

## Apply for a Grant

The National Endowment for the Arts continues to operate as usual and will do so until a new budget is enacted by Congress. The Arts Endowment continues to make FY 2019 grant awards and will continue to honor all obligated grant funds made to date. Additionally, the agency will continue to accept grant applications for FY 2020 at our usual deadlines.

The National Endowment for the Arts awards cost share/matching grants to nonprofit organizations, literature fellowships for published creative writers and translators, and partnership agreements for state arts agencies and regional arts organizations in support of arts projects in thousands of communities across the country.

Guidelines and application instructions are available here:

- **Grants for Organizations** (for a wide variety of arts projects)
- **Grants for Individuals** (for literature fellowships in creative writing and translation only)
- **Partnership Agreements** (for state and jurisdictional arts agencies and regional arts organizations)

## Grants for Organizations

Grants for organizations support exemplary projects in artist communities, arts education, dance, design, folk and traditional arts, literary arts, local arts agencies, media arts, museums, music, musical theater, opera, presenting and multidisciplinary works, theater, and visuals arts.

We fund **projects** only. Projects may be large or small, existing or new, and may take place in any part of the nation's 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories. Projects may consist of one or more specific events or activities.

**Funding is available through four categories:**

**Grants for Arts Projects | Challenge America | Our Town | Research Grants in the Arts**

## KEY INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

- **Categories**
- **Eligibility**
- **Application Restrictions**
- **Grant Review Process**
- **Contacts**

## Application Restrictions

- Generally, an organization is limited to one application per year under the Grants for Arts Projects OR the Challenge America categories. There are limited exceptions for parent organizations, such as universities or cultural complexes that apply on behalf of separately identifiable and independent components, and certain Media Arts projects.

- You may apply to other National Endowment for the Arts funding opportunities, including Our Town and Research: Grants in the Arts, in addition to Grants for Arts Projects or Challenge America. In each case, the request must be for a **distinctly different project**.

## **Grant Review Process**

Ever wanted to know what happens to your application once you submit it to the National Endowment for the Arts? Below we break down the steps in the journey that your application takes.

### *LIFECYCLE OF AN APPLICATION*

#### **GUIDELINES AVAILABLE**

Application guidelines are made available on the Arts Endowment website and through Grants.gov.

#### **APPLICATION SUBMITTED**

Applications that meet the deadline are assigned an application number. Applicant receives acknowledgment of application receipt. Applications are forwarded to Program staff.

#### **STAFF REVIEW**

Staff reviews applications for eligibility and completeness and may contact applicants if questions arise. Application materials are made available to panelists several weeks before the panel meeting.

#### **PANEL REVIEW**

Panels are made up of experts with knowledge and experience in the area under review. Each application is reviewed and rated in accordance with the published review criteria.

#### **NATIONAL COUNCIL/CHAIRMAN REVIEW**

The staff reconciles the panel recommendations with available funds and forwards them to the National Council on the Arts, where they are reviewed in open session. The Council makes recommendations on which applications to fund and which applications to reject. The Chairman makes the final decision on all grant awards.

#### **NOTIFICATION**

Applicants not recommended for funding are notified soon after the final decisions are made. Applicants who are recommended for funding will have the opportunity to provide updated information about their project, including changes to the project's scope or budget as needed, based on the recommended funding amount. Grantees later receive an official grant award notification with information about legal and reporting requirements. Any applicant may ask for a summary of comments on their application within 30 days after official notification.

## **Introduction**

Applications generally receive three levels of review. First, they are reviewed by independent, national panels of artists and other arts experts. Following panel review, applications are forwarded to the National Council on the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts' advisory body. The Council comprises nationally and internationally renowned artists, distinguished

scholars, and arts patrons appointed by the President, and members of Congress (who serve *ex officio*). The Council reviews and makes recommendations on the applications. Those recommendations for funding are sent to the National Endowment for the Arts Chairman. The Chairman reviews those applications recommended by the Council and makes the final decision on all grant awards.

### **Level I: Panel Review**

Our application review process relies upon the assistance of panelists from around the country who are experts in their fields. Annually, we conduct more than 75 review panels, involving 500-600 panelists, in the evaluation of approximately 5,000 applications. To review the applications, we assemble different panels every year, each diverse with regard to geography, race and ethnicity, and artistic points of view.

Our staff manages the process. Staff reviews applications for completeness and eligibility and assigns them to panels. Typically, approximately 40 applications are assigned to a panel of up to six panelists with knowledge and experience in the areas under review, including at least one knowledgeable layperson. Our legislation requires that all our panels be conflict free.

We provide our panelists with online access to the applications about a month in advance of the panel meeting. At this stage the panelists read the applications and review work samples, enter their preliminary comments, and assign initial ratings. All applications must be evaluated according to the review criteria listed in the application guidelines. Artistic excellence and artistic merit are the two primary criteria specified by Congress in our authorizing legislation; there are several elements under each. (Since the review criteria may vary from category to category, applicants should consult the criteria of the category to which they are applying.) Panelists later meet as a group to discuss applications in closed session. Informed by the panel discussion, they may change their initial ratings.

### **Level II: The National Council on the Arts**

The staff reconciles the panel recommendations with available funds and forwards them to the National Council on the Arts, where they are reviewed in open session. The Council makes recommendations on which applications to fund and which applications to reject.

In addition to making recommendations on applications for grants, the Council also makes recommendations to the Chairman on agency policies and programs, such as funding guidelines and leadership initiatives.

The National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965 established the National Endowment for the Arts and provided for citizens to serve as advisors to the agency as members of the National Council on the Arts. Members are appointed by the President and approved by the Senate for six-year, staggered terms. Currently, the Council has 18 voting members and an additional six members of Congress who serve in an *ex officio*, non-voting capacity for two-year terms.

The Presidential appointees, by law, are selected for their widely recognized knowledge of the arts or their expertise or profound interest in the arts. They have records of distinguished service or achieved eminence in the arts and are chosen to represent equitably all geographical areas of

the country. Congressional members are appointed in the following manner: two by the Speaker of the House, one by the Minority Leader of the House, two by the Majority Leader of the Senate, and one by the Minority Leader of the Senate.

### **Level III: The National Endowment for the Arts Chairman**

The Chairman reviews the recommendations for grants in all funding categories and makes the final decision on all grant awards. Applicants are then notified of funding decisions.

#### Transparency and Confidentiality at the National Endowment for the Arts

We seek to make our review process as transparent as possible, while protecting the confidentiality of applicants, panelists, staff, and Council members. Our advisory panel meetings are announced in the Federal Register and panelists' names are listed on our website once grants are announced. The public may not, however, attend panel meetings or Council sessions in which confidential application information is discussed. The names of applicants are kept confidential except for those who receive grants. We announce the names of grantees on our website. Sample application narratives from some grantees also may be viewed on our website. Applicants not recommended for funding are notified. After notification, any applicant may ask for a summary of the panel's comments on their application. In such instances, we must be contacted no later than 30 days after the official notification.

We're always looking for individuals with experience and/or expertise in one or more of the arts to serve as panelists. If you're interested in becoming a panelist, **fill out the Volunteer to be a Panelist form.**

### **Grants for Arts Projects**

These grants support artistically excellent projects that celebrate our creativity and cultural heritage, invite mutual respect for differing beliefs and values, and enrich humanity. Cost share/matching grants generally range from \$10,000 to \$100,000. A minimum cost share/match equal to the grant amount is required.

*Grant applications previously submitted to the Art Works category will now be submitted to the Grants for Arts Projects category.*

### **Deadlines:**

#### **First Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:**

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>February 13, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>February 18-25, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>November 2020</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>January 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least January 22, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least February 4, 2020.

#### **Second Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:**

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>July 9, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>July 14-21, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>April 2021</b>

<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>June 1, 2021</b>
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Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least June 17, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least June 30, 2020.

## GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: Grant Program Description

*Grant applications previously submitted to the Art Works category will now be submitted to the Grants for Arts Projects category.*

*“The Arts . . . belong to all the people of the United States” \**

Grants for Arts Projects is the National Endowment for the Arts’ principal grants program. Through project-based funding, we support public engagement with, and access to, various forms of excellent art across the nation, the creation of art that meets the highest standards of excellence, learning in the arts at all stages of life, and the integration of the arts into the fabric of community life. Projects may be large or small, existing or new, and may take place in any part of the nation’s 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories.

The National Endowment for the Arts is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and fostering mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all individuals and groups.

While we welcome applications for a variety of artistically excellent projects, we encourage projects that address any of the following activities below:

- Celebrate America’s creativity and/or cultural heritage.
- Invite a dialogue that fosters a mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all persons and groups.
- Enrich our humanity by broadening our understanding of ourselves as individuals and as a society.
- In the spirit of White House Executive Orders that encourage federal agencies to engage with typically underserved constituencies, the National Endowment for the Arts encourages applications from:
  - Historically Black Colleges and Universities,
  - Tribal Colleges and Universities,
  - American Indian and Alaska Native tribes,
  - African American Serving Institutions,
  - Hispanic Serving Institutions,
  - Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, and
  - Organizations that support the independence and lifelong inclusion of people with disabilities.

\*1965 Enabling Legislation for the National Endowment for the Arts in the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965

Cost share/matching grants generally will range from \$10,000 to \$100,000. No grants will be made below \$10,000. Grants of \$100,000 or more will be made only in rare instances, and only for projects that we determine demonstrate exceptional national or regional significance and

impact. In the past few years, well over half of the agency's grants have been for amounts less than \$25,000.

For more information about what we fund, see “We Fund/We Do Not Fund” in the box on the right.

**NOTE: MAKE THIS LIST A SIDEBAR**

**To apply, choose a discipline:**

- **Artist Communities**
- **Arts Education**
- **Dance**
- **Design**
- **Folk & Traditional Arts**
- **Literary Arts**
- **Local Arts Agencies**
- **Media Arts**
- **Museums**
- **Music**
- **Musical Theater**
- **Opera**
- **Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works**
- **Theater**
- **Visual Arts**

If you have questions, **contact the staff** for the field/discipline that is most appropriate for your project.

#### GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS BASICS

- **Grant Program Description**
- **We Fund/We Do Not Fund**
- **Application Calendar**
- **Award Information**
- **Applicant Eligibility**
- **Application Review**
- **Award Administration**
- **Other Information**
- **FAQs**
- **Contacts**
- **Disciplines**

#### TO APPLY: ARTIST COMMUNITIES (SAME FOR ALL DISCIPLINES)

- **Artist Communities**
  - **How to Prepare and Submit an Application**
  - **Part 1: Submit to Grants.gov**



- **Part 2: Submit Materials to the Applicant Portal (PDF)**

GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS RESOURCES NOTE: ONLY WILL APPEAR ON DISCIPLINE PAGES

- **Grants for Arts Projects Guidelines Webinar (TBD)**
- **Webinar for Challenge America Applicants Interested in Applying to Grants for Arts Projects (TBD)**
- **Online Tutorial: Using the Grant Application Form (GAF)**
- **Grants.gov Support**
- **SAM.gov Help**
- **Sample Application Narratives**
- **Application Checklist**
- **Accessibility Checklist**
- **Accessibility Questions for Recommended Applicants**
- **Recent Grants**
- **Program Evaluation Resources**
- **National Endowment for the Arts Historic Preservation Review Process**

## GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: We Fund/We Do Not Fund

### We Fund

We fund nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3), U.S. organizations; units of state or local government; or federally recognized tribal communities or tribes.

We fund **projects only**.

- A project may consist of one or more specific events or activities; it may be a part of an applicant's regular season or activities. Organizations that undertake a single short-term project in a year -- a ten-day jazz festival, for example -- could apply for that event, or they could identify certain components (such as the presentation of a key artist and the associated activities) as their project. Describe the activities for which our support is requested, and provide specific information on the artists, productions, venues, distribution plans, etc., that will be involved.
- Organizations may apply for any or all phases of a project, from its planning through its implementation.
- A project does not have to be new. Excellent existing projects can be just as competitive as new activities.
- Projects do not need to be large. We welcome small projects that can make a difference in a community or field.
- Projects may be in any of the Arts Endowment's artistic disciplines.

### We Do Not Fund

Under these guidelines, funding is **not** available for:

- Direct grants to individuals. (We encourage applicant organizations to involve individual artists in all possible ways.)
- Awards to individuals or organizations to honor or recognize achievement.
- General operating or seasonal support.
- Cash reserves and endowments.
- Costs for the creation of new organizations.
- Construction, purchase, or renovation of facilities. (Design fees, preparing space for an exhibit, installation or de-installation of art, and community planning are eligible. However, no National Endowment for the Arts or cost share/matching funds may be directed to the costs of physical construction or renovation or toward the purchase costs of facilities or land.)
- Commercial (for-profit) enterprises or activities, including concessions, food, T-shirts, or other items for resale.
- Subgranting or regranting, except for state arts agencies, regional arts organizations, or local arts agencies that are designated to operate on behalf of their local governments or are operating units of city or county government. (**See more information on subgranting.**)
- Costs to bring a project into compliance with federal grant requirements. This includes environmental or historical assessments or reviews and the hiring of individuals to write assessments or reviews or to otherwise comply with the National Environmental Policy Act and/or the National Historic Preservation Act.
- Individual elementary or secondary schools -- charter, private, or public -- directly. Schools may participate as partners in projects for which another eligible organization applies. Local education agencies, school districts, and state and regional education agencies are eligible. If a single school also is a local education agency, as is the case with some charter schools, the school may apply with documentation that supports its status as a local education agency.
- Projects that replace arts instruction provided by an arts specialist.
- Generally, courses in degree-granting institutions.
- Literary publishing that does not focus on contemporary literature and/or writers.
- Generally, publication of books, exhibition of works, or other projects by the applicant organization's board members, faculty, or trustees.
- Generally, exhibitions of, and other projects that primarily involve, single, individually-owned, private collections.
- Projects for which the selection of artists or art works is based upon criteria other than artistic excellence and merit. Examples include festivals, exhibitions, or publications for which no jury/editorial/curatorial judgment has been applied.
- Expenditures related to compensation to foreign nationals and/or travel to or from foreign countries when those expenditures are not in compliance with regulations issued by the U.S. Treasury Department Office of Foreign Assets Control. For further information, see <http://www.treas.gov/offices/enforcement/ofac/> or contact our Office of Grants Management at [grants@arts.gov](mailto:grants@arts.gov).
- Project costs supported by any other federal funding. This includes federal funding received either directly from a federal agency (e.g., National Endowment for the Humanities, Housing

and Urban Development, National Science Foundation, or an entity that receives federal appropriations such as the Corporation for Public Broadcasting or Amtrak); or indirectly from a pass-through organization such as a state arts agency, regional arts organization, or a grant made to another entity.

- Social activities such as receptions, parties, galas.
- Alcoholic beverages.
- Gifts and prizes, including cash prizes as well as other items (e.g., electronic devices, gift certificates) with monetary value.
- Contributions and donations to other entities.
- General miscellaneous or contingency costs.
- Fines and penalties, bad debt costs, deficit reduction.
- Lobbying, including activities intended to influence the outcome of elections or influence government officials regarding pending legislation, either directly or through specific lobbying appeals to the public.
- Voter registration drives and related activities.
- Marketing expenses that are not directly related to the project.
- Audit costs that are not directly related to a single audit (formerly known as an A-133 audit).
- Rental costs for home office workspace owned by individuals or entities affiliated with the applicant organization.
- Visa costs paid to the U.S. government.
- Costs incurred before the beginning or after the completion of the official period of performance.

All applicants should carefully review the **Assurance of Compliance** and Appendix A of our **General Terms and Conditions** (GTC) which detail other requirements that govern awards.

## GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: Application Calendar

There are two Grants for Arts Projects application deadlines. Note that some disciplines only accept certain project types at each deadline; see the guidelines for your project's **discipline** for more information.

### First Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>February 13, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>February 18-25, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>November 2020</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>January 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least January 22, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least February 4, 2020.

