

WHAT IS IT?

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

WHO IS IT FOR?

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;
- 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.

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 or more 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 (like equipment purchases, materials, services, rental fees for equipment or facility, etc.)

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 opportunities must take place during the funding period dates of the cycle in which they are submitted.

Application Due

August 18, 2022, 11:59 pm

CYCLE A

Funding Period

July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

Application Due

December 1, 2022, 11:59 pm

CYCLE B

Funding Period

January 1, 2023 - June 30, 2023

PRIMARY STAFF CONTACT

Anna Needham (Red Lake Ojibwe)

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

WHAT IS AN ELIGIBLE OPPORTUNITY? (CONT.)

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 or further developing professional endeavor.

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 documentation of the opportunity
- Travel necessary to engage in the opportunity* (see Funding Restrictions for more information)
- Registration fees
- Professional fees which support the artistic opportunity

Grant funds cannot be used for any opportunities or activities that take place before the start date of the cycle in which they are submitted, and/or after the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2023). If your opportunity starts before or ends after the funding period, you are still eligible to apply and should articulate the full timeline in your application, but may only request and use grant funds for related activities taking place within the funding period.

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,

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? (250 words)
- b) Tell us about your artistic practice and why this opportunity is appropriate and vital to your work at this stage of your career. (250 words)
- 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)? (250 words)
- d) What next steps in your artistic career would be made possible after completing this opportunity? How does it tie to your future artistic goals and trajectory? (250 words)

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.

TIMELINE OF PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

Provide a timeline that details the proposed activities related to your opportunity.

Please format the timeline as "Date/Month Year: Name of Activity." Indicate which dates are finalized with an asterisk at the end of the Name of the Activity.

This may be a single date, such as "April 12, 2022: Day of Workshop*" or a bullet point list like the following:

- January-February 2022: Preparing Sheet Music for Printing & Rehearsing Flute Solo.
- March 3-5, 2022: Record with Jane Doe at AZArts Recording Studio Solo Pieces*
- March 6-8, 2022: Record with Jane Doe at AZArts Recording Studio Finalized Group Compositions*

WORK SAMPLES

Submit work samples you've completed within 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
- 3 pages of double-spaced text, 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. 1 page = 1 min.)

You will be asked to provide the following information (as applicable) for each work sample you submit.:

- Title of work
- Date completed/premiered
- Location/site of exhibitions or presentation of work
- Dimensions of work
- Medium of work
- Collaborators

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 opportunity. What is the overall relevance of these work samples to your proposal? (150 words)

EXPERIENCE LIST AND DESCRIPTION

Provide 3 to 10 arts-based experiences you have engaged in over the past 10 years that relate to the opportunity you want to engage in and briefly describe how each experience demonstrates progression of your artistic trajectory leading to the opportunity.

The experience list helps the panel situate the opportunity you propose in a broader context; please briefly describe the overall 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 what next steps would be possible after the opportunity and how it relates to your artistic goals 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 and timeline 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.

- Cycle A Notification: October 6, 2022
- Cycle B Notification: February 2, 2023

AOG ARTIST OPPORTUNITY GRANT

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 or Festival Grant;
- Teaching artist residencies;
- Opportunities that take place outside of the funding period;
- Ongoing studio or space rental;
- Equipment not related to the opportunity;
- Costs related to activities for which the applicant is employed or contracted;
- Opportunities related to academic research or formal study toward an academic or professional degree, such as capstone projects;
- Fundraising projects, food and beverages for any purpose;
- Grant administration, overhead, or processing fees taken by an umbrella/parent organization.
- Costs for nonrefundable travel expenses which are cancelled or postponed beyond the funding period end date.

** Due to the continuously evolving nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, please be aware that if travel plans are cancelled or postponed for beyond June 30, 2022, grantees will need to adjust their project budget accordingly to redirect awarded funds to other eligible expenses and/or return a portion of the grant funds.*

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.

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>.

