

## WHAT IS IT?

Research & Development (R&D) Grants provide funding support to Arizona artists as they work to advance their artistic practice, expand their creative horizons, and deepen the impact of their work.

## WHO IS 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 R&D Grant is available to help you take your artistic practice to the next level, including:

- exploration of new techniques
- experimentation with new materials or technologies
- creation of new work
- development of new strategies for engaging your community of practice

## HOW DO I APPLY?

The R&D Grant application process is split into two stages so applicants don't spend a lot of time doing unnecessary work. After your Stage 1 application materials are reviewed by a panel of independent arts professionals, applications determined to be most competitive according to evaluation criteria will move on to Stage 2.

## HOW MUCH IS IT?

# \$3,000-\$5,000

Applicants may request a minimum of \$3,000 and a maximum of \$5,000. Up to 30 grants will be awarded this year.

## WHAT CAN I SPEND IT ON?

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

- Stipend to grantee
- Stipends to collaborators
- Materials
- Travel costs
- Technology
- Equipment
- Space rental
- Marketing costs
- Production costs
- Documentation
- Rehearsal time

The funding period is January 2023 - January 2024. Proposed activities may be underway prior to the time of application but must be completed by January 31, 2024.

### APPLICATION: STAGE 1

Proposal Narrative & Work Samples

Submit by  
11:59 pm, July 7, 2022

STAGE 2 NOTIFICATION  
September 13, 2022

### APPLICATION: STAGE 2

Process Map, Experience List, & Expense List

Submit by  
11:59 PM, October 13, 2022

PANEL REVIEW  
November 18, 2022

### GRANTS AWARDED

December 15, 2022

FUNDS DELIVERED  
by April 7, 2023

## PRIMARY STAFF CONTACT

**Kesha Bruce**  
Artist Programs Manager  
Phone: (602) 771-6530  
Email: [kbruce@azarts.gov](mailto:kbruce@azarts.gov)

## TECHNICAL SUPPORT

For questions about the Submittable online submission platform:

Email: [support@submittable.com](mailto:support@submittable.com)  
Phone: (855) 467-8264, ext. 2  
Web: [help.submittable.com](http://help.submittable.com)

## ACCESSIBILITY & ACCOMMODATIONS

If you require accommodation in completing this application, or otherwise participating in the grant application process, please contact the Artist Programs Manager, Kesha Bruce, by phone at (602) 771-6530 or by email at [kbruce@azarts.gov](mailto:kbruce@azarts.gov).

## STAGE 1: THE APPLICATION

**DUE BY 11:59PM, JULY 7, 2022**

When you're ready, go to <https://azarts.gov/grant/artist-research-and-development/> and click on "Apply Now." This will take you to a website called Submittable where you'll submit your application materials.

### NARRATIVE PROPOSAL DETAILS

Answer each of these questions.

You can type up your proposal narrative (1200 words),

or

You can upload it in a video or audio recording (no more than 8 minutes in length).

- a) Describe the work you propose to do with the grant funds. What are your specific proposed activities?
- b) Tell us about your community of practice as it relates to (or is specific for) your proposed activities.
- c) How will the work you propose to do reflect, impact, or otherwise respond to your community of practice?
- d) How does this proposal relate to the work you currently do?
- e) How would receiving this grant deepen your overall artistic practice?
- f) If you have collaborators, who are they and how do they contribute to your proposed work? (Answer this question only if you are working with anyone else.)

### **Narrative Proposal Reminders and Tips**

**Do not** include links to external websites or video hosting platforms such as YouTube or Vimeo.

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 five 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.

### WHAT IS A COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE?

Community can mean different things to different people in different contexts, and we encourage you to define your community in a way that makes sense for your artistic practice and this proposal.

Your community of practice might be an intended audience or it might be others working within your artistic discipline or field of study. It might be defined by shared geography or by common cultural experience. Even if the work you propose will be done on your own and never be seen outside your studio, it is part of a larger conversation about art, craft, and/or culture. What community is your work in conversation with?

For further examples visit <https://azarts.gov/grants/rd-grant-applicant-resources/>

### 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

- 5 minutes of recorded audio
- 5 minutes of recorded video
- 10 images
- 5 pages of double-spaced text
- Combination of materials listed above. Please edit accordingly for no more than a total of 5 minutes of reviewing time (2 images=1 minute. 1 page = 1 minute.)

#### Work Sample Reminders and Tips

- *Always test your work samples as you upload them!*
- **Do not** submit promotional materials, exhibition posters, event programs, or published reviews as work samples.
- **Do not** include URL links to external websites or video hosting platforms.

If you have collaborators you may include one work sample per person, for up to 3 collaborators:

#### Collaborator(s) work samples

- 1 minute of recorded audio
- 1 minute of recorded video
- 2 images
- 1 page of double-spaced text or 1-2 poems
- Combination of materials listed above: Please edit accordingly for no more than a total of 1 minute of reviewing time (2 images=1 minute. 1 page = 1 minute.)

### 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:

- Artist's name
- Title of the work
- Date completed/premiered

*If applicable:*

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

## STAGE 1: EVALUATION CRITERIA

Here's what panelists will be thinking about as they review Stage 1 application materials:

### Potential Impact to Artist

Does the application describe the potential impact to your personal craft and/or body of work in the narrative proposal details submitted?

### Potential Impact to Artist's Community of Practice

Did you clearly define your community of practice? Does the application describe how the proposed work will impact, reflect, or respond to your artistic discipline, audience, field of study, place-based community, or broader community?

