining how the submitted work sample(s) relate to your proposal. Why did you choose them?

- Title of work
  - Date completed/premiered
  - Location/site of exhibitions or presentation of work
  - Dimensions and medium of work(s)
- 

## EXPERIENCE LIST

Provide 5 to 10 professional arts-based experiences you have engaged in over the past 10 years and briefly describe how each experience demonstrates progression of your artistic career.

How does engaging in the opportunity you propose deepen and expand your career based on the experiences you listed?

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## EXPENSES LIST

List eligible expenses ONLY (equipment, materials, services, rental fees, facility fees, preparation, freight, shipping, documentation, travel, professional fees, etc.) related to your proposal.

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## GRANT AMOUNT REQUESTED

Indicate the grant amount you are requesting, based on eligible expenses, between \$500 and \$2,000.

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## BUDGET NARRATIVE

If your eligible expenses exceed \$2,000, please tell us how you will fund the rest of your proposed activities.

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## EVALUATION CRITERIA

Here's what panelists will be thinking about as they review your application materials:

### Quality of Proposed Opportunity

Did you clearly outline the specific details of the opportunity and who you will be working with? Does the application narrative outline how the opportunity is unique, timely and specifically important in relation to your current artistic trajectory?

### Potential Impact to Artist's Career

Does the application describe the potential impact to your professional artistic practice and career in the narrative proposal details submitted? Is the opportunity a unique and new professional endeavor? Does the opportunity have the potential to facilitate subsequent creative work? Does the opportunity have the potential to raise your artistic profile?

### Feasibility

Does the application demonstrate substantial evidence that the proposal will be realized within the funding period? Does the application include a reasonable expenses list for the scope and scale of your proposed activities? Are the experiences you describe relevant to the opportunity you propose?

## APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be individuals and may submit only one application per year. Organizations are not eligible to apply. At the time an application is submitted, and the grant is awarded, an applicant must be:

- 18 years of age or older;
- not enrolled for more than three credit hours at a college or university;
- and a resident of Arizona.

Full-time faculty at a college or university are not eligible to apply. Adjunct faculty are eligible to apply. An individual may receive only one Artist Opportunity Grant award every fiscal year.

## FUNDING RESTRICTIONS

This program does not fund the following:

- Opportunities that take place outside of the funding period;
- Curatorial costs or curatorial projects;
- Ongoing studio or space rental;
- Medical, legal, administrative, or accounting fees/expenses;
- Equipment not related to the opportunity;
- Teaching artist residencies;
- Costs related to activities for which the applicant is employed or contracted;
- Costs related to academic research or formal study toward an academic or professional degree;
- Fundraising projects, food and beverages for any purpose;
- Grant administration, overhead, or processing fees taken by an umbrella/parent organization.

# AOG ARTIST OPPORTUNITY GRANT

Additionally, according to the Arts Commission’s enabling statutes, “Notwithstanding any other law, no monies from the Arizona Commission on the Arts may be spent for payment to any person or entity for use in desecrating, casting contempt on, mutilating, defacing, defiling, burning, trampling or otherwise dishonoring or causing to bring dishonor on religious objects, the flag of the United States or the flag of this state.” Recipients of Arts Commission support are further instructed to “take into consideration general standards of decency and respect for the diverse beliefs and values of the American public” within funded programs.

## INVESTING IN ARIZONA’S INNOVATORS AND CREATIVE CONTRIBUTORS

In 2018, the Arizona Commission on the Arts and the Arizona Community Foundation (ACF) embarked upon a public-philanthropic partnership supported in part by funding from the Newton and Betty Rosenzweig Fund for the Arts, an endowment held at ACF. The collaboration aims to increase strategic investments in artists, supporting the work they do as innovators and creative contributors to Arizona’s future.

Assessing Arizona’s arts-funding landscape, ACF and the Arts Commission determined that there was a clear shortage of support for individual artists compared to other regions. Thanks to ACF’s investment, the Arts Commission created the Artist Opportunity Grant to provide funding support to Arizona artists as they take advantage of specific, unique opportunities that have the potential to significantly impact an artist’s work and career.

Both partners believe that Arizona is home to many artists who lead with creativity, resourcefulness, and ingenuity, and that supporting their work can enhance our state’s creative capacity for years to come. View the comprehensive partnership announcement at <https://azarts.gov/acf-partnership>.