### Second Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>July 9, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
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<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>April 2021</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>June 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least June 17, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least June 30, 2020.

**NOTE: All Artist Communities and Design applicants must apply at the February 13, 2020, deadline.**

See "How to Prepare and Submit an Application" for application instructions.

An organization may submit only one application under these FY 2021 Grants for Arts Projects guidelines (see "**Application Limits**" for the few exceptions to this rule).

**Late, ineligible, and incomplete applications will not be reviewed.**

In the event of a major emergency (e.g., a hurricane or Grants.gov technological failure), the National Endowment for the Arts Chairman may adjust application deadlines for affected applicants. If a deadline is extended for any reason, an announcement will be posted on our website.

Do not seek information on the status of your application before the announcement date that is listed above.

**If you have questions:**

**Call or email:** see "**Agency Contacts.**"

If you have a question about access for individuals with disabilities:



202-682-5496 Voice/T.T.Y. (Text-Telephone, a device for individuals who are deaf or hard-of-hearing.)



Individuals who do not use conventional print should contact the Arts Endowment's Accessibility Office at 202-682-5532 for help in acquiring an audio recording of these guidelines.

CFDA No. 45.024

OMB No. 3135-0112 Expires TBD

December 2019

## Agency Contacts

If you have questions about your application, use the list below to determine your appropriate staff contact. We also encourage you to check the "**Frequently Asked Questions**" for a particular category for information.

**For Grants for Arts Projects, contact the staff for the field/discipline that is most appropriate for your project:**

### Artist Communities:

Jennie Terman, [termanj@arts.gov](mailto:termanj@arts.gov) or 202-682-5566

**Arts Education** (pre-K through 12 curriculum-based direct learning projects that align with either national or state arts education standards, professional development projects, or collective impact projects):

#### Direct Learning Projects:

Denise Brandenburg, [brandenburg@arts.gov](mailto:brandenburg@arts.gov) or 202-682-5044: Music, Opera

Nancy Daugherty, [daughern@arts.gov](mailto:daughern@arts.gov) or 202-682-5521: Dance, Literary Arts, Musical Theater, Theater

Lakita Edwards, [edwardsl@arts.gov](mailto:edwardsl@arts.gov) or 202-682-5704: Design, Folk & Traditional Arts, Local Arts Agencies, Media Arts, Museums, Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works, Visual Arts

#### Professional Development Projects:

Nancy Daugherty, [daughern@arts.gov](mailto:daughern@arts.gov) or 202-682-5521

#### Collective Impact Projects:

Denise Brandenburg, [brandenburg@arts.gov](mailto:brandenburg@arts.gov) or 202-682-5044

**Dance** (including dance presentation):

Kate Folsom, [folsomk@arts.gov](mailto:folsomk@arts.gov) or 202-682-5764

Juliana Mascelli, [mascellij@arts.gov](mailto:mascellij@arts.gov) or 202-682-5656

**Design** (including architecture, communications and graphic design, fashion design, historic preservation, industrial and product design, interior design, landscape architecture, inclusive design, rural design, social impact design, and urban design):

Courtney Spearman, [spearmanc@arts.gov](mailto:spearmanc@arts.gov) or 202-682-5603

**Folk & Traditional Arts** (including folk & traditional arts projects in any art form):

William Mansfield, [mansfieldw@arts.gov](mailto:mansfieldw@arts.gov) or 202-682-5678

### Literary Arts:

Jessica Flynn, [flynnj@arts.gov](mailto:flynnj@arts.gov) or 202-682-5011

**Local Arts Agencies** Local arts agencies (LAAs) generally are referred to as arts councils, departments of cultural affairs, or arts commissions. LAAs can be nonprofit entities or public sector municipal, county, or regional agencies that operate in cooperation with mayors and city managers. LAAs may present and/or produce arts programming, commission and manage public art, administer grant programs, provide technical assistance to artists and arts organizations, and guide cultural planning efforts. Still others may own, manage, and/or operate cultural facilities and be actively engaged in community development, and partner with entities in tourism, social services, public education, housing, economic development, and public safety. All strive to enhance the quality of life in their communities by working to increase public access to the arts. You will also find national and statewide arts service organizations in the LAA portfolio that work primarily with a network of LAAs. LAAs should submit applications through Local Arts Agencies regardless of project discipline, unless the project's primary discipline is either Arts Education or Folk & Traditional Arts. Please consult with staff prior to submission:

Lara Holman Garritano, [garritanol@arts.gov](mailto:garritanol@arts.gov) or 202-682-5586

**Media Arts:**

Sarah Burford, [burfords@arts.gov](mailto:burfords@arts.gov) or 202-682-5591  
Avril Claytor, [claytora@arts.gov](mailto:claytora@arts.gov) or 202-682-5028

**Museums** (including projects in any discipline that are submitted by a museum):

Organizations with names that begin A through N: Toniqua Lindsay, [lindsayt@arts.gov](mailto:lindsayt@arts.gov) or 202-682-5529  
Organizations with names that begin O through Z: Tamika Shingler, [shinglert@arts.gov](mailto:shinglert@arts.gov) or 202-682-5577

**Music** (including music presentation):

Organizations with names that begin A through L: Court Burns, [burnsc@arts.gov](mailto:burnsc@arts.gov) or 202-682-5590  
Organizations with names that begin M through Z: Anya Nykyforiak, [nykyfora@arts.gov](mailto:nykyfora@arts.gov) or 202-682-5487  
Jazz Projects: Katja von Schuttenbach, [vonschuttenbach@arts.gov](mailto:vonschuttenbach@arts.gov) or 202-682-5711

**Musical Theater** (including musical theater presentation):

Organizations with names that begin A through M: Ouida Maedel, [maedelo@arts.gov](mailto:maedelo@arts.gov) or 202-682-5509  
Organizations with names that begin N through Z: Ian-Julian Williams, [TBD@arts.gov](mailto:TBD@arts.gov) or 202-682-TBD

**Opera** (including opera presentation):

Georgianna Paul Schuetz, **paulg@arts.gov** or 202-682-5600

**Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works** (projects that involve multiple arts disciplines including multidisciplinary arts presenting and other types of multidisciplinary activities):

Organizations with names that begin A through E: Jennie Terman, **termanj@arts.gov** or 202-682-5566

Organizations with names that begin F through Z: Lara Allee, **alleel@arts.gov** or 202-682-5698

**Theater** (including theater presentation):

Organizations with names that begin A through M: Ouida Maedel, **maedelo@arts.gov** or 202-682-5509

Organizations with names that begin N through Z: Ian-Julian Williams, **TBD@arts.gov** or 202-682-TBD

**Visual Arts:**

Organizations with names that begin A through K: Tamika Shingler, **shinglert@arts.gov** or 202-682-5577

Organizations with names that begin L through Z: Meg Brennan, **brennanm@arts.gov**, or 202-682-5703

**Challenge America:** **challengeamerica@arts.gov**

**Our Town:** **ot@arts.gov**

**Research Grants in the Arts:** **nearesearchgrants@arts.gov**



## **GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: Award Information**

### **Grant Amounts, Cost Share, and Matching Funds**

Our grants cannot exceed 50% of the total cost of the project. All grants require a nonfederal cost share/match of at least 1 to 1. For example, if an organization receives a \$10,000 grant, the total eligible project costs must be at least \$20,000 and the organization must provide at least \$10,000 toward the project from nonfederal sources.

Grants generally will range from \$10,000 to \$100,000. No grant will be made below \$10,000. Grants of \$100,000 or more will be made only in rare instances, and only for projects that we determine demonstrate exceptional national or regional significance and impact.

In developing an application, we urge all applicants to consider the level of recent awards and to request a realistic grant amount. Applicants should review the **lists of grants** on our website to see recent grant award levels and project types. In the past few years, well over half of the agency's grants have been for amounts less than \$25,000.

Applicants whose grants are recommended for less than the amount that is requested will have the opportunity to revise the project budget to reflect any necessary changes to the project, based on the recommended funding amount. **We reserve the right to limit support of a project to a particular portion(s) or cost(s).**

### **Period of Performance**

The National Endowment for the Arts' support of a project can start no sooner than the "Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance" listed on the **Application Calendar**. Grants awarded under these guidelines generally may cover a period of performance of up to two years. **The two-year period is intended to allow an applicant sufficient time to plan, execute, and close out its project, not to repeat a one-year project for a second year.**

Any planning costs that are included as part of the project must be incurred during the established period of performance. No pre-award costs are allowable in the Project Budget. Project costs that are incurred before the "Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance" will be removed from the Project Budget.

A grantee may not receive more than one National Endowment for the Arts grant for the same project during the same period of performance.

## **GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: Applicant Eligibility**

Nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3), U.S. organizations; units of state or local government; or federally recognized tribal communities or tribes may apply. Applicants may be arts organizations, local arts agencies, arts service organizations, local education agencies (school districts), and other organizations that can help advance the goals of the National Endowment for the Arts.

To be eligible, **the applicant organization must:**

- Meet the National Endowment for the Arts' "**Legal Requirements**" including nonprofit, tax-exempt status at the time of application. (All organizations must apply directly on their own behalf. Applications through a fiscal sponsor/agent are not allowed. **See more information on fiscal sponsors/agents.**)
- Have completed a three-year history of arts programming prior to the application deadline. For the purpose of defining eligibility, "three-year history" refers to when an organization began its programming and not when it incorporated or received nonprofit, tax-exempt status.
- Have submitted acceptable Final Report packages by the due date(s) for all National Endowment for the Arts grant(s) previously received.

An organization whose primary purpose is to channel resources (financial, human, or other) to an affiliated organization is not eligible to apply if the affiliated organization submits its own application. This prohibition applies even if each organization has its own 501(c)(3) status. For example, the "Friends of ABC Museum" may not apply if the ABC Museum applies.

All applicants must have a DUNS number ([www.dnb.com](http://www.dnb.com)) and be registered with the System for Award Management (SAM, [www.sam.gov](http://www.sam.gov)) and maintain an active SAM registration until the application process is complete, and should a grant be made, throughout the life of the award.

See "How to Prepare and Submit an Application" for the documentation that is required to demonstrate eligibility.

**The designated state and jurisdictional arts agencies (SAAs) and their regional arts organizations (RAOs)** are not eligible to apply under the Grants for Arts Projects guidelines. **SAAs and RAOs** may serve as partners in projects. However, they may not receive National Endowment for the Arts funds (except as provided through their designated grant programs), and SAA/RAO costs may not be included as part of the required cost share/match. SAAs and RAOs are eligible to apply through the Partnership Agreements guidelines.

**Ineligible applications will not be reviewed.**

### **Application Limits**

An organization may submit only one application under these FY 2021 Grants for Arts Projects guidelines, with few exceptions as listed below.

For this category, exceptions to the one-application rule are made only for:

## Parent (and Related) Organizations

A parent organization that comprises separately identifiable and independent components (e.g., a university campus that has a presenting organization and a radio station) may submit an application for each such component. In addition, a parent organization also may submit one application on its own behalf for a **distinctly different project**. The parent organization must meet the eligibility requirements for all applicants. NOTE: A related organization that performs grant administration duties for a parent organization (e.g., a college foundation that administers grants awarded to a college and its components) may submit applications for components and the parent organization in lieu of such applications being submitted by the parent. The related organization must meet the eligibility requirements for all applicants.

An independent component must be a unit that is both programmatically and administratively distinct from the parent organization, have its own staff and budget, and generally have an independent board that has substantial responsibility for oversight and management. To qualify as independent, a component should be equivalent to a stand-alone institution with a separate mission.

The following **do not qualify** as independent components:

- Academic departments of colleges and universities.
- Programs and projects of organizations.

For example:

- An art museum on a university campus serves the general public and does not grant degrees. The museum board, not the university trustees, manages the museum's budget, staff, and programming. In this example, the art museum essentially is a stand-alone organization and qualifies as an independent component.
- A symphony association sponsors a youth orchestra in addition to its professional orchestra. Some symphony musicians serve as faculty for the youth orchestra; there is some overlap of membership between the symphony trustees and the youth orchestra's advisory board; and the executive director for the symphony association serves as CEO for both the professional and youth orchestras. In this case, while the youth orchestra may be an important program of the symphony association, it is not equivalent to a separate institution and therefore does not qualify as an independent component.

A parent organization should consult with **our staff** to verify the eligibility of its component before preparing an application.

## Applicants to the Media Arts discipline at the July 9, 2020, deadline

An organization may submit more than one application in the Grants for Arts Projects category through the Media Arts discipline at the July 9, 2020, deadline.

If an organization applies to the Challenge America category, it may not also apply to the Grants for Arts Projects category.

You may apply to other National Endowment for the Arts funding opportunities, including Our Town, in addition to Grants for Arts Projects. In each case, the request must be for a **distinctly different project or a distinctly different phase of the same project**, with a different period of performance and costs.

### **Fiscal Sponsorship**

We do not fund unincorporated or for-profit entities or individuals that engage nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)3 U.S. organizations; units of state or local government; or federally recognized tribal communities or tribes to apply for grants on their behalf. An ineligible organization (i.e., one without its own nonprofit status) may not use a fiscal sponsor/agent for the purpose of submitting an application.

What is a fiscal sponsor/agent?

A fiscal sponsor/agent is an entity that oversees the fiscal activities of another organization, company, or group of independent artists or projects. These activities may include bookkeeping, filing of W2s or 1099s, daily banking, or grant preparation.

The key to avoiding the appearance of fiscal sponsorship is the involvement of your organization. This might include:

- Producing or co-producing.
- Partnering on creative direction or development.
- Organizing workshops, public showings, or distribution of work.
- Providing social networking strategies or web implementation.

You can provide evidence of your organization's involvement in your application, on your website, through announcements and evaluations of public events, and with archival documentation.

We may review your website and other materials in addition to your application to determine the appropriate nature of the project.

If your organization does not have its own nonprofit status, you may still participate in a project submitted by another organization that meets our eligibility criteria.

While an organization that serves as a fiscal sponsor/agent may not apply for projects on behalf of the entities or individuals that it may sponsor as part of its mission and programs, it may apply for its own programs and productions. In this case, the organization must clearly demonstrate that it is applying only for its own programmatic activities.

**GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: Application Review**

Applications will be reviewed on the basis of the following criteria:

The **artistic excellence** of the project, which includes the:

- Quality of the artists, arts organizations, arts education providers, works of art, or services that the project will involve, as appropriate.

The **artistic merit** of the project, which includes the:

- Importance of the project to the artistic field, artists, audience, community, and/or constituency.
- Ability to carry out the project based on such factors as the appropriateness of the budget (including evidence of direct payment to artists), the quality and clarity of the project activities and goals, the resources involved, and the qualifications of the project's personnel.
- Potential to:
  - Celebrate America's creativity and/or cultural heritage,
  - Invite mutual respect for differing beliefs and values, or
  - Enrich humanity by broadening our understanding of ourselves as individuals and as a society.
- Appropriateness of the project to the organization's mission, audience, community, and/or constituency.
- Appropriateness of any proposed performance measurements. This includes, where relevant, measures to assess student and/or teacher learning in arts education.
- Plans for documentation and dissemination of the project results, as appropriate.
- Where appropriate, potential to reach underserved populations such as those whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited. In the spirit of White House Executive Orders that encourage federal agencies to engage with typically underserved constituencies, this includes, where appropriate, the potential to engage with:
  - Historically Black Colleges and Universities,
  - Tribal Colleges and Universities,
  - American Indian and Alaska Native tribes,
  - African American Serving Institutions,
  - Hispanic Serving Institutions,
  - Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, and
  - Organizations that support the independence and lifelong inclusion of people with disabilities.

**NOTE: We fund arts projects, and make grants only for specific, definable activities. Your application may be rejected if it does not sufficiently describe the project activities.**

## What Happens to Your Application

Applications are evaluated according to the "Review Criteria" for their category.