### Artistic Strength

Do the work samples you share reflect your distinct vision and originality? Does your work sample description convey a clear understanding of your craft—the techniques you use and the intention behind them—and commitment to artistic achievement?

## REVIEW PROCESS: STAGE 1

All applications submitted by 11:59 pm, July 7, 2022 will be reviewed by a panel of independent arts professionals from communities throughout the state. Applicants whose applications are determined to be most competitive according to evaluation criteria will be invited to submit additional materials and move on to Stage 2 of the application process.

**You will be notified whether or not your application will advance to Stage 2 no later than September 13, 2022.**

### BILL DESMOND WRITING AWARD

The Bill Desmond Writing Award provides funding support in the amount of \$1,000 to excelling nonfiction writers for specific project-related costs. The award is available to a nonfiction writer applying for the R&D Grant and can be offered independent of or in addition to the R&D award. No additional application materials are required.

Funding for the Bill Desmond Writing Award is generously provided by the Bill and Kathy Desmond Endowment.

## STAGE 2: THE APPLICATION

DUE BY 11:59 PM, OCTOBER 13, 2022

Applicants who advance to Stage 2 of review will be invited to submit additional information including a process map, an experience list, and an expense list. Panelists will review the application as a whole and convene for a public panel meeting to make final funding recommendations.

**PROCESS MAP**

Map the course of your creative process for this proposal by identifying 3 to 5 specific steps you will take during the funding period. These steps may include research, travel, activities or events, achievements, or anything else you will use to organize and track your artistic process and progress.

You will be asked to upload a 1-page Process Map (.jpg or .pdf) describing the specific steps you will take to complete your proposed work. You can provide a numbered list of steps, a timeline (with or without specific activity dates), a flow chart, drawing, sketch, other visual, or simply a written narrative.

**EXPERIENCE LIST**

Provide 3 to 5 personal, professional, and/or community-based experiences you have engaged in within the past 5 years that are relevant to your proposal. You may include 1-2 experiences that took place more than 5 years ago so long as they are especially relevant to your current proposal.

Briefly describe how each experience has prepared you for the work you propose to undertake.

***Experience List Reminders and Tips***

*Please do not simply include a list of highlights or accomplishments from your CV or resume. Instead, include experiences that clearly demonstrate that you have the knowledge and skill set necessary to complete the activities you've proposed in your application.*

**Collaborator's Experience List**

Provide 1 to 3 personal, professional, and/or community-based experiences that each of your collaborators engaged in the past 5 years.

Briefly describe how each experience is relevant to your proposal and has prepared your collaborators for the work you propose to undertake.

**EXPENSES LIST**

List total eligible expenses (artist stipends, including your own artist stipend, materials, travel costs, equipment, space rental, production costs, documentation, marketing, rehearsal time, childcare, etc.) related to your proposal.

Please include expenses even if you are not seeking funding for them and tell us about any additional income in the Budget Narrative section below.

## STAGE 2: THE APPLICATION

[CONTINUED]

### GRANT AMOUNT REQUESTED

Indicate the grant amount you are requesting, between \$3,000 and \$5,000.

### BUDGET NARRATIVE

Describe anything in the expenses list that would benefit from additional clarification. For example, if your expenses exceed \$5,000, please tell us how you will fund the rest of your proposed activities.

## STAGE 2: EVALUATION CRITERIA

As you develop your application materials for Stage 2, consider that the panelists will be thinking about Stage 1 Application Materials and Evaluation Criteria in addition to the following:

### 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? Do the process map and experience list provide evidence of your ability and capacity to realize your proposal? Are the experiences you describe relevant to the work you propose? Does the process map present a clear path to your goals?

### Integrity of Proposal

Viewed as a whole, does your application demonstrate the integrity with which you approach your artistic practice and the community of practice you defined? Do your application materials demonstrate a commitment to high ethical standards and equitable professional practices in regard to proposed actions, values, methods, and goals?

## REVIEW PROCESS: STAGE 2

After the October 13 due date, your Stage 1 and Stage 2 application materials will be evaluated by each member of the review panel individually, according to the evaluation criteria.

On November 18, 2022, the panelists will convene in Phoenix to discuss the applications as a group. This meeting is open to the public and applicants being reviewed will be notified of listening options. At the conclusion of the meeting, panelists will finalize their scores and recommend up to 30 applications for funding. These recommendations will then be sent to the Arts Commission's Governor-appointed board of commissioners for approval.

**Grantees will be notified in December 2022 and will receive grant funds by April 7, 2023..**

## 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.

Recipients of the R&D Grant must wait 4 years to reapply and may receive a maximum of 4 awards in their lifetime. This also applies to recipients of the previously-named Artist Research and Development Grant and previously-offered Artist Project Grant. Applicants who failed to submit a Final Report for a previous award are not eligible to apply.

## FUNDING RESTRICTIONS

This program does not fund the following:

- Support for activities, or projects which would otherwise be eligible for another Arts Commission grant, such as: Career Advancement Grant; Lifelong Arts Engagement Grant.
- Teaching artist residencies.
- Documentation of existing arts projects.
- 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.
- Expenses incurred in the presentation of final work, such as self-publishing, promotion, catalogs published by the artist(s), exhibition expenses, and self-presenting. Such expenses may be one component of the proposal but cannot be the sole purpose of the requested funds.
- Fundraising projects.
- Food and beverages for any purpose.
- Scholarships, awards, and competitions.
- Grant administration, overhead, or processing fees taken by an umbrella/parent organization.

*This list is not comprehensive.*

## 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>.



ARIZONA  
COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION

