

PURPOSE

Opportunity Grants for Artists support Arizona artists as they take advantage of specific, unique opportunities that have the potential to significantly impact their professional growth.

WHAT IS AN ELIGIBLE OPPORTUNITY?

As this grant is available to artists working in all disciplines and at any stage in their career, a wide array of opportunities could be considered eligible.

Proposed opportunities may be self-generated or by invitation and must have potential for significant impact in one of these three categories:

- **Introduce Your Work to New Audiences:** An opportunity to present your work in a significant way that will expose your work to new audiences or raise your artistic profile.
- **Develop New Skills:** An opportunity to develop new artistic skills through participation in activities such as conferences, artist residencies, workshops, fellowships, master classes, or apprenticeships.
- **Develop Your Artistic Entrepreneurship:** An opportunity to engage in entrepreneurial activities directly related to the advancement of your work. Such activities may include production of marketing materials, website development, payment of professional fees (lawyers, accountants, etc.), and any practice-related capital expenses (equipment, materials, short-term rental, etc.)

Keep in mind you will be asked to describe how engaging in the opportunity will advance your work. Further, the opportunity should not duplicate previous work or experiences, but should represent a new and exciting professional endeavor.

AWARD AMOUNT

Artists may request between \$500 and \$1,500 in funding. The number of grants awarded is dependent upon the amount of funds available. No match is required.

FUNDING PERIOD AND DUE DATES

Eligible project activities must take place between September 18, 2019 and June 30, 2020.

Application Due

November 1, 2019, 11:59 pm

CYCLE A

Funding Period

September 18, 2019 - June 30, 2020

Application Due

February 14, 2020, 11:59 pm

CYCLE B

Funding Period

November 2, 2019 - June 30, 2020

PRIMARY STAFF CONTACT

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Artist Programs Coordinator

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TECHNICAL SUPPORT

For questions regarding the Submittable online submission platform:

Email: support@submittable.com

Phone: (855) 467-8264, ext. 2

Web: help.submittable.com

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 (including short-term space and studio rentals), 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
- Registration fees
- Professional services which support the opportunity

THE APPLICATION

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

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 opportunity is appropriate and vital to your work at this stage of your career.
- c) How will engaging in this opportunity address at least one of the eligible opportunity categories (introduce your work to new audiences, develop new skills, or develop your artistic entrepreneurship)?
- d) Why are you excited about this opportunity? What is this going to make possible?

If you share your proposal narrative in a video or audio recording keep it simple and to the point. The recording should be just you, describing your proposal and answering the four questions listed above.

Please do not include edits of your work samples 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.

WORK SAMPLES

Submit work samples you've completed in the last 5 years. From the list to the right, please choose the most appropriate artistic work sample format to represent your discipline:

Applicant work samples

- 3 minutes of recorded audio
- 3 minutes of recorded video
- 6 images
- 5 pages of double-spaced text or 3-5 poems
- 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.

WORK SAMPLES DESCRIPTION

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

Include the following for each work sample:

- Title of the work
- Date completed/premiered

If applicable:

- Location/site of exhibition or presentation
- Dimensions and medium of the work

EXPERIENCE LIST AND DESCRIPTION

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

The experience list helps the panel situate the opportunity you propose in a broader context; please briefly describe the relevancy of the experiences you listed to the opportunity. (up to 200 words)

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.

GRANT AMOUNT REQUESTED

Indicate the grant amount you are requesting, based on eligible expenses, between \$500 and \$1,500.

BUDGET NARRATIVE

If your eligible expenses exceed \$1,500 please tell us how you will fund the rest of your proposed activities. (up to 200 words)

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? Does the application narrative outline how the opportunity is unique, relevant, and specifically important in relation to your current artistic trajectory?

POTENTIAL IMPACT

Did you share why you are excited about the opportunity and what it will make possible in the narrative proposal details submitted? Did you clearly describe the potential the opportunity has to introduce your work to new audiences, develop new artistic skills, or support the development of the entrepreneurial side of your artistic career?

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?

REVIEW PROCESS

Applications are internally reviewed within approximately 5-6 weeks of each due date and you will be notified via email shortly after if your application will receive funding.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be individuals and may submit only one application per cycle. 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 Opportunity Grant in any category each fiscal year.

OGA OPPORTUNITY GRANT: ARTISTS

FUNDING RESTRICTIONS

This program does not fund the following:

- Support for opportunities, activities, or projects which would otherwise be eligible for another Arts Commission grant, such as the Research & Development Grant, Arts Learning Collaboration Grant or Lifelong Arts Engagement Grant;
- Opportunities that take place outside of the funding period;
- Curatorial costs or curatorial projects;
- Ongoing studio or space rental;
- Equipment not related to the opportunity;
- 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.

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 will double the number of artist grants awarded annually, with ACF matching state funding, dollar-for-dollar.

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>.