After processing by our staff, applications are reviewed, in closed session, by advisory panelists. Each panel comprises a diverse group of arts experts and other individuals, including at least one knowledgeable layperson, with broad knowledge in the areas under review. Panels are convened remotely by discipline. Panel membership changes regularly. The panel recommends the projects to be supported, and the staff reconciles panel recommendations with the funds that are available. These recommendations are forwarded to the National Council on the Arts, where they are reviewed in open session.

The Council makes recommendations to the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Chairman reviews the recommendations for grants in all funding categories and makes the final decision on all grant awards. Applicants are then notified of funding decisions.

After notification of funding decisions, applicants with questions may contact the staff. **Any applicant whose request for funding has not been recommended may ask for an explanation of the basis for denial. In such instances, the National Endowment for the Arts must be contacted no later than 30 calendar days after the official notification.**

See the "**Application Calendar**" for information on when we expect to announce grant awards and rejections, and the earliest dates by which projects may begin.

Risk Assessment: All recommended applications undergo a review to evaluate risk posed by the applicant prior to making a federal award. This may include past performance on grants, meeting reporting deadlines, compliance with terms and conditions, audit findings, etc.

## **GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: Award Administration**

### **Award Notices**

The "Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection" date for your category on the **Application Calendar** tells you when we expect to announce grant decisions.

Note that the "announcement" is likely to take the form of a preliminary congratulatory message, a request for project/budget revisions, or a rejection notification. The official grant award notification (i.e., a notice of action authorized by the National Endowment for the Arts Office of Grants Management) is the only legal and valid confirmation of award. Receipt of your official award notification can take several months depending on a number of factors such as whether additional information is needed for your project, the number of awards to be processed, whether the agency has its appropriation from Congress, etc.

### **National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act Review**

If you are recommended for a grant, your project may be subject to the the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and/or the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Endowment for the Arts will conduct a review of your project to ensure that it is in compliance NHPA/NEPA.

Some of the common project types that garner a NHPA review are:

- A project involving or occurring near a district, site, building, landscape, structure or object that is 50 years old and therefore potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (note that in some instances, buildings or structures may be included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places that are less than 50 years old).
- The commissioning and installation of temporary or permanent outdoor furnishings such as benches or market structures, or art such as a sculpture or mural.
- An outdoor arts festival.
- Design planning and services for projects that may involve a historic site, structure, or district.

This review and approval process may take up to several months to complete and may delay your project's start date and our ability to make a grant award/our ability to release grant funds. If you are recommended for an award which may have historic preservation or environmental concerns (NHPA/NEPA), you will be notified and asked to provide additional information. Thorough and complete information for all project activities and locations will expedite the review. The Arts Endowment cannot release an award and/or grant funds until the NHPA/NEPA review is complete.

To learn more about the questions you will need to answer for the review of a project impacted by the National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act , see here.

## Accessibility

Federal regulations require that all National Endowment for the Arts-funded projects be accessible to people with disabilities. Funded activities must be held in a physically accessible venue and program access and effective communication must be provided for participants and audience members with disabilities. If your project is recommended for funding, you will be asked to provide detailed information describing how you will make your project physically and programmatically accessible to people with disabilities:

- Buildings and facilities (including projects held in historic facilities) should be physically accessible. This includes, but is not limited to: ground-level entry, ramped access, and/or elevators to the venue; integrated and dispersed wheelchair seating in assembly areas; wheelchair-accessible box office, stage, and dressing rooms; wheelchair-accessible display cases, exhibit areas, and counters; and wheelchair-accessible restrooms and water fountains.
- The programmatic offering should be accessible either as part of the funded activity or upon request, where relevant. This can include, but is not limited to: contact information for requesting accommodations; electronic materials and websites; print materials in alternative formats, such as large-print brochures/labels, Braille, and electronic/digital formats; accommodations for performances, tours, and lectures, such as audio description, tactile opportunities, sign language interpretation, and real-time captioning; closed/open captioning of video and film; and assistive listening devices.

See the **Nondiscrimination Statutes** in our "Assurance of Compliance" for additional information. For technical assistance on how to make your project fully accessible, contact the Accessibility Office at [accessibility@arts.gov](mailto:accessibility@arts.gov), 202-682-5532 Voice or the Civil Rights Office at 202-682-5454 or 202-682-5082 Voice/T.T.Y., or see our online **Accessibility Resources**.

## Changes in Projects

Applicants must notify the National Endowment for the Arts immediately of any significant changes in their project that occur after they have submitted their application. If the project or the organization's capacity changes significantly before an award is made, the Arts Endowment may revise or withdraw the funding recommendation.

Grantees are expected to carry out a project that is consistent with the proposal that was approved for funding by the National Endowment for the Arts. If changes in the project are required, the grantee must submit a request with justification for the change(s) through a proper REACH account for the award for review by the Office of Grants Management. **Approval is not guaranteed.** Detailed information is included the National Endowment for the Arts General Terms & Conditions for Grants to Organizations.

## Project Reporting and Evaluation

We ask all applicants to define what they would like to achieve, how they will evaluate the degree to which it is achieved, and, upon completion of the project, what they have learned from their experiences. Such feedback need not entail large-scale or expensive evaluation efforts. You should do what is feasible and appropriate for your organization and project. When a grant is completed, you must submit a final report and answer questions detailing your accomplishments,



who benefited, and the resulting impact of your project as well as list the involvement of key partners, funders, and artists. Arts Education grantees who apply for a Direct Learning Grant will be required to describe the assessment methods used to assess learning.

The Arts Endowment staff will assign one of the agency's objectives to your project: Creation, Engagement, Learning (all Arts Education grantees will be assigned the Learning objective), or Our Town. Before applying, review the reporting requirements for the agency's objectives: Standard -- for Creation, Engagement, Learning; Arts Education, for all Arts Education grantees; or Our Town. Reporting requirements for Our Town are different from -- and more extensive than -- the reporting requirements for the other objectives. If you have any questions about the agency's objectives or the associated reporting requirements that may be required if you receive a grant, contact the staff before applying.

Beyond the reporting requirements for all grantees, selected Grants for Arts Projects grantees will be asked to assist in the collection of additional information that can help the Arts Endowment determine the degree to which agency objectives were achieved. You may be required to provide evidence of project accomplishments including, but not limited to, work samples, community action plans, cultural asset studies, programs, reviews, relevant news clippings, and playbills. Remember that you are required to maintain project documentation for three years following submission of your final reports.

### **Implementation of Title 2 CFR Part 200 Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards**

This guidance from the federal government's Office of Management and Budget (OMB) establishes clarity and consistency of the pre- and post-award requirements applicable to federal grantees. Under the authority listed above, the National Endowment for the Arts adopts the OMB Guidance in 2 CFR part 200 under §3255.1 Adoption of 2 CFR Part 200. This part gives regulatory effect to the OMB guidance and supplements the guidance as needed for the National Endowment for the Arts.

### **General Terms & Conditions**

Federal and agency requirements that relate to grants awarded by the National Endowment for the Arts are highlighted in our *General Terms & Conditions* (GTC). The GTC incorporates the adoption of 2 CFR Part 200 by reference. The document also explicitly identifies where the National Endowment for the Arts has selected options offered in the regulation, such as budget waivers and requirements for use of program income. It also includes agency requirements for cost share/matching funds reporting requirements, amendment processes, and termination actions.

### **Legal Requirements:**

**NOTE: This list highlights some of the significant legal requirements that may apply to an applicant or grantee however, it is not exhaustive. More information regarding these and other legal requirements may be found at Appendix A of our General Terms &**

**Conditions which sets forth the National Policy and Other Legal Requirements, Statutes, and Regulations that Govern Your Award. There may be other applicable legal requirements that are not listed here.**

1. By law, the National Endowment for the Arts may support only those organizations that:
  - **Are tax-exempt.** Organizations qualifying for this status must meet the following criteria:
    1. No part of net earnings may benefit a private stockholder or individual.
    2. Donations to the organization must be allowable as a charitable contribution under Section 170(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended.

For further information, go to the **Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) website**.

Organizations who have had their IRS status revoked are not eligible for National Endowment for the Arts support. It is your responsibility to ensure that your status is current at the time of the application and throughout the life of your award.

- **Compensate all professional performers and related or supporting professional personnel on National Endowment for the Arts-supported projects at no less than the prevailing minimum compensation.** (This requirement is in accordance with regulations that have been issued by the Secretary of Labor in **29 C.F.R. Part 505**. This part does not provide information on specific compensation levels.)
  - **Ensure that no part of any National Endowment for the Arts-supported project will be performed or engaged in under working conditions which are unsanitary or hazardous or dangerous** to the health and safety of the employees involved.
2. **Some legal requirements apply to every applicant, for example:**
    - **Compliance with the federal requirements that are outlined in the "Assurance of Compliance"** below.
    - **Debarment and Suspension procedures**. The applicant must comply with the record keeping and other requirements set forth in Subpart C of 2 CFR 180, as adopted by the Arts Endowment in 2 CFR 32.3254. Failure to comply may result in the debarment or suspension of the grantee and the National Endowment for the Arts suspending, terminating and/or recovering funds.
    - **Federal Debt Status (OMB Circular A-129)**. Processing of applications will be suspended when applicants are delinquent on federal tax or non-tax debts, including judgment liens against property for a debt to the federal government. An organization's debt status is displayed in the System for Award Management (SAM). New awards will not be made if an applicant is still in debt status as of September 1.
    - **Labor Standards (29 C.F.R. pt 505)**. If a grant is awarded, the grantee must comply with the standards set out in Labor Standards on Projects or Productions Assisted by Grants from the National Endowments for the Arts and Humanities.
    - **The Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988** (41 U.S.C. 701 et seq. and 2 C.F.R. Part 3256). The grantee is required to publish a statement regarding its drug-free workplace program as well as comply with other requirements.
  3. **Some legal requirements apply depending upon what the grant is funding, for example:**

- If your project activities have the potential to impact any structure that is eligible for or on the National Register of Historic Places, adjacent to a structure that is eligible for or on the National Register of Historic Places, or located in an historic district, you will be asked to provide additional information about your project or take additional action so that the agency can review and comply with the **National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)**. NHPA also applies to any planning activities that may affect historic properties or districts. The additional agency review must be completed prior to any agency funds being released.
  - If your project activities have the potential to impact the environment or environmentally sensitive resources, you will be required to provide information in accordance with the **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)**. The additional agency review must be completed prior to any agency funds being released.
  - If your contract is over \$2,000 and involves the construction, alteration, or repair of public buildings or public works, it must contain a clause setting forth the minimum wages to be paid to laborers and mechanics employed under the contract in accordance with **The Davis-Bacon and Related Acts (DBRA)**.
4. **Some legal requirements apply depending upon who the Applicant is, for example:**

**The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990** (25 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) – which applies to any organization that controls or possesses Native American human remains and associated funerary objects and receives Federal funding, even for a purpose unrelated to the Act (25 USC 3001 et seq.)

### **Assurance of Compliance**

**By signing and submitting its application form on Grants.gov, the Applicant certifies that it is in compliance with the statutes outlined below and all related National Endowment for the Arts regulations and will maintain records and submit the reports that are necessary to determine compliance.**

We may conduct a review of your organization to ensure that it is in compliance with these statutes. If the Arts Endowment determines that a grantee has failed to comply with these statutes, it may suspend or terminate the award, and/or recover funds. This assurance is subject to judicial enforcement.

The Applicant certifies that it does not discriminate:

- On the grounds of race, color, or national origin, in accordance with **Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964**, as amended (42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.), implemented by the National Endowment for the Arts at 45 U.S.C.1110.
- On the grounds of disability, in accordance with **Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973** (29 U.S.C. 794) and the **Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990** ("ADA"), as amended, (42 U.S.C. 12101-12213), implemented by the National Endowment for the Arts at 45 U.S.C. 1151. The ADA's requirements apply regardless of whether you receive federal funds.
- On the basis of age, in accordance with the **Age Discrimination Act of 1975** (42 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.) implemented by the National Endowment for the Arts at 45 U.S.C.1156.

- On the basis of sex, in any education program or activity, in accordance with **Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972** (20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.).

Applicant will inform the public that persons who believe they have been discriminated against on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, sex, or age may file a complaint with the Director of Civil Rights at the National Endowment for the Arts.

Applicant will forward all complaints for investigation and any finding issued by a Federal or state court or by a Federal or state administrative agency to:

Director, Office of Civil Rights  
National Endowment for the Arts  
400 7th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20506

Applicant shall maintain records of its compliance and submission for three (3) years. The Applicant will compile, maintain and permit access to records as required by applicable regulations, guidelines or other directives.

The Applicant must also certify that it will obtain assurances of compliance from all subrecipients and will require all subrecipients of National Endowment for the Arts funds to comply with these requirements.

The United States has the right to seek judicial or administrative enforcement of this assurance.

For further information and copies of the nondiscrimination regulations identified above, contact the Office of Civil Rights at 202-682-5454 or 202-682-5082 Voice/T.T.Y. For inquiries about limited English proficiency, go to <http://www.lep.gov>, the **FOIA Reading Room**, or contact the Office of General Counsel at [GeneralCounsel@arts.gov](mailto:GeneralCounsel@arts.gov) or 202-682-5418.

## GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: Other Information

### Access for Individuals with Disabilities

The Accessibility Office assists applicants in making accessibility an integral part of their planning so that organizations and activities are inclusive for staff, panelists, artists, and audiences. For more information, resources, and technical assistance, contact the Accessibility Office at 202-682-5532 Voice or see the **Accessibility section of the website**. The Office of Civil Rights at 202-682-5454 or 202-682-5082 Voice/T.T.Y. also provides technical assistance on how to make projects fully accessible.

### Civil Rights

The Office of Civil Rights at 202-682-5454 or 202-682-5082 Voice/T.T.Y. is available to investigate complaints about compliance with accessibility standards as well as other federal civil rights statutes. For inquiries about limited English proficiency, go to <http://www.lep.gov>, the **FOIA Reading Room**, or contact the Office of General Counsel at [GeneralCounsel@arts.gov](mailto:GeneralCounsel@arts.gov) or 202-682-5418.

### Standards for Service

We have set the following standards for serving applicants. We pledge to:

- Treat you with courtesy and efficiency.
- Respond to inquiries and correspondence promptly.
- Provide clear and accurate information about our policies and procedures.
- Provide timely information about funding opportunities and make guidelines available promptly.
- Promptly acknowledge the receipt of your application.
- Ensure that all eligible applications are reviewed thoughtfully and fairly.

We welcome your comments on how we are meeting these standards.

Email: [webmgr@arts.gov](mailto:webmgr@arts.gov), attention: Standards for Service. For questions about these guidelines or your application, see "**Agency Contacts**." In addition, applicants may receive an invitation to participate in a voluntary survey to provide feedback on the grant application guidelines on our website and any experiences consulting with our staff.

### Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated at an average of 27 hours per response. This includes the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. We welcome any suggestions that you might have on improving the guidelines and making them as easy to use as possible. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: [webmgr@arts.gov](mailto:webmgr@arts.gov), attention: Reporting Burden. Note: Applicants are not required to

respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number.

## **GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: Artist Communities**

This area provides assistance to artist communities for projects that encourage and nurture the development of individual artists and foster and inspire their creative processes. We define an artist community as an organization, whether focused on a single discipline or multidisciplinary, whose primary mission is to provide artist residencies.

Support is available for artist communities that:

- Provide space, time, and resources to artists for incubation, thought, or creativity in a retreat setting in an urban or rural location.
- Foster and support the creative process of art making by providing studio facilities and assistance with living accommodations to enable artists to live and work concurrently.
- Utilize a competitive application process to recruit and select participants, and rotate a wide range of artists in order to encourage the highest standards of creativity.

While we welcome applications for a variety of artistically excellent projects, we encourage projects that address any of the following activities below:

- Celebrate America's creativity and/or cultural heritage.
- Invite a dialogue that fosters a mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all persons and groups.
- Enrich our humanity by broadening our understanding of ourselves as individuals and as a society.
- In the spirit of White House Executive Orders that encourage federal agencies to engage with typically underserved constituencies, the National Endowment for the Arts encourages applications from:
  - Historically Black Colleges and Universities,
  - Tribal Colleges and Universities,
  - American Indian and Alaska Native tribes,
  - African American Serving Institutions,
  - Hispanic Serving Institutions,
  - Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, and
  - Organizations that support the independence and lifelong inclusion of people with disabilities.

