WHAT IS IT?

Youth Arts Engagement Grants support programs focused on young people ages 24 and under that occur outside of traditional school hours, and which provide creative expression in safe and nurturing environments, are rooted in youth voices, narratives and perspectives, and utilize the assets of the community being served.

WHO'S IT FOR?

Arizona nonprofit organizations with tax-exempt status, schools/districts, or units of government who serve youth 24 and under outside of traditional school hours. This may include programs taking place in arts venues, community centers, school sites, and other youth-oriented settings.

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

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

- artist, consultant, and other fees
- materials or supplies
- travel costs
- technology
- documentation
- evaluation

Grant funds cannot be used for any projects, or days of a project, that take place before the start date of the cycle in which they are submitted, and/or after the end of the fiscal year.

AWARD AMOUNT

Organizations can request $5,000 to $10,000.

FUNDING PERIOD AND DUE DATES

CYCLE A

Application Due
August 5, 2021, 11:59 pm

Funding Period
July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022

CYCLE B

Application Due
November 11, 2021, 11:59 pm

Funding Period
January 1, 2022 and June 30, 2022

PRIMARY STAFF CONTACT

Anastasia Freyermuth
Evaluation and Learning Manager
Phone: (602) 771-6529
Email: afreyermuth@azarts.gov

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

For questions regarding the Submittable online submission platform:

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

THE APPLICATION

When you're ready, go to https://azarts.gov/grant/youth-arts-egnagement 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.

Address each of these aspects of your proposal. You can type up your proposal narrative or you can upload it in video or audio recordings.

Narrative responses are limited to a maximum word (not character) count. Composing responses in a separate document allows an applicant to monitor the word counts set for each question.

If you share your proposal narrative in video or audio recordings keep it simple and to the point. The recordings should be just you, describing your proposal and answering the questions listed. Please do not include edits of your work samples or special effects. Production quality of these recordings 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.

ORGANIZATION/SCHOOL INFORMATION

Organization/School Information collected in this section of the application is used solely for internal and reporting purposes and will not be considered during the application review.

- Organization/School Name
- Organization/School Mission Statement
- County
- Secondary Point of Contact
- Authorizing Official
- IRS Letter of Determination (if applicable).
- Fiscal Sponsor Letter of Agreement (if applicable).
- Demographic make-up of organization staff and board

PROJECT INFORMATION

- Project Title (10 word limit)
- Project Summary (75 word limit)
- Proposed Start and End Date of   Project

NARRATIVE

Project Overview (400 word limit, 4 minute video/audio limit)

Provide a detailed description of your proposed project. What do you hope the project will achieve? If this is an ongoing project, describe how the project will build and shift based on conducted work.

Community of Learners (300 word limit, 3 minute video/audio limit)

What specific population(s) of learners are central to this project? Describe their assets and what they bring to the project.

Integrity of Project (300 word limit, 3 minute video/audio limit)

How will the work you propose reflect or respond to this community of learners? How is the project dealing with questions of culture, relevance, bias, and power dynamics?

Organization (300 word limit, 3 minute video/audio limit)

Describe the mission of your organization and its connection to arts learning based work. Who on your team, including teaching artists and/or partners, will lead this work? Describe their assets and what they bring to the project. Why are they a strong fit for the project?

Project Setting (150 word limit, 2 minute video/audio limit)

Where is the work taking place? Describe how this location is accessible to the community of learners and why it is important to the proposed project.

Project Timeline

Use the table provided to create a detailed timeline for the activities that will occur within the proposed start and end date of the project. Activities can include: planning the project, proposed project activities, and any evaluation or assessment. Convey a sense of the arc of the project from beginning, through the middle, to the end.

Evaluation (200 word limit, 2 minute video/audio limit)

State three major objectives and outcomes for this project. What method(s) will you use to evaluate how well the project achieved these objectives? If you have completed a similar project in the past, please share the evaluation results.

PROJECT BUDGET

Grant Amount Requested

Enter the grant amount you are requesting for this project. Organizations can request $5,000 to $10,000.

Project Expenses

List all project expenses including any expenses that exceed the grant amount and provide a short explanation of the expense.

Budget Narrative (200 word limit, 2 minute video/audio limit)

Provide a detailed budget narrative. Be as specific as possible about how you will use the grant funds, and the project's various fees and cost. If your project budget exceeds grant amount requested, explain additional funding sources. This is your opportunity to bring your project's budget to life, as if you were explaining it to the grant review panel.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

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

Quality of Proposed Project

Application demonstrates a strong arts learning project and asset-based premise.

Does the application clearly outline the important details of the project? Have you articulated the specific assets and contributions of the community of learners and collaborators involved? Does the application use asset-based language (like unique, passionate, capable, thriving) as opposed to deficit-based language (like at-risk, lacking, marginalized, underserved)? (See FAQ 1 for more information)

Integrity of Proposed Project

Viewed as a whole, the application demonstrates a consistency of proposed actions, values, methods, and goals.

Does the application articulate how the proposed project reflects or responds to the community of learners involved? Are the collaborators of the community or culture in which the project is rooted, and if not, how is the project dealing with questions of relevance, bias, and power dynamics?

Potential Impact

Application centers expected benefit to learners.

Are the objectives, outcomes and methods of evaluation well defined and relevant for the learners involved? Do

the community of learners have a voice in the development and implementation of the project?