Cost share/matching grants generally will range from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

### **Deadline**

**The application deadline for all projects is February 13, 2020.** (Artist Communities does not accept applications at the July deadline..)

**First Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:**

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>February 13, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>February 18-25, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>November 2020</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>January 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least January 22, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least February 4, 2020.

**Projects**

- Stipends and temporary living accommodations for professional artists where the primary purpose is determined by the artist.
- The expansion of the pool of artists that encourages the participation of artists from a wide variety of aesthetic viewpoints, racial and ethnic backgrounds, cultures, disability perspectives, and/or geographic areas.
- Access to facilities or technology to meet the needs of interdisciplinary or new genre artists.
- Innovative collaborations between artists and those from sectors outside of the arts.
- Support for residencies that place artists in non-traditional settings such as, but not limited to, businesses, hospitals, schools, prisons, military branches, municipal offices, or first-responder organizations.
- Innovative approaches to collaboration with outside organizations and disciplines where the primary purpose is public engagement with art and/or the enhancement of public spaces.
- Support for artist residencies that utilize artistically excellent art in civic and social practice, conflict transformation, and collaborative work with community partners.
- Activities with the surrounding community that provide educational and related activities for youth, adults, intergenerational groups, and schools.
- Residency exchange programs with artists and artist communities in other countries.

Artist residences must be accessible, including sleeping rooms, kitchens, bathrooms, and work spaces.



**For information on how to apply, see the “To Apply” box on the right.**

### **National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act Review**

If you are recommended for a grant, your project may be subject to the the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and/or the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Endowment for the Arts will conduct a review of your project to ensure that it is in compliance NHPA/NEPA.

Some of the common project types that garner a NHPA review are:

- A project involving or occurring near a district, site, building, landscape, structure or object that is 50 years old and therefore potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (note that in some instances, buildings or structures may be included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places that are less than 50 years old).
- The commissioning and installation of temporary or permanent outdoor furnishings such as benches or market structures, or art such as a sculpture or mural.
- An outdoor arts festival.
- Design planning and services for projects that may involve a historic site, structure, or district.

This review and approval process may take up to several months to complete and may delay your project's start date and our ability to make a grant award/our ability to release grant funds. If you are recommended for an award which may have historic preservation or environmental concerns (NHPA/NEPA), you will be notified and asked to provide additional information. Thorough and complete information for all project activities and locations will expedite the review. The Arts Endowment cannot release an award and/or grant funds until the NHPA/NEPA review is complete.

To learn more about the questions you will need to answer for the review of a project impacted by the National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act , see here.

### **Accessibility**

Federal regulations require that all National Endowment for the Arts-funded projects be accessible to people with disabilities. Funded activities must be held in a physically accessible venue and program access and effective communication must be provided for participants and audience members with disabilities. If your project is recommended for funding, you will be asked to provide detailed information describing how you will make your project physically and programmatically accessible to people with disabilities:

## GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: Arts Education

The National Endowment for the Arts envisions a nation where every student is engaged and empowered through an excellent arts education. Arts education is vital to developing America's next generation of creative and innovative thinkers. Students who participate in the arts are better prepared to be fulfilled, responsible citizens who can make a profound impact on this world. National Endowment for the Arts **-supported research** has shown that students from low socioeconomic backgrounds who have arts-rich experiences are more likely to achieve key positive outcomes—academically, socially, and civically—compared with their peers who lack access to arts experiences.

Our Arts Education funding is focused on students. Projects are for pre-K-12 students (**Direct Learning**), the educators and artists who support them (**Professional Development**), and the schools and communities that serve them (**Collective Impact**). All students are served when each level of the system is supported. Applicants should consider what role their proposed project plays within this system, and the impact their project has on students.

Competitive projects will:

- Increase access to arts education through the use of innovative strategies or scaled up proven methodologies.
- Have national, regional, or field-wide significance. This includes local projects that can have significant impact within communities or are likely to demonstrate best practices for the field.

Arts Education projects may be in any artistic discipline. Projects for short-term arts exposure, arts appreciation, or intergenerational activity should not be submitted under Arts Education; rather, they should be submitted under the appropriate artistic discipline. If you have questions about whether you should apply under Arts Education or some other discipline, read "**Choosing the Right Discipline for Youth Projects.**"

While we welcome applications for a variety of artistically excellent projects, we encourage projects that address any of the following activities below:

- Celebrate America's creativity and/or cultural heritage.
- Invite a dialogue that fosters a mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all persons and groups.
- Enrich our humanity by broadening our understanding of ourselves as individuals and as a society.
- In the spirit of White House Executive Orders that encourage federal agencies to engage with typically underserved constituencies, the National Endowment for the Arts encourages applications from:
  - Historically Black Colleges and Universities,
  - Tribal Colleges and Universities,
  - American Indian and Alaska Native tribes,
  - African American Serving Institutions,

- Hispanic Serving Institutions,
- Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, and
- Organizations that support the independence and lifelong inclusion of people with disabilities.

Cost share/matching grants generally will range from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

### Deadlines

Grants for Arts Projects applications will be accepted at two deadlines. All project types (described below) are accepted at both deadlines. Apply at the deadline that most closely fits the schedule of activities or timeline of your proposed project. Generally, an organization is limited to one application per year in the Grants for Arts Projects category.

#### First Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>February 13, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>February 18-25, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>November 2020</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>January 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least January 22, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least February 4, 2020.

#### Second Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>July 9, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>July 14-21, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>April 2021</b>

<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>June 1, 2021</b>
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Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least June 17, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least June 30, 2020.

## Projects

### Direct Learning Grants

Projects support arts instruction for students, generally pre-K through 12th grade, that result in increased knowledge and skills in the arts and occur inside or outside the school system. Projects should engage students over an extended period of time; short-term projects will not be competitive. Activities may be offered during or outside the regular school day schedule by school districts, arts organizations, or non-arts organizations or agencies in partnership with artists and/or arts groups. Projects could take place in locations such as schools, arts organizations, community centers, faith-based organizations, makerspaces, public housing, tribal community centers, and/or juvenile justice facilities.

Applicants applying in Direct Learning should convey how their projects are distinctive and deepen the arts learning experience for students by offering fresh insights and adding new value to the field. Applicants may provide examples of how they are using data to inform programmatic decision making, scaling up or expanding existing arts education services, incorporating effective community partnerships, or working within a larger system or community effort to benefit students in that system.

Direct Learning projects should address each of the following elements:

**Experience:** Participants experience exemplary works of art -- in live form where possible -- to gain increased knowledge and skills in the art form.

**Create:** Informed by their experience in an art form, participants will create or perform art.

**Assess:** Student learning is measured and assessed in alignment with national or state arts education standards. At the conclusion of the project, grantees will be required to describe the assessment methods used to assess learning, and may submit tools used to assess learning with their Final Report. Where appropriate, applicants also may describe project outcomes that use the arts to address youth development, college, career, or citizen readiness or affect change in school or community culture such as school attendance, graduation or recidivism rates. Explain how you plan to measure those outcomes. Before applying, **review the reporting requirements for Arts Education.**

### Professional Development Grants

Projects equip classroom teachers, arts specialists, teaching artists, school/district administrators, other educators, and community leaders with the knowledge, skills and confidence to effectively engage students in high quality, curriculum-based arts learning, and improve instruction.

Applicants applying for a Professional Development project should convey how their project is distinctive and offers fresh insights and new value to the field.

Applicants may provide examples of how they are using data to inform programmatic decision making, scaling up or expanding existing professional development projects, utilizing technology, establishing communities of practice, incorporating effective community partnerships, or working within a larger system or community effort to benefit students in that system, as appropriate.

Professional Development projects should include all of the following elements:

**Experience:** Participants have an experience in or through the arts.

**Study:** Participants are engaged in a sustained, in-depth course of study.

**Evaluate:** Participant learning is evaluated and the impact of the professional development on practice is measured. Before applying, **review the reporting requirements for Arts Education.**

### **Collective Impact Grants**

Projects increase student access to arts education through collective, systemic approaches. Projects should aim to ensure that all students across entire neighborhoods, schools, school districts, and/or states – in communities of all sizes – participate in the arts over time. We anticipate making a limited number of grants at higher award levels for longer term, large-scale projects that use a collective, systemic approach to provide arts education to students. Projects should have significant potential to be shared and customized in communities across the country.

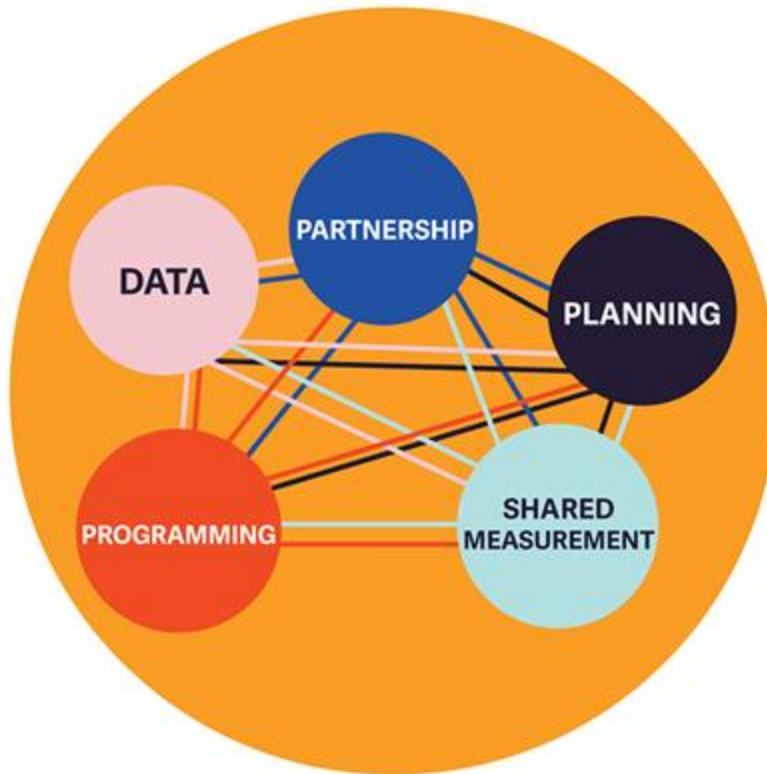
**For further details about this project type, click here.** Applicants considering submission of a Collective Impact application are strongly encouraged to contact Arts Education Specialist Denise Brandenburg at [brandenburg@arts.gov](mailto:brandenburg@arts.gov).

### **GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS: Arts Education Collective Impact Grants**

**The following information relates to the Grants for Arts Projects: Arts Education Collective Impact project type. [Click here](#) to read the full Arts Education guidelines.**

Projects increase student access to arts education through collective, systemic approaches. Projects should aim to ensure that all students across entire neighborhoods, schools, school districts, and/or states – in communities of all sizes – participate in the arts over time. We anticipate making a limited number of grants at higher award levels for longer term, large-scale projects that use a collective, systemic approach to provide arts education to students. Projects should have significant potential to be shared and customized in communities across the country.

These projects should embrace the following principles, which may be ongoing and occur at any point during the project:



- **Partnership:** Cross-sector partners work to determine a common vision, define goals, develop strategies, and identify measurable objectives for arts education. Priority will be given to projects that include a managing partner or group of partners that acts as the coordinating entity, and involve at least three cross-sector organizations, one of which is an arts/cultural organization. Partners may include arts councils, units of state or local government, school systems, funders, businesses, community service organizations, economic development organizations, trade associations, parent/student networks, social service organizations, or institutions of higher education.
- **Data:** Data informs decision making. This may include asset mapping of community resources, collection and evaluation of student data, or creating new data collection tools.
- **Planning:** A plan outlines system-wide arts education implementation. This should include a description of each partner's role in achieving the common vision, as well as plans for communication among the partners and sustainability.
- **Programming:** Activities support the plan. Programming may include services to students, professional development, curriculum design, or convening stakeholders.
- **Shared Measurement:** A shared measurement system is an evaluation system that assesses the progress of each project partner's work towards common outcomes—increasing student participation in arts education and, as appropriate, societal well-being for students.

Collective Impact projects are multi-year, ongoing, systemic initiatives. Specify in the application which phase(s) of the project are included in the request for National Endowment for the Arts funding. All phases of a project -- building partnerships, data collection, planning, programming, and shared measurement -- are eligible for support.

If the collective impact project is part of a larger, ongoing, system-wide effort to benefit students and communities, indicate that in your application.

All project costs for the project phase included in the Project Budget must be incurred within the period of performance.

Identify the project as either **Emerging** or **Sustaining**.

**Emerging** projects are in the initial phase of work to establish an arts education plan. Projects may include cultivation of partners, convenings, collection of data, or creation of an arts education plan.

**Sustaining** projects have an arts education plan in place. These projects may continue work from the emerging phase, be in the programming and evaluation stage, or scaling up proven efforts to increase arts education access. These projects must demonstrate how they are disseminating project information to the fields of arts education, public education, and beyond.

Collective Impact Resources:

See a list of National Endowment for the Arts Arts Education Collective Impact grants:  
<https://www.arts.gov/sites/default/files/collective-impact-grants-updated-6.5.2019.pdf>

National Endowment for the Arts webinars about Collective Impact:

<https://www.arts.gov/video/nea-arts-education-webinar-collective-impact-part-1>  
<https://www.arts.gov/video/nea-arts-education-webinar-collective-impact-part-2>  
<https://www.arts.gov/video/arts-education-september-2014-webinar-0>  
<https://www.arts.gov/video/nea-arts-education-webinar-collective-impact-trends>  
<https://www.arts.gov/video/leveraging-change%E2%80%94increasing-access-arts-education-rural-areas>

**For information on how to apply, see the “To Apply” box on the right.**

Before applying, **review the reporting requirements for Arts Education.**

### **National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act Review**

If you are recommended for a grant, your project may be subject to the the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and/or the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Endowment for the Arts will conduct a review of your project to ensure that it is in compliance NHPA/NEPA.

Some of the common project types that garner a NHPA review are:

- A project involving or occurring near a district, site, building, landscape, structure or object that is 50 years old and therefore potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (note that in some instances, buildings or structures may be included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places that are less than 50 years old).
- The commissioning and installation of temporary or permanent outdoor furnishings such as benches or market structures, or art such as a sculpture or mural.
- An outdoor arts festival.
- Design planning and services for projects that may involve a historic site, structure, or district.

This review and approval process may take up to several months to complete and may delay your project's start date and our ability to make a grant award/our ability to release grant funds. If you are recommended for an award which may have historic preservation or environmental concerns (NHPA/NEPA), you will be notified and asked to provide additional information. Thorough and complete information for all project activities and locations will expedite the review. The Arts Endowment cannot release an award and/or grant funds until the NHPA/NEPA review is complete.

To learn more about the questions you will need to answer for the review of a project impacted by the National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act , see [here](#).

### **Accessibility**

Federal regulations require that all National Endowment for the Arts-funded projects be accessible to people with disabilities. Funded activities must be held in a physically accessible venue and program access and effective communication must be provided for participants and audience members with disabilities. If your project is recommended for funding, you will be asked to provide detailed information describing how you will make your project physically and programmatically accessible to people with disabilities:

### **We Do Not Fund**

In addition to the "We Do Not Fund" section for all applicants, funding under the Arts Education discipline is not available for research on the value of arts education. Applicants may consider our **research grant opportunity** for support of research projects.

### **Choosing the Right Discipline for Youth Projects**

If you are proposing a Collective Impact project, a pre-K through 12th grade Professional Development project, or a Direct Learning project that aligns with either national or state arts education standards, choose **Arts Education**.

For more information on the National Core Arts standards, [see here](#).



If the target audience is intergenerational, submit your application directly to one of the artistic disciplines rather than to Arts Education. Applications for projects for youth where the focus is exposure to or appreciation of the arts -- whether activities take place in school, after school, during the summer, or in community settings -- should be submitted directly to the appropriate artistic discipline in the Grants for Arts Projects category. Such projects may include performances by or exhibitions of professional artists. Arts events may be accompanied by ancillary learning activities (e.g., study guides for teachers and students, artists' visits prior to or following the event, workshops, lecture-demonstrations, or master classes).

## **GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: Dance**

The National Endowment for the Arts advances the nation's full range of dance artistry to further artistic development, exploration, and dialogue between artists and the public. The National Endowment for the Arts supports all forms of professional dance by funding dance companies, including physically integrated and disabled dance companies, presenters, service organizations, festivals, and more. We encourage projects of all sizes by a variety of organizations—from large and small, rural and urban, new and established, that are working to strengthen the field of dance in their communities and throughout the country. Projects can be at any stage of the artistic process including creation, commissioning, presentation, touring, training, residencies, and access to the arts. The National Endowment for the Arts encourages projects that document and preserve choreography, performance, and other aspects of dance history and heritage. Dance projects funded by the Arts Endowment represent a multiplicity of forms, styles, techniques, and histories that stem from all over the world and include many different styles -- such as but not limited to aerial, African diasporic dance forms, ballet, , Bharatanatyam, butoh, capoeira, dance film, dance theater, folkloric, hip-hop, jazz, Kathak, Kuchipudi, modern dance, and percussive dance.

While we welcome applications for a variety of artistically excellent projects, we encourage projects that address any of the following activities below:

- 
- Celebrate America's creativity and/or cultural heritage.
- Invite a dialogue that fosters a mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all persons and groups.
- Enrich our humanity by broadening our understanding of ourselves as individuals and as a society.
- In the spirit of White House Executive Orders that encourage federal agencies to engage with typically underserved constituencies, the National Endowment for the Arts encourages applications from:
  - Historically Black Colleges and Universities,
  - Tribal Colleges and Universities,
  - American Indian and Alaska Native tribes,
  - African American Serving Institutions,
  - Hispanic Serving Institutions,
  - Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, and
  - Organizations that support the independence and lifelong inclusion of people with disabilities.

Cost share/matching grants generally will range from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

### **Projects**

Grants for Arts Projects applications will be accepted at two deadlines. All project types (described below) are accepted at both deadlines. Generally, an organization is limited to one application per year in the Grants for Arts Projects category.

**First Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:**

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>February 13, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>February 18-25, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>November 2020</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>January 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least January 22, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least February 4, 2020.

**Second Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:**

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>July 9, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
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<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>April 2021</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>June 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least June 17, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least June 30, 2020.

**Project Types**

Eligible project types for dance include the following:

**Creation, development, or restaging of new, existing, or historically significant works**

- Residencies that primarily support artistic research and/or creation of new works and technical/production residencies leading up to a premiere, presentation, or tour. Residencies may include individual dance artists, dance companies, collaborations/collectives, and cohorts.
- The restaging and rehearsal of repertory, including works of historical significance.
- Commissioning and development of new dance works, including dance films and works that use technology, media, or involve community engagement in the creation of the work.

### **Presentation and Touring:**

- Performances at home, and local, regional, and national presentations and tours.
- The presentation of dance artists, companies, and/or dance films, as part of a presentation season, special public event, or festival.
- Touring and performance activities that intentionally engage youth, students, or specific communities including but not limited to those identified above (If your project is for youth, see "**Choosing the Right Discipline for Youth Projects**" to help you in your discipline selection.)

### **Preservation and Archives:**

- Documentation, preservation, and conservation of America's many diverse dance forms, traditions, aesthetics, cultures, techniques, and histories, including creation or development of archival projects. These projects may use technology and media, and should connect with or be made accessible to dance communities and/or the general public.

### **Professional Development and Services:**

- Projects that advance and/or sustain the creative work and/or careers for people with disabilities through employment, industry training, technical assistance, organization capacity-building, and infrastructure.
- Dance publications, including digital or other media that provide resources and information to dance artists or communities.
- Professional training including classes, guest artist residencies, workshops, and mentorship or leadership development.
- Services to dancers, choreographers, companies, and administrators. This may include activities such as convening, data collection and evaluation, development and production of marketing and publicity materials or other documentation, information sharing, and technical assistance.

### **Education and Community Engagement:**

- Dance projects that employ effective methods of engaging audiences, including collaborations with other organizations and the implementation of new models that have the potential to expand or deepen the impact on artists, audiences, communities or the dance field.
- Dance education projects including classes, workshops, and other training opportunities that may or may not include performances or other public events or activities. (If your project is for youth, see "**Choosing the Right Discipline for Youth Projects**" to help you in your discipline selection.)

**For information on how to apply, see the “To Apply” box on the right.**

### **National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act Review**

If you are recommended for a grant, your project may be subject to the the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and/or the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Endowment for the Arts will conduct a review of your project to ensure that it is in compliance NHPA/NEPA.

Some of the common project types that garner a NHPA review are:

- A project involving or occurring near a district, site, building, landscape, structure or object that is 50 years old and therefore potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (note that in some instances, buildings or structures may be included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places that are less than 50 years old).
- The commissioning and installation of temporary or permanent outdoor furnishings such as benches or market structures, or art such as a sculpture or mural.
- An outdoor arts festival.
- Design planning and services for projects that may involve a historic site, structure, or district.

This review and approval process may take up to several months to complete and may delay your project's start date and our ability to make a grant award/our ability to release grant funds. If you are recommended for an award which may have historic preservation or environmental concerns (NHPA/NEPA), you will be notified and asked to provide additional information. Thorough and complete information for all project activities and locations will expedite the review. The Arts Endowment cannot release an award and/or grant funds until the NHPA/NEPA review is complete.

To learn more about the questions you will need to answer for the review of a project impacted by the National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act , see here.

### **Accessibility**

Federal regulations require that all National Endowment for the Arts-funded projects be accessible to people with disabilities. Funded activities must be held in a physically accessible venue and program access and effective communication must be provided for participants and audience members with disabilities. If your project is recommended for funding, you will be asked to provide detailed information describing how you will make your project physically and programmatically accessible to people with disabilities:

## **GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: Design**

From the typeface on this page to the neighborhood in which you live, every object and place is the result of design. Design surrounds us and has a direct impact on the quality of our lives. The National Endowment for the Arts supports design projects that have a public benefit and advance the field of design. Funding can support various design disciplines including architecture, communications and graphic design, fashion design, historic preservation, industrial and product design, interior design, landscape architecture, inclusive design, rural design, social impact design, and urban design.

Applicants should be aware that we do **not** fund capital campaigns, construction costs, or the purchase or leasing of sites or structures, although we can support the design process all the way through construction documentation. We also do not fund design thinking projects that are not related to or in service of promoting the arts or design as a field. Museums and visual arts venues presenting a design exhibition or installation should contact staff to determine whether to apply under Design or under Museums or Visual Arts. Contact us if you have further questions.

While we welcome applications for a variety of artistically excellent projects, we encourage projects that address any of the following activities below:

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- Invite a dialogue that fosters a mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all persons and groups.
- Enrich our humanity by broadening our understanding of ourselves as individuals and as a society.
- In the spirit of White House Executive Orders that encourage federal agencies to engage with typically underserved constituencies, the National Endowment for the Arts encourages applications from:
  - Historically Black Colleges and Universities,
  - Tribal Colleges and Universities,
  - American Indian and Alaska Native tribes,
  - African American Serving Institutions,
  - Hispanic Serving Institutions,
  - Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, and
  - Organizations that support the independence and lifelong inclusion of people with disabilities.

Cost share/matching grants generally will range from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

### **Deadline**

**The application deadline for all projects is February 13, 2020.** (Design does not accept applications at the July deadline.)

**First Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:**

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**The Design program supports projects across a wide array of design types, in two main areas of work.**

**Projects that have a public benefit, including:**

- Design competitions.
- Commissions and production of new work.
- Exhibitions, tours, publications, or websites that provide new insights about specific designed objects, places, designers, or design history or movements.
- Historic and community preservation projects that promote awareness of cultural and historic assets, or adaptive reuse of historic properties for cultural and arts uses.
- Design and community planning for new arts/cultural buildings, districts, neighborhoods, public spaces, landscapes, or housing for artists or designers.
- Community planning, charrettes, and design-related activities that promote economic and cultural vitality; involve community-based partnerships; foster community interaction; enhance the unique characteristics of a place; and/or assist underserved communities or neighborhoods.
- Artistically excellent design projects that foster positive social impact, employ inclusive design concepts, or foster collaboration between design and non-arts disciplines.

**Projects that advance or support the design field, including:**

- Conferences, symposia, and other gatherings that promote innovation in design practice or design education, or facilitate collaborations between design and non-arts disciplines.



- Workshops or residencies for designers.
- Documentation and preservation of historic design work.
- Design research or collaboration projects that examine current practice, propose design solutions for pressing problems, or advance understanding of the design field.
- Innovative technology projects or new media projects meant to advance the design field or design theory.
- Education, mentorship, apprenticeship, and outreach activities that teach design practices to American communities.
- Education initiatives that prepare designers for careers in the emerging fields of design.
- Projects that support emerging fields of design.
- Innovative festivals, tours, or programming that raise awareness of design.

**For information on how to apply, see the “To Apply” box on the right.**

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## GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: Folk & Traditional Arts

The folk and traditional arts are rooted in and reflective of the cultural life of a community. Community members may share a common ethnic heritage, cultural mores, language, religion, occupation, or geographic region. These vital and constantly reinvigorated artistic traditions are shaped by values and standards of excellence that are passed from generation to generation, most often within family and community, through demonstration, conversation, and practice. Genres of artistic activity include, but are not limited to, music, dance, crafts, and oral expression.

While we welcome applications for a variety of artistically excellent projects, we encourage projects that address any of the following activities below:

- Celebrate America’s creativity and/or cultural heritage.
- Invite a dialogue that fosters a mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all persons and groups.
- Enrich our humanity by broadening our understanding of ourselves as individuals and as a society.
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Cost share/matching grants generally will range from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

### Projects

Grants for Arts Projects applications will be accepted at two deadlines. All project types (described below) are accepted at both deadlines. Generally, an organization is limited to one application per year in the Grants for Arts Projects category.

### Deadlines

#### First Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:

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<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>November 2020</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>January 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least January 22, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least February 4, 2020.

### **Second Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:**

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>July 9, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>July 14-21, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>April 2021</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>June 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least June 17, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least June 30, 2020.

### **Project Types**

#### **Presentations**

- Festivals.
- Concerts/performances/plays.
- Screenings.
- Broadcasts.
- Films.
- Websites (this includes creating, maintaining, and upgrading the sites).
- Exhibits (this includes research, construction, touring, catalogs, and ancillary events, such as lectures, concerts, screenings, panel discussions, workshops, and demonstrations).

- Cultural heritage projects reaching postsecondary minority serving institutions, which include historically black colleges and universities, tribal colleges and universities, African American serving institutions, Hispanic serving institutions, and Asian American and Pacific Islander serving institutions.
- Creation of programs and partnerships that identify, document, and celebrate folklife and cultural heritage of the applicant's metropolitan area.
- Creation of programs and partnerships that identify, document, and celebrate folklife and cultural heritage of the country's rural regions of Great Plains, Rocky Mountain West, and Alaska.

### **Education**

- Apprenticeship programs.
- Workshops/classes offering instruction in various folk arts to the general public.
- Folk Arts in Education programs (folk arts are used to augment regular curriculum).
- Training for teachers and/or folk artists and the creation of educational material to incorporate folk arts into the classroom.
- Publications (both hard copy and digital).

### **Research**

- Archival research and fieldwork to identify and document folk arts and artists.
- Marketing research to identify audiences for folk & traditional arts.

### **Services to the Field**

- Training and support to folklorists, folk artists, and folk arts organizations.

**For information on how to apply, see the “To Apply” box on the right.**

### **National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act Review**

If you are recommended for a grant, your project may be subject to the the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and/or the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Endowment for the Arts will conduct a review of your project to ensure that it is in compliance NHPA/NEPA.

Some of the common project types that garner a NHPA review are:

- A project involving or occurring near a district, site, building, landscape, structure or object that is 50 years old and therefore potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (note that in some instances, buildings or structures may be included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places that are less than 50 years old).
- The commissioning and installation of temporary or permanent outdoor furnishings such as benches or market structures, or art such as a sculpture or mural.

- An outdoor arts festival.
- Design planning and services for projects that may involve a historic site, structure, or district.

This review and approval process may take up to several months to complete and may delay your project's start date and our ability to make a grant award/our ability to release grant funds. If you are recommended for an award which may have historic preservation or environmental concerns (NHPA/NEPA), you will be notified and asked to provide additional information. Thorough and complete information for all project activities and locations will expedite the review. The Arts Endowment cannot release an award and/or grant funds until the NHPA/NEPA review is complete.

To learn more about the questions you will need to answer for the review of a project impacted by the National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act , see here.

### **Accessibility**

Federal regulations require that all National Endowment for the Arts-funded projects be accessible to people with disabilities. Funded activities must be held in a physically accessible venue and program access and effective communication must be provided for participants and audience members with disabilities. If your project is recommended for funding, you will be asked to provide detailed information describing how you will make your project physically and programmatically accessible to people with disabilities:

**GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: Literary Arts**

The National Endowment for the Arts seeks to sustain and nurture a multiplicity of American literary traditions, including, but not limited to:

- Ensuring that literary presses and magazines, community-based centers, and national literary organizations complement the trade publishing sector in the shaping of contemporary literature.
- Supporting organizations that nurture emerging and mid-career writers.
- Supporting endeavors to provide America's readers with direct access to contemporary writers.
- Supporting the use of new technology and innovative projects.

In addition to offering Grants for Arts Projects grant opportunities for organizations, the National Endowment for the Arts offers **fellowships** to published creative writers and translators in the areas of prose and poetry.

While we welcome applications for a variety of artistically excellent projects, we encourage projects that address any of the following activities below:

- Celebrate America's creativity and/or cultural heritage.
- Invite a dialogue that fosters a mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all persons and groups.
- Enrich our humanity by broadening our understanding of ourselves as individuals and as a society.
- In the spirit of White House Executive Orders that encourage federal agencies to engage with typically underserved constituencies, the National Endowment for the Arts encourages applications from:
  - Historically Black Colleges and Universities,
  - Tribal Colleges and Universities,
  - American Indian and Alaska Native tribes,
  - African American Serving Institutions,
  - Hispanic Serving Institutions,
  - Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, and
  - Organizations that support the independence and lifelong inclusion of people with disabilities.

Cost share/matching grants generally will range from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

**Deadlines**

The National Endowment for the Arts supports two general project types under Grants for Arts Projects Literary Arts:

- Literary publishing projects (February Grants for Arts Projects Deadline)

- Audience and professional development projects (July Grants for Arts Projects Deadline)

Apply under the project type and associated deadline that most closely corresponds to the primary focus of your proposed project. Generally, an organization is limited to one application per year in the Grants for Arts Projects category.

### **Literary Publishing Projects**

#### **Deadlines:**

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>February 13, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>February 18-25, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>November 2020</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>January 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least January 22, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least February 4, 2020.

These projects focus on print and/or digital literary magazines and independent and university presses that publish poetry, fiction, drama, and/or creative nonfiction by contemporary writers and translators.

Projects may include but are not limited to:

- Publication and distribution of books and magazine issues.
- Payments to writers.
- Marketing and promotion efforts to increase book sales or magazine circulation and expand readership.
- Digitization of publishers' backlists and other endeavors to make work available in new and emerging markets.
- Technologies and/or experiments that strive to deepen audiences' engagement with literature and/or provide writers with new platforms and tools to create work.
- Collaboration within and/or across fields to advance literary publishing in the digital age, reach new audiences, and encourage dialogue.

*NOTE: Literary publishing projects must focus primarily on contemporary literature and/or writers.*

### **Audience and Professional Development Projects**



**Deadlines:**

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>July 9, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>July 14-21, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>April 2021</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>June 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least June 17, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least June 30, 2020.