Viability

Application demonstrates a strong project plan and appropriateness of budget.

Does the application demonstrate substantial evidence that the proposal will be realized within the proposed project timeline? Are the expenses you describe appropriate to the project you propose?

APPLICANT ELIGIILITY

- Eligible organizations include arts and cultural organizations, community-based service organizations, libraries, neighborhood centers, parks and recreation departments, social service organizations, university/collage departments, PreK-12 school or school district who serve youth 24 and under outside of traditional school hours. Unincorporated organizations may apply through a registered nonprofit fiscal sponsor.

- An applicant may submit only one application per cycle and may receive only one Youth Arts Engagement

- Grant per fiscal year.

- The Arts Commission limits the number of applications that may be submitted by an organization, school, or unit of government to one arts learning application per funding period. (See FAQ number 5 for more information)

- Arts organizations may not partner with more than one K-12 school/district serving as a direct applicant for a Youth Arts Engagement Grant.

FUNDING RESTIRICTIONS

This program does not fund the following:

- Organizations and schools that received Arts Commission funding in Fiscal Year 2021, but failed to file a final report.
- Applications submitted by for-profit organizations.
- Applications that seek to supplant arts programs, curriculum or arts educators in schools.
- Strictly field trip or performance-based activities.
- Support for individual professional development activities which would otherwise be eligible for an Opportunity Grant for Teaching Artists.
- Applications submitted for both a Festival and a Youth Arts Engagement Grant which seek funding for the same project or activities.
- Funding for insurance.
- Food and beverages for any purpose.
- Fundraising projects.
- Space/costume/set rental.
- Scholarships, awards and competitions.
- Religious institution-led or religious group-sponsored projects not open to participation by non-congregants.
- Religious institution-led or religious group-sponsored projects whose primary purpose is the religious socialization of individuals or which exist as parts of religious sermons or services.
- Producing organizations to tour or present themselves.
- Indirect costs.
- Grant administration, overhead or processing fees taken by an umbrella/parent organization as a percentage of the total award, with the exception of fiscal sponsors.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The following section provides answers to a few of the most frequently asked questions regarding Youth Arts Engagement Grant applications. This section is not comprehensive. If your questions are not answered here, please contact the appropriate staff contact.

1. **What is asset based vs. deficit-based language? How can we address various inequalities in our narrative?**
Asset-based language focuses on the unique attributes the participants bring to the project (passionate, capable, thriving) as opposed to deficit-based language that define people and places by perceived insufficiencies (like at- risk, lacking, marginalized, underserved). If you're talking about a problem, use language that reflects that systematic disparities and communitywide problems in fact have systemic causes, that harm has been done, and that these are not self-caused problems, and explicitly describe those systems whenever possible. Let's not define people and places by their deficits. But let's also commit to telling the truth about how those deficits got there.

2. **Can my organization apply for a Youth Arts Engagement Grant in multiple cycles?**
    Organizations may only receive one Youth Arts Engagement Grant per fiscal year. For example, if an organization applies in one of the two Cycles for Fiscal Year 2022 and IS funded, they may not apply again in the following Cycle for that Fiscal Year. If the application is NOT funded, it can be resubmitted in a future cycle.

3. **Can a school district and a school within that district both apply?**
    An individual school and a school district may each submit separate applications, but they must be for completely distinct and separate projects and be for projects that occur outside of traditional school hours.

4. **When should I contact my district about applying for this grant?**
    We recommend contacting the Grant Department or Fiscal Office at your district 2-3 months prior to the grant deadline.

5. **My organization is eligible for multiple arts learning grant programs. Can I apply for more than one?**
    No. Though an entity may be eligible for more than one arts learning grant program, the Arts Commission limits the number of applications which may be submitted by an applicant to one arts learning grant program within the same funding period. As an example, an applicant who applies to the Youth Arts Engagement program in Fiscal Year 2022 may not apply for a Lifelong Arts Engagement Grant that same year.

6. **I'm an arts organization, am I eligible to apply directly and serve as a partner in another project Youth Arts Engagement grant project?**
    No. Due to the size and scale of the Youth Arts Engagement grant program, arts organizations awarded a YAE grant, are not eligible to serve as a partner on other Youth Arts Engagement grant funded projects.

7. **My organization is eligible for other Arts Commission grants (not arts learning related). Can I apply to those?**
    Yes. Organizations which are eligible for multiple grant programs offered by the Arizona Commission on the Arts may apply for and receive both an arts learning grant and another grant from a different department. For example, if an organization is awarded a Lifelong Arts Engagement Grant and they could also apply for and receive a general operating support grant that same year. This applies to arts learning grant programs only; other grant programs may retain application limits and guidelines should be reviewed carefully for specific eligibility.

ARIZONA COMMISSION ON THE ARTS

One of 56 state and jurisdictional arts agencies across the United States, the Arizona Commission on the Arts is a 52-year-old agency of the State of Arizona and a leading force in the creative and professional development of Arizona's arts sector. Through robust programs, research initiatives and strategic grantmaking, the Arts Com-mission catalyzes arts-based partnerships that strengthen Arizona communities through the arts.

We imagine an Arizona where everyone can participate in and experience the arts.

For more information, contact us at (602) 771-6501 or email info@azarts.gov or visit www.azarts.gov. To request this or any other publication in an alternate format, contact the Arts Commission offices. An equal employment opportunity agency.