These projects focus on local and/or national activities designed to promote and develop practitioners of, and audiences for, the literary arts. (Projects that are primarily focused on publishing and/or distributing books or journals should be submitted at the other Grants for Arts Projects deadline.)

Projects may include but are not limited to:

- Residencies, readings, author tours, writing workshops, conferences, and literary festivals.
- Podcasts, radio, video, and/or media endeavors that promote the literary arts.
- Innovative uses of technology, media, or new models to provide readers with access to writers and the literary arts.
- Efforts to maintain or augment America's literary infrastructure and provide services, advice, and technical support to writers, translators, and literary organizations.
- Collaboration within and/or across fields to reach new audiences and encourage dialogue.

**For information on how to apply, see the “To Apply” box on the right.**

**National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act Review**

If you are recommended for a grant, your project may be subject to the the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and/or the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Endowment for the Arts will conduct a review of your project to ensure that it is in compliance NHPA/NEPA.

Some of the common project types that garner a NHPA review are:

- A project involving or occurring near a district, site, building, landscape, structure or object that is 50 years old and therefore potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (note that in some instances, buildings or structures may be included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places that are less than 50 years old).

- The commissioning and installation of temporary or permanent outdoor furnishings such as benches or market structures, or art such as a sculpture or mural.
- An outdoor arts festival.
- Design planning and services for projects that may involve a historic site, structure, or district.

This review and approval process may take up to several months to complete and may delay your project's start date and our ability to make a grant award/our ability to release grant funds. If you are recommended for an award which may have historic preservation or environmental concerns (NHPA/NEPA), you will be notified and asked to provide additional information. Thorough and complete information for all project activities and locations will expedite the review. The Arts Endowment cannot release an award and/or grant funds until the NHPA/NEPA review is complete.

To learn more about the questions you will need to answer for the review of a project impacted by the National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act , see [here](#).

### **Accessibility**

Federal regulations require that all National Endowment for the Arts-funded projects be accessible to people with disabilities. Funded activities must be held in a physically accessible venue and program access and effective communication must be provided for participants and audience members with disabilities. If your project is recommended for funding, you will be asked to provide detailed information describing how you will make your project physically and programmatically accessible to people with disabilities:

## **GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: Local Arts Agencies**

Across the United States, more than 4,500 Local Arts Agencies (LAAs) provide a wide range of programs and services to help support and enable arts and culture at the local level. LAAs are intermediaries, serving artists and arts organizations, local residents, visitors, and other community partners. No two LAAs are alike — whether they serve a single village or town, a large city, county, or a multi-county or multi-state region. Some LAAs are departments of local government, others are nonprofit organizations, and still others are hybrids of the two.

Characteristics: LAAs may present and/or produce arts programming, commission and manage public art, administer grant programs, provide technical assistance to artists and arts organizations, and guide cultural planning efforts. Still others may own, manage, and/or operate cultural facilities and be actively engaged in community development, and partner with entities in tourism, social services, public education, housing, economic development, and public safety. All strive to enhance the quality of life in their communities by working to increase public access to the arts. You will also find national and statewide arts service organizations in the LAA portfolio that work primarily with a network of LAAs, as well as Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts and Arts and Business Council organizations.

All Grants for Arts Projects applications submitted by LAAs will be reviewed with other Local Arts Agencies. There are only two exceptions: Projects that have a Folk & Traditional Arts focus will be reviewed under Folk & Traditional Arts, and projects with a K-12 standards-based arts education, professional development, or collective impact focus will be reviewed under Arts Education.

While we welcome applications for a variety of artistically excellent projects, we encourage projects that address any of the following activities below:

- Celebrate America’s creativity and/or cultural heritage.
- Invite a dialogue that fosters a mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all persons and groups.
- Enrich our humanity by broadening our understanding of ourselves as individuals and as a society.
- In the spirit of White House Executive Orders that encourage federal agencies to engage with typically underserved constituencies, the National Endowment for the Arts encourages applications from:
  - Historically Black Colleges and Universities,
  - Tribal Colleges and Universities,
  - American Indian and Alaska Native tribes,
  - African American Serving Institutions,
  - Hispanic Serving Institutions,
  - Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, and
  - Organizations that support the independence and lifelong inclusion of people with disabilities.

Cost share/matching grants generally will range from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

## Projects

Grants for Arts Projects applications will be accepted at two deadlines. All project types (described below) are accepted at both deadlines. Generally, an organization is limited to one application per year in the Grants for Arts Projects category.

The work of Local Arts Agencies can cover a wide range of activity, depending on the dynamics of the community. Project types eligible for support include **Programming** and **Services to the Field**, both of which are described in detail below. **Subgranting** proposals by a Local Arts Agency to support programming or services to the field by its constituents are also eligible, with additional applicant requirements.

## Deadlines

### First Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>February 13, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>February 18-25, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>November 2020</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>January 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least January 22, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least February 4, 2020.

### Second Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>July 9, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>July 14-21, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>

<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>April 2021</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>June 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least June 17, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least June 30, 2020.

## Project Types

### Programming, for example:

- Artist commissions, including the enhancement of public spaces through commissioning and/or installation of art works. Please see “**Public Art Resources**” for additional information.
- Artist residencies.
- Creation and presentation of new work, including those that use technology, media, or other new models or strategies.
- Creation and presentation of work that honors the 2020 centennial of women’s voting rights in the United States.
- Festivals and other community events, which may include performances, exhibitions, lecture-demonstrations, and workshops.
- Performing arts events, readings, screenings, broadcasts, and visual arts exhibitions.
- Programming projects and initiatives that extend the reach of the arts to communities that have been historically underserved.
- Education and related activities for youth, adults, intergenerational groups, and schools.

However, if your project is for youth, see "**Choosing the Right Discipline for Youth Projects**" to help you select between the Local Arts Agencies and Arts Education disciplines. We encourage you to also review Arts Education guidelines for Collective Impact awards for projects that are collaborations with school districts with a focus on systemic change.

### Services to the Field, for example:

- Coordinated arts services, including community-wide marketing campaigns, online services, and community-wide arts engagement activities designed to increase public access to the arts.
- Services to advance the professional skills of artists and arts organizations. This may include conferences, convenings, workshops, technical assistance, board development, leadership training, and professional development opportunities for artists and arts administrators.
- Cultural planning, which may include the development of plans for cultural and/or creative sector growth, cultural assessments and mapping, community-wide cultural planning, specific-issue cultural plans, public art master plans, and the integration of arts and culture into broader community planning efforts.

- The planning and development of artist live/work spaces, as well as studio, production, rehearsal, and performance spaces.
- Documentation and conservation of public and monumental art. Please see “**Public Art Resources**” for additional information.

### **Subgranting**

- Subgranting for programming and services to the field activities on behalf of a Local Arts Agency's constituents.

To be eligible, a Local Arts Agency must be a unit of city or county government or officially designated to operate on behalf of its local government. In addition to the "**Applicant Eligibility**" section for all Grants for Arts Projects applicants, applicants for subgranting projects must have completed a three-year history of subgranting in the arts prior to the application deadline. Organizations without a three-year history of grantmaking are encouraged to contact Arts Endowment staff to discuss alternative project types.

- Designated Local Arts Agencies that will subgrant must:
  - Require their grantees to provide DUNS numbers before a grant can be made.
  - Report subgrants of \$25,000 or more in federal funds to the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act Subaward Reporting System (FSRS).
  - Ensure that all subawards made with federal or cost share/matching funds are in compliance with the General Terms and Conditions for an award from the National Endowment for the Arts, including requirements for pass-through entities as provided for under 2 CFR 200.331 and the NHPA/NEPA and accessibility requirements described below.
  - Note: Local Arts Agencies that have been officially designated to operate on behalf of local government are the only entities allowed to apply to Grants for Arts Projects for subgranting.

### **Public Art Resources**

The following resources have been compiled to help applicants and grantees in their research as they establish public art policies and implement public art processes.

The list is not comprehensive, but is offered for research and consideration as administrators develop public art programs in ways that make sense for each individual community.

#### **National Endowment for the Arts**

**<https://www.arts.gov/artistic-fields/creative-placemaking/creative-placemaking-resources>**

The National Endowment for the Arts has several resources available on our website around the topic of creative placemaking, including the publication *How to Do Creative Placemaking: An Action-Oriented Guide to Arts in Community Development*. The book is intended as a primer for those interested in bringing the arts to the community development table as a tool—along

with housing, transportation, public health, and other sectors—to advance revitalization efforts in an authentic way. You can find additional case studies and insights at *Exploring Our Town* on the National Endowment for the Arts website, including some specific resources for public art planning and implementation.

### **Americans for the Arts**

**<http://www.americansforthearts.org/by-program/networks-and-councils/public-art-network>**

A “professional network dedicated to advancing public art”, AFTA’s **Public Art Network** offers an online home for a variety of public art tools and resources, including funding models, public art evaluation, contracts and legal issues, and the annual **Year in Review database** (**<http://www.americansforthearts.org/by-program/networks-and-councils/public-art-network/pan-year-in-review-database>**), an annual compilation of notable national and international public art works.

### **Citizens’ Institute on Rural Design**

**<http://rural-design.org/webinars>**

Find archived articles and resources related to the role of the arts in rural design. New additions include the **Creative Placemaking: Economic Development for the Next Generation** webinar (March 2017).

### **Transportation for America**

**<http://creativeplacemaking.t4america.org/>**

A publication and accompanying website, *The Scenic Route: Getting Started with Creative Placemaking and Transportation*, is available through Transportation for America, “an alliance of elected, business, and civic leaders” dedicated to investing in “locally-driven transportation solutions.” The resource was developed with support from the Kresge Foundation.

### **WESTAF**

**<https://www.publicartarchive.org/>**

An online searchable database of public art installed in collections across the United States.

**For information on how to apply, see the “To Apply” box on the right.**

### **National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act Review**

If you are recommended for a grant, your project may be subject to the the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and/or the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Endowment for the Arts will conduct a review of your project to ensure that it is in compliance NHPA/NEPA.

Some of the common project types that garner a NHPA review are:

- A project involving or occurring near a district, site, building, landscape, structure or object that is 50 years old and therefore potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of

Historic Places (note that in some instances, buildings or structures may be included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places that are less than 50 years old).

- The commissioning and installation of temporary or permanent outdoor furnishings such as benches or market structures, or art such as a sculpture or mural.
- An outdoor arts festival.
- Design planning and services for projects that may involve a historic site, structure, or district.

This review and approval process may take up to several months to complete and may delay your project's start date and our ability to make a grant award/our ability to release grant funds. If you are recommended for an award which may have historic preservation or environmental concerns (NHPA/NEPA), you will be notified and asked to provide additional information. Thorough and complete information for all project activities and locations will expedite the review. The Arts Endowment cannot release an award and/or grant funds until the NHPA/NEPA review is complete.

To learn more about the questions you will need to answer for the review of a project impacted by the National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act , see here.

### **Accessibility**

Federal regulations require that all National Endowment for the Arts-funded projects be accessible to people with disabilities. Funded activities must be held in a physically accessible venue and program access and effective communication must be provided for participants and audience members with disabilities. If your project is recommended for funding, you will be asked to provide detailed information describing how you will make your project physically and programmatically accessible to people with disabilities:



## **GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: Media Arts**

The National Endowment for the Arts is committed to supporting activities that reflect the dynamic, diverse, and evolving nature of the media arts field. Applicants may apply in this Grants for Arts Projects category for media arts projects that support creation, exhibition, education, and distribution of historic and contemporary artworks in all genres and forms that use electronic media, film, and technology (analog & digital; old and new) as an artistic medium or a medium to broaden arts appreciation and awareness (of any discipline). All genres are welcome to apply; all phases of project support are eligible.

While we welcome applications for a variety of artistically excellent projects, we encourage projects that address any of the following activities below:

- Celebrate America's creativity and/or cultural heritage.
- Invite a dialogue that fosters a mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all persons and groups.
- Enrich our humanity by broadening our understanding of ourselves as individuals and as a society.
- In the spirit of White House Executive Orders that encourage federal agencies to engage with typically underserved constituencies, the National Endowment for the Arts encourages applications from:
  - Historically Black Colleges and Universities,
  - Tribal Colleges and Universities,
  - American Indian and Alaska Native tribes,
  - African American Serving Institutions,
  - Hispanic Serving Institutions,
  - Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, and
  - Organizations that support the independence and lifelong inclusion of people with disabilities.

Cost share/matching grants generally will range from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

### **Deadlines**

**Grants for Arts Projects applications will be accepted at two deadlines; project types vary for each deadline.** Apply at the deadline with the project type that most closely corresponds to the primary activities within your proposed project (see below for more details). All organizations must apply directly on their own behalf; **applications through a fiscal sponsor/agent are not allowed.**

An organization may submit only one application in the Grants for Arts Projects category, *with the following exception:* Any organization may submit more than one application in the Grants for Arts Projects category through the Media Arts discipline for the July deadline only. See **Applicant Eligibility** for more details.

**First Grants for Arts Projects: Media Arts Deadline:**

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>February 13, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>February 18-25, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>November 2020</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>January 1, 2021</b>
<p><b>Eligible projects types include exhibition, presentation, distribution, and preservation activities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Film/video/audio/new-media festivals and associated public programming that include artists, critics, and/or scholars, and are open to the general public and demonstrate meaningful community engagement.</li> <li>• Preservation, restoration, or archiving of media art works, and services that support preservation, restoration, or archiving efforts with a distribution plan to engage public audiences with the newly available work. Priority will be given to short or feature-length films and videos (any genre), audio and digital art works, and time-based performances residing on audio or visual formats. If you are looking to support the digitization of arts and cultural humanities collections (all sizes), you may wish to contact the <b><u>National Endowment for the Humanities</u></b> at <b><u>preservation@neh.gov</u></b>.</li> <li>• Curated series, screenings, exhibitions, installations, and/or touring programs and associated programming featuring all genres of historic and contemporary art that uses electronic media, film and technology (old and new) as an artistic medium and demonstrate meaningful community engagement.</li> <li>• Regional, national, or international distribution of electronic media, film, and technology as art.</li> </ul> <p><i>Note: We recognize that projects may include a range of media arts-related activities. Contact staff if it is unclear which deadline will be most suitable.</i></p>	

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least January 22, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least February 4, 2020.

**Second Grants for Arts Projects: Media Arts Deadline:**

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>July 9, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	

<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>July 14-21, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>April 2021</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>June 1, 2021</b>
<p><b>Eligible project types include creation, education, and resources for artistic and professional development:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commission, creation, and/or production of all genres and forms of media art that use electronic media, film, and technology (old and new) as an artistic medium or a medium to broaden arts appreciation and awareness of any discipline. High-profile multi-part or single television, radio, and multi-platform programs are also acceptable. Genres include, but are not limited to, documentary, experimental, narrative, interactive, transmedia storytelling, game design, immersive, audio, internet, and other new technologies. All phases of a project are eligible for support including research and development, production, and completion costs.</li> <li>• Projects that enable the production of analog and digital tools, hardware and/or software that engage the process of hacking, circuit bending, creative coding, development of open source code, robotics, and audio or visual instrument building to produce new media art works.</li> <li>• Projects providing resources to artists and organizations, workspace and facilities access to equipment and related technologies, and artist residencies that are available to artists and/or the general public that assist in any phase of media arts production.</li> <li>• Educational activities and workshop series that engage groups of all ages and skill levels to learn, participate, or engage in the process of using electronic media, film, and technology as an art form. Artist-led activities are encouraged. If these activities are directly aligned with festival or exhibition projects, the first Grants for Arts Projects deadline may be more appropriate. If your project intends to serve pre-K-12 youth audiences, see "<b><u>Choosing the Right Discipline for Youth Projects</u></b>" to help you in your discipline selection.</li> <li>• Services to the national field, including conferences, field studies, convenings, or workshops intended for media artists, critics, and scholars, and that are publicly accessible.</li> <li>• Widely distributed publications on issues pertinent to the media arts field, both practical and aesthetic, and both digital and in print.</li> <li>• Project activities that advance and/or sustain the creative work and careers for people with disabilities through employment, industry training, technical assistance, organization capacity-building, and infrastructure.</li> </ul> <p><b>Note: We recognize that projects may include a range of media arts-related activities. Contact staff if it is unclear which deadline will be most suitable.</b></p>	

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least June 17, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least June 30, 2020.

**For information on how to apply, see the “To Apply” box on the right.**

## **National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act Review**

If you are recommended for a grant, your project may be subject to the the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and/or the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Endowment for the Arts will conduct a review of your project to ensure that it is in compliance NHPA/NEPA.

Some of the common project types that garner a NHPA review are:

- A project involving or occurring near a district, site, building, landscape, structure or object that is 50 years old and therefore potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (note that in some instances, buildings or structures may be included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places that are less than 50 years old).
- The commissioning and installation of temporary or permanent outdoor furnishings such as benches or market structures, or art such as a sculpture or mural.
- An outdoor arts festival.
- Design planning and services for projects that may involve a historic site, structure, or district.

This review and approval process may take up to several months to complete and may delay your project's start date and our ability to make a grant award/our ability to release grant funds. If you are recommended for an award which may have historic preservation or environmental concerns (NHPA/NEPA), you will be notified and asked to provide additional information. Thorough and complete information for all project activities and locations will expedite the review. The Arts Endowment cannot release an award and/or grant funds until the NHPA/NEPA review is complete.

To learn more about the questions you will need to answer for the review of a project impacted by the National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act , see here.

### **Accessibility**

Federal regulations require that all National Endowment for the Arts-funded projects be accessible to people with disabilities. Funded activities must be held in a physically accessible venue and program access and effective communication must be provided for participants and audience members with disabilities. If your project is recommended for funding, you will be asked to provide detailed information describing how you will make your project physically and programmatically accessible to people with disabilities:

## **GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: Museums**

The nation's museums face a tall and challenging order, increasingly called upon to be civic anchors, community gathering places, and stewards of our most prized artistic and cultural heritage. Museums are visited by millions of people each year -- more than those that attend all major sporting events and theme parks combined.

The National Endowment for the Arts is committed to supporting museum activity that demonstrates exceptional aesthetic investigation and meaningful community engagement. Specifically, the National Endowment for the Arts assists museums through the support of exhibitions, care of collections, conservation, commissions, public art works, community engagement, education activities, and other museum work. Museum projects funded by the National Endowment for the Arts demonstrate artistic excellence in and across a variety of mediums, movements, eras, and cultures.

While we welcome applications for a variety of artistically excellent projects, we encourage projects that address any of the following activities below:

- Celebrate America's creativity and/or cultural heritage.
- Invite a dialogue that fosters a mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all persons and groups.
- Enrich our humanity by broadening our understanding of ourselves as individuals and as a society.
- In the spirit of White House Executive Orders that encourage federal agencies to engage with typically underserved constituencies, the National Endowment for the Arts encourages applications from:
  - Historically Black Colleges and Universities,
  - Tribal Colleges and Universities,
  - American Indian and Alaska Native tribes,
  - African American Serving Institutions,
  - Hispanic Serving Institutions,
  - Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, and
  - Organizations that support the independence and lifelong inclusion of people with disabilities.

Cost share/matching grants generally will range from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

### **Deadlines**

Grants for Arts Projects applications will be accepted at two deadlines. All project types (described below) are accepted at both deadlines. Generally, an organization is limited to one application per year in the Grants for Arts Projects category.

**First Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:**

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>February 13, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>February 18-25, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>November 2020</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>January 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least January 22, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least February 4, 2020.

**Second Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:**

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>July 9, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>July 14-21, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>April 2021</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>June 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least June 17, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least June 30, 2020.

**Project Types:**

- Exhibitions and related activities.
- Conservation, preservation, and/or restoration.
- Commissions or public art.
- Residencies.

- Provenance research.
- Collections management.
- Reinstallation of collections.
- Public programming such as workshops, lectures and symposia, or other outreach activities.
- Periodicals, publications, or catalogues.
- Education and related activities for youth, adults, intergenerational groups, and schools. (If your project is for youth, see "**Choosing the Right Discipline for Youth Projects**" to help you in your discipline selection.)
- Innovative uses of technology.
- Services to the field.

**For information on how to apply, see the “To Apply” box on the right.**

### **National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act Review**

If you are recommended for a grant, your project may be subject to the the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and/or the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Endowment for the Arts will conduct a review of your project to ensure that it is in compliance NHPA/NEPA.

Some of the common project types that garner a NHPA review are:

- A project involving or occurring near a district, site, building, landscape, structure or object that is 50 years old and therefore potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (note that in some instances, buildings or structures may be included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places that are less than 50 years old).
- The commissioning and installation of temporary or permanent outdoor furnishings such as benches or market structures, or art such as a sculpture or mural.
- An outdoor arts festival.
- Design planning and services for projects that may involve a historic site, structure, or district.

This review and approval process may take up to several months to complete and may delay your project's start date and our ability to make a grant award/our ability to release grant funds. If you are recommended for an award which may have historic preservation or environmental concerns (NHPA/NEPA), you will be notified and asked to provide additional information. Thorough and complete information for all project activities and locations will expedite the review. The Arts Endowment cannot release an award and/or grant funds until the NHPA/NEPA review is complete.

To learn more about the questions you will need to answer for the review of a project impacted by the National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act , see [here](#).

**Accessibility**

Federal regulations require that all National Endowment for the Arts-funded projects be accessible to people with disabilities. Funded activities must be held in a physically accessible venue and program access and effective communication must be provided for participants and audience members with disabilities. If your project is recommended for funding, you will be asked to provide detailed information describing how you will make your project physically and programmatically accessible to people with disabilities:



## **GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: Music**

The National Endowment for the Arts is committed to advancing a wide range of music, from classical and contemporary to jazz. We support projects by performing ensembles and music presenting organizations including but not limited to chamber music ensembles, choruses, early music programs, jazz ensembles, music festivals, and symphony orchestras. In addition, the National Endowment for the Arts accepts applications from professional artist development programs, artist residencies, and service organizations.

Organizations of all types and sizes may apply for a variety of music production, presentation, professional development, engagement, and service projects. The National Endowment for the Arts is particularly interested in collaborations, innovative presentation strategies, and initiatives that help organizations engage audiences in new and meaningful ways. In addition to projects that focus on the standard repertoire, the National Endowment for the Arts encourages the commissioning and performance of new American works.

While we welcome applications for a variety of artistically excellent projects, we encourage projects that address any of the following activities below:

- Celebrate America's creativity and/or cultural heritage.
- Invite a dialogue that fosters a mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all persons and groups.
- Enrich our humanity by broadening our understanding of ourselves as individuals and as a society.
- In the spirit of White House Executive Orders that encourage federal agencies to engage with typically underserved constituencies, the National Endowment for the Arts encourages applications from:
  - Historically Black Colleges and Universities,
  - Tribal Colleges and Universities,
  - American Indian and Alaska Native tribes,
  - African American Serving Institutions,
  - Hispanic Serving Institutions,
  - Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, and
  - Organizations that support the independence and lifelong inclusion of people with disabilities.

Cost share/matching grants generally will range from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

## **Projects**

Grants for Arts Projects applications will be accepted at two deadlines. All project types (described below) are accepted at both deadlines. Generally, an organization is limited to one application per year in the Grants for Arts Projects category.

**Applications must be for projects only. A project may consist of one or more specific events or activities, and should not cover an entire season of programming. We do not fund seasonal or general operating support.**

## Deadlines

### First Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>February 13, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>February 18-25, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>November 2020</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>January 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least January 22, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least February 4, 2020.

### Second Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>July 9, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>July 14-21, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>April 2021</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>June 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least June 17, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least June 30, 2020.

## Project Types

### **Performances, presentations, and commissions**

- Public presentations of musical works.
- Commissions and/or co-commissions.
- Development and performances of new musical compositions and innovative works.
- Performances and educational engagements by NEA Jazz Masters that honor their work, history, style, and/or significance to jazz; and broaden public awareness of the art form.
- Domestic touring.
- Festivals and other events (may include performances, lecture-demonstrations, audience talkbacks, master classes, and workshops).

### **Professional artistic development**

- Professional artistic development and training programs for musicians such as conducting skills, mentorship, and career development.
- Residencies and workshops with artists.

### **Engagement, education, recordings, and technology**

- Community engagement projects that involve diverse communities and/or reach new audiences.
- Innovative methods of engaging audiences (may include collaborations with other organizations, new approaches that have the potential to increase the impact on audiences, artists, communities, or the field).
- Recordings of works by American composers.
- Technology projects such as local broadcasts, online resources, and libraries that provide public access to musical works.
- Archival, documentation, and preservation projects.
- Education and related activities for youth, adults, and intergenerational groups. *If your project is for youth, see "Choosing the Right Discipline for Youth Projects."*

### **Services to the field**

- Services that reach a broad constituency of musicians, music educators, administrators, and music organizations (may include workshops, conferences, publications, professional leadership development, technical assistance, or online resources).

**For information on how to apply, see the "To Apply" box on the right.**

### **National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act Review**

If you are recommended for a grant, your project may be subject to the the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and/or the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Endowment for the Arts will conduct a review of your project to ensure that it is in compliance NHPA/NEPA.

Some of the common project types that garner a NHPA review are:

- A project involving or occurring near a district, site, building, landscape, structure or object that is 50 years old and therefore potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (note that in some instances, buildings or structures may be included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places that are less than 50 years old).
- The commissioning and installation of temporary or permanent outdoor furnishings such as benches or market structures, or art such as a sculpture or mural.
- An outdoor arts festival.
- Design planning and services for projects that may involve a historic site, structure, or district.

This review and approval process may take up to several months to complete and may delay your project's start date and our ability to make a grant award/our ability to release grant funds. If you are recommended for an award which may have historic preservation or environmental concerns (NHPA/NEPA), you will be notified and asked to provide additional information. Thorough and complete information for all project activities and locations will expedite the review. The Arts Endowment cannot release an award and/or grant funds until the NHPA/NEPA review is complete.

To learn more about the questions you will need to answer for the review of a project impacted by the National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act , see [here](#).

### **Accessibility**

Federal regulations require that all National Endowment for the Arts-funded projects be accessible to people with disabilities. Funded activities must be held in a physically accessible venue and program access and effective communication must be provided for participants and audience members with disabilities. If your project is recommended for funding, you will be asked to provide detailed information describing how you will make your project physically and programmatically accessible to people with disabilities:

## **GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: Musical Theater**

The National Endowment for the Arts nurtures the nonprofit musical theater field, as one of America's unique art forms, by funding the work of established musical theater organizations as well as musical theater projects by companies known primarily for non-musical work. The National Endowment for the Arts awards grants for the production or presentation of traditional repertoire, new musicals, development laboratories, showcases, artist residencies, work for young audiences, experimental work, and community-based work. Projects funded by the National Endowment for the Arts should help to fully realize an organization's mission and may provide support for organizations and artists in the creation and refinement of work, the public presentation of musicals from all cultures and periods, and opportunities for professional development. Supported projects will reflect the breadth of the musical theater genre and its artistic, historical, and cultural significance.

While we welcome applications for a variety of artistically excellent projects, we encourage projects that address any of the following activities below:

- Celebrate America's creativity and/or cultural heritage.
- Invite a dialogue that fosters a mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all persons and groups.
- Enrich our humanity by broadening our understanding of ourselves as individuals and as a society.
- In the spirit of White House Executive Orders that encourage federal agencies to engage with typically underserved constituencies, the National Endowment for the Arts encourages applications from:
  - Historically Black Colleges and Universities,
  - Tribal Colleges and Universities,
  - American Indian and Alaska Native tribes,
  - African American Serving Institutions,
  - Hispanic Serving Institutions,
  - Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, and
  - Organizations that support the independence and lifelong inclusion of people with disabilities.

Cost share/matching grants generally will range from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

### **Projects**

Grants for Arts Projects applications will be accepted at two deadlines. All project types (described below) are accepted at both deadlines. Generally, an organization is limited to one application per year in the Grants for Arts Projects category.

**Applications must be for projects only. A project may consist of one or more specific events or activities, and should not cover an entire season of programming. We do not fund seasonal or general operating support.**

**Deadlines:****First Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:**

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>February 13, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>February 18-25, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>November 2020</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>January 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least January 22, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least February 4, 2020.

**Second Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:**

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>July 9, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>July 14-21, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>April 2021</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>June 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least June 17, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least June 30, 2020.

**Project Types**

- Commissioning, development, and production of new musicals.

- Production of existing contemporary musicals or masterworks from the musical theater canon that are re-imagined or speak to today's audiences in new and original ways.
- Development, production, or presentation of musical theater work for young audiences.
- Development programs and labs for new musicals, which may include the hosting of artist residencies, showcase productions of new work, development workshops, and festivals of new works or works in progress. (The National Endowment for the Arts does not fund festivals for which no curatorial judgment has been applied, or development programs in which participants must pay a fee to participate.)
- Local, regional, and national touring of musicals.
- Documentation, preservation, conservation, and dissemination of America's musical theater heritage.
- Community-based projects that involve the creation and/or production of musical theater with community members.
- Services to the musical theater field that assist organizations or artists in administrative, developmental, technical, and related areas.
- Professional training including classes, guest artist residencies, workshops, and mentorship of musical theater artists.
- Musical theater exposure and enrichment projects, including projects for youth, adults, and intergenerational groups. (If your project is for youth, see "**Choosing the Right Discipline for Youth Projects**" to help you in your discipline selection.)

**For information on how to apply, see the “To Apply” box on the right.**

### **National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act Review**

If you are recommended for a grant, your project may be subject to the the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and/or the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Endowment for the Arts will conduct a review of your project to ensure that it is in compliance NHPA/NEPA.

Some of the common project types that garner a NHPA review are:

- A project involving or occurring near a district, site, building, landscape, structure or object that is 50 years old and therefore potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (note that in some instances, buildings or structures may be included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places that are less than 50 years old).
- The commissioning and installation of temporary or permanent outdoor furnishings such as benches or market structures, or art such as a sculpture or mural.
- An outdoor arts festival.
- Design planning and services for projects that may involve a historic site, structure, or district.

This review and approval process may take up to several months to complete and may delay your project's start date and our ability to make a grant award/our ability to release grant funds. If you are recommended for an award which may have historic preservation or environmental concerns (NHPA/NEPA), you will be notified and asked to provide additional information. Thorough and complete information for all project activities and locations will expedite the review. The Arts Endowment cannot release an award and/or grant funds until the NHPA/NEPA review is complete.

To learn more about the questions you will need to answer for the review of a project impacted by the National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act , see here.

### **Accessibility**

Federal regulations require that all National Endowment for the Arts-funded projects be accessible to people with disabilities. Funded activities must be held in a physically accessible venue and program access and effective communication must be provided for participants and audience members with disabilities. If your project is recommended for funding, you will be asked to provide detailed information describing how you will make your project physically and programmatically accessible to people with disabilities:



## **GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: Opera**

The National Endowment for the Arts is committed to nurturing and advancing the highest levels of operatic artistry to enrich communities across the nation. Opera is a multifaceted art form that can involve singing, acting, orchestral playing, scenic artistry, costume design, lighting, and dance to convey a story or dramatic concept.

Organizations of all types and sizes are welcome to apply, including professional opera companies, opera festivals, presenting organizations, training programs, and other organizations that commission, develop, or produce fully-staged operatic works and/or concert opera.

The National Endowment for the Arts supports the commissioning, development, presentation, and professional recordings of new or existing operatic works; professional artist development programs and artist residencies; and projects by service organizations. Applications for collaborations and innovative projects that engage audiences in new and meaningful ways are encouraged.

While we welcome applications for a variety of artistically excellent projects, we encourage projects that address any of the following activities below:

- Celebrate America's creativity and/or cultural heritage.
- Invite a dialogue that fosters a mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all persons and groups.
- Enrich our humanity by broadening our understanding of ourselves as individuals and as a society.
- In the spirit of White House Executive Orders that encourage federal agencies to engage with typically underserved constituencies, the National Endowment for the Arts encourages applications from:
  - Historically Black Colleges and Universities,
  - Tribal Colleges and Universities,
  - American Indian and Alaska Native tribes,
  - African American Serving Institutions,
  - Hispanic Serving Institutions,
  - Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, and
  - Organizations that support the independence and lifelong inclusion of people with disabilities.

Cost share/matching grants generally will range from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

## **Projects**

Grants for Arts Projects applications will be accepted at two deadlines. All project types (described below) are accepted at both deadlines. Generally, an organization is limited to one application per year in the Grants for Arts Projects category.

**Applications must be for projects only. A project may consist of one or more specific events or activities, and should not cover an entire season of programming. We do not fund seasonal or general operating support.**

### Deadlines

#### First Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>February 13, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>February 18-25, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>November 2020</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>January 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least January 22, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least February 4, 2020.

#### Second Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>July 9, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>July 14-21, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
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<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>June 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least June 17, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least June 30, 2020.

## **Project Types**

### **Performances, presentations, and commissions**

- Creation of new operatic works, especially those that are innovative or that cross genres (including commissions, residencies, and workshops with artists).
- Premieres.
- Repeat productions of newly-premiered works.
- New productions of traditional and contemporary operas.
- Remounting of existing productions.
- Concert opera (performances that are not fully staged). *Contact the **Opera staff** before preparing a concert opera application.*
- Domestic touring.
- Opera festivals and other events (may include performances, lecture-demonstrations, audience talk-backs, master classes, and workshops).

### **Professional artistic development**

- Artist residencies.
- Post-conservatory professional development programs for artists including coaching, conducting, acting, stage movement, diction, language, mentorship, and career development.
- Projects that advance and/or sustain the creative work and/or careers for people with disabilities through employment, industry training, technical assistance, organization capacity-building, and infrastructure.

### **Engagement, education, recordings, and technology**

- Community engagement projects that involve diverse communities and/or reach new audiences.
- Education and related activities for youth, adults, and intergenerational groups.
- Audience engagement initiatives (including collaborations with other organizations).
- Opera performances and activities in public spaces intended to foster community interaction and/or enhance the unique characteristics of a community.
- Recordings of opera works (by international or American composers).
- Technology projects (including simulcast performances and online resources that provide public access to opera).
- Archival, documentation, and preservation projects.

### **Services to the opera field**

- Services to the opera field (for organizations, singers, composers, librettists, administrators, and/or volunteers).

**For information on how to apply, see the “To Apply” box on the right.**

### **National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act Review**

If you are recommended for a grant, your project may be subject to the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and/or the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Endowment for the Arts will conduct a review of your project to ensure that it is in compliance NHPA/NEPA.

Some of the common project types that garner a NHPA review are:

- A project involving or occurring near a district, site, building, landscape, structure or object that is 50 years old and therefore potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (note that in some instances, buildings or structures may be included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places that are less than 50 years old).
- The commissioning and installation of temporary or permanent outdoor furnishings such as benches or market structures, or art such as a sculpture or mural.
- An outdoor arts festival.
- Design planning and services for projects that may involve a historic site, structure, or district.

This review and approval process may take up to several months to complete and may delay your project's start date and our ability to make a grant award/our ability to release grant funds. If you are recommended for an award which may have historic preservation or environmental concerns (NHPA/NEPA), you will be notified and asked to provide additional information. Thorough and complete information for all project activities and locations will expedite the review. The Arts Endowment cannot release an award and/or grant funds until the NHPA/NEPA review is complete.

To learn more about the questions you will need to answer for the review of a project impacted by the National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act , see here.

### **Accessibility**

Federal regulations require that all National Endowment for the Arts-funded projects be accessible to people with disabilities. Funded activities must be held in a physically accessible venue and program access and effective communication must be provided for participants and audience members with disabilities. If your project is recommended for funding, you will be asked to provide detailed information describing how you will make your project physically and programmatically accessible to people with disabilities:

## **GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works**

Through this funding area, the National Endowment for the Arts supports artistic works and events that present multiple disciplines, combine and/or integrate art forms, explore boundaries between art disciplines, fuse or transcend disciplines, and look to new forms of expression.

Projects should be multi- or cross-disciplinary in nature and may include work from the performing, visual, media, design, and literary arts. These projects can be for any stage of the artistic process including creation, commissioning, presentations, touring, training, residencies, and access to the arts. In addition, we also fund projects that provide services to artists and arts organizations. **Projects that present or otherwise feature a single artistic discipline (including but not limited to dance, literary arts, media arts, music, musical theater, theater, visual arts) should apply through that discipline.**

While we welcome applications for a variety of artistically excellent projects, we encourage projects that address any of the following activities below:

- Celebrate America's creativity and/or cultural heritage.
- Invite a dialogue that fosters a mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all persons and groups.
- Enrich our humanity by broadening our understanding of ourselves as individuals and as a society.
- In the spirit of White House Executive Orders that encourage federal agencies to engage with typically underserved constituencies, the National Endowment for the Arts encourages applications from:
  - Historically Black Colleges and Universities,
  - Tribal Colleges and Universities,
  - American Indian and Alaska Native tribes,
  - African American Serving Institutions,
  - Hispanic Serving Institutions,
  - Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, and
  - Organizations that support the independence and lifelong inclusion of people with disabilities.

Cost share/matching grants generally will range from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

## **Projects**

Grants for Arts Projects applications will be accepted at two deadlines. All project types (described below) are accepted at both deadlines. Generally, an organization is limited to one application per year in the Grants for Arts Projects category.

If you are unsure whether Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works is the right discipline for your project, or if you have never applied before, we encourage you to contact staff prior to submitting your application.

## Deadlines

### First Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>February 13, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>February 18-25, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>November 2020</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>January 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least January 22, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least February 4, 2020.

### Second Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>July 9, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>July 14-21, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>April 2021</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>June 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least June 17, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least June 30, 2020.

## Project Types

**Applications must be for projects only. A project may consist of one or more specific events or activities, and should not cover an entire season of programming. We do not fund seasonal or general operating support.**

- The presentation and/or touring of new or existing works. This may include, but is not limited to, performances, exhibitions, festivals, and guest artist residencies.
- The creation and commissioning of new works.
- Artist residency programs.
- Participatory art works, community-based work, and projects with a distinct focus on community engagement.
- Projects that utilize artistically excellent art in civic and social practice, conflict transformation, and collaborative work with community partners.
- Festivals and other activities in public spaces that are intended to foster community interaction and/or enhance the unique characteristics of a community.
- Circus arts, site-specific work, and outdoor spectacles.
- Exposure and enrichment projects for youth, adults, and intergenerational groups. (If your project is for youth, see "**Choosing the Right Discipline for Youth Projects**" to help you in your discipline selection.)
- Services to artists and arts organizations. (**Service projects that focus on a single discipline should apply through that discipline.**) This may include, but is not limited to:
  - Arts and arts-related conferences and convenings.
  - Leadership training and other professional development opportunities for artists and arts administrators.
  - Archiving, preservation, and documentation projects.

**For information on how to apply, see the “To Apply” box on the right.**

### **National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act Review**

If you are recommended for a grant, your project may be subject to the the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and/or the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Endowment for the Arts will conduct a review of your project to ensure that it is in compliance NHPA/NEPA.

Some of the common project types that garner a NHPA review are:

- A project involving or occurring near a district, site, building, landscape, structure or object that is 50 years old and therefore potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of

Historic Places (note that in some instances, buildings or structures may be included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places that are less than 50 years old).

- The commissioning and installation of temporary or permanent outdoor furnishings such as benches or market structures, or art such as a sculpture or mural.
- An outdoor arts festival.
- Design planning and services for projects that may involve a historic site, structure, or district.

This review and approval process may take up to several months to complete and may delay your project's start date and our ability to make a grant award/our ability to release grant funds. If you are recommended for an award which may have historic preservation or environmental concerns (NHPA/NEPA), you will be notified and asked to provide additional information. Thorough and complete information for all project activities and locations will expedite the review. The Arts Endowment cannot release an award and/or grant funds until the NHPA/NEPA review is complete.

To learn more about the questions you will need to answer for the review of a project impacted by the National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act , see here.

### **Accessibility**

Federal regulations require that all National Endowment for the Arts-funded projects be accessible to people with disabilities. Funded activities must be held in a physically accessible venue and program access and effective communication must be provided for participants and audience members with disabilities. If your project is recommended for funding, you will be asked to provide detailed information describing how you will make your project physically and programmatically accessible to people with disabilities:



## **GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: Theater**

The National Endowment for the Arts awards grants to the nonprofit theater field for the production or presentation of traditional or classical repertoire, new plays, development laboratories, showcases, artist residencies, work for young audiences, experimental work, community-based work, outdoor historical dramas, and puppetry. Projects funded by the National Endowment for the Arts should help to fully realize an organization's mission and may provide support for organizations and artists in the creation and refinement of work, the public presentation of plays from all cultures and periods, and opportunities for professional development.

While we welcome applications for a variety of artistically excellent projects, we encourage projects that address any of the following activities below:

- Celebrate America's creativity and/or cultural heritage.
- Invite a dialogue that fosters a mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all persons and groups.
- Enrich our humanity by broadening our understanding of ourselves as individuals and as a society.
- In the spirit of White House Executive Orders that encourage federal agencies to engage with typically underserved constituencies, the National Endowment for the Arts encourages applications from:
  - Historically Black Colleges and Universities,
  - Tribal Colleges and Universities,
  - American Indian and Alaska Native tribes,
  - African American Serving Institutions,
  - Hispanic Serving Institutions,
  - Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, and
  - Organizations that support the independence and lifelong inclusion of people with disabilities.

Cost share/matching grants generally will range from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

## **Projects**

Grants for Arts Projects applications will be accepted at two deadlines. All project types (described below) are accepted at both deadlines. Generally, an organization is limited to one application per year in the Grants for Arts Projects category.

**Applications must be for projects only. A project may consist of one or more specific events or activities, and should not cover an entire season of programming. We do not fund seasonal or general operating support.**

## Deadlines

### First Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>February 13, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>February 18-25, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>November 2020</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>January 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least January 22, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least February 4, 2020.

### Second Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>July 9, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
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<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>June 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least June 17, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least June 30, 2020.

## Project Types

- Commissioning, development, and production of new work, translations, and adaptations.

- Production or presentation of existing contemporary or classical work.
- Development, production, or presentation of theater work for young audiences.
- Development programs and labs for new work, which may include the hosting of artist residencies, showcase productions of new work, development workshops, and festivals of new works or works in progress. (The National Endowment for the Arts does not fund festivals for which no curatorial judgment has been applied, or development programs in which participants must pay a fee to participate).
- Local, regional, and national touring of theater productions.
- Documentation, preservation, conservation, and dissemination of America's theater heritage.
- Community-based projects that involve the creation and/or production of theater with community members.
- Services to the field that assist organizations or artists in administrative, developmental, technical, and related areas.
- Professional training including classes, guest artist residencies, workshops, and mentorship of theater artists.
- Exposure and enrichment projects, including arts/science/technology projects, for youth, adults, and intergenerational groups. (If your project is for youth, see "**Choosing the Right Discipline for Youth Projects**" to help you in your discipline selection.)

**For information on how to apply, see the “To Apply” box on the right.**

### **National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act Review**

If you are recommended for a grant, your project may be subject to the the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and/or the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Endowment for the Arts will conduct a review of your project to ensure that it is in compliance NHPA/NEPA.

Some of the common project types that garner a NHPA review are:

- A project involving or occurring near a district, site, building, landscape, structure or object that is 50 years old and therefore potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (note that in some instances, buildings or structures may be included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places that are less than 50 years old).
- The commissioning and installation of temporary or permanent outdoor furnishings such as benches or market structures, or art such as a sculpture or mural.
- An outdoor arts festival.
- Design planning and services for projects that may involve a historic site, structure, or district.

This review and approval process may take up to several months to complete and may delay your project's start date and our ability to make a grant award/our ability to release grant funds. If you are recommended for an award which may have historic preservation or environmental concerns

(NHPA/NEPA), you will be notified and asked to provide additional information. Thorough and complete information for all project activities and locations will expedite the review. The Arts Endowment cannot release an award and/or grant funds until the NHPA/NEPA review is complete.

To learn more about the questions you will need to answer for the review of a project impacted by the National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act , see here.

### **Accessibility**

Federal regulations require that all National Endowment for the Arts-funded projects be accessible to people with disabilities. Funded activities must be held in a physically accessible venue and program access and effective communication must be provided for participants and audience members with disabilities. If your project is recommended for funding, you will be asked to provide detailed information describing how you will make your project physically and programmatically accessible to people with disabilities:

## **GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: Visual Arts**

Visual Arts activity in the nation is undertaken by a variety of organizations and institutions—including large and small, rural and urban, emerging and established, public or private non-profit—many of which have solely artistic missions. Others are community-based organizations whose portfolios may, on occasion, include the visual arts.

The National Endowment for the Arts is committed to supporting visual arts activity—painting, sculpture, photography, printmaking, drawing, craft, and public art—that demonstrates exceptional aesthetic investigation and meaningful community engagement.

Specifically, the National Endowment for the Arts is interested in supporting contemporary artists and the projects they undertake, such as exhibitions, residencies, publications, commissions, public art works, conservation, documentation, services to the field, and public programs. The National Endowment for the Arts is committed to encouraging individual artistic development, experimentation, and dialogue between artists and the public.

While we welcome applications for a variety of artistically excellent projects, we encourage projects that address any of the following activities below:

- Celebrate America’s creativity and/or cultural heritage.
- Invite a dialogue that fosters a mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all persons and groups.
- Enrich our humanity by broadening our understanding of ourselves as individuals and as a society.
- In the spirit of White House Executive Orders that encourage federal agencies to engage with typically underserved constituencies, the National Endowment for the Arts encourages applications from:
  - Historically Black Colleges and Universities,
  - Tribal Colleges and Universities,
  - American Indian and Alaska Native tribes,
  - African American Serving Institutions,
  - Hispanic Serving Institutions,
  - Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, and
  - Organizations that support the independence and lifelong inclusion of people with disabilities.

Cost share/matching grants generally will range from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

### **Deadlines**

Grants for Arts Projects applications will be accepted at two deadlines. All project types (described below) are accepted at both deadlines. Generally, an organization is limited to one application per year in the Grants for Arts Projects category.

**First Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:**

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>February 13, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>February 18-25, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>November 2020</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>January 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least January 22, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least February 4, 2020.

**Second Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:**

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>July 9, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>July 14-21, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<b>Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection</b>	<b>April 2021</b>
<b>Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance</b>	<b>June 1, 2021</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least June 17, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least June 30, 2020.

**Project Types**

- Exhibitions and related activities.
- Conservation, preservation, and/or restoration.
- Commissions or public art.
- Residencies.

- Periodicals, publications, or catalogues.
- Public programming such as workshops, lectures and symposia, or other outreach activities.
- Education and related activities for youth, adults, intergenerational groups, and schools. (If your project is for youth, see "**Choosing the Right Discipline for Youth Projects**" to help you in your discipline selection.)
- Innovative uses of technology.
- Services to the field.

**For information on how to apply, see the “To Apply” box on the right.**

### **National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act Review**

If you are recommended for a grant, your project may be subject to the the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and/or the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Endowment for the Arts will conduct a review of your project to ensure that it is in compliance NHPA/NEPA.

Some of the common project types that garner a NHPA review are:

- A project involving or occurring near a district, site, building, landscape, structure or object that is 50 years old and therefore potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (note that in some instances, buildings or structures may be included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places that are less than 50 years old).
- The commissioning and installation of temporary or permanent outdoor furnishings such as benches or market structures, or art such as a sculpture or mural.
- An outdoor arts festival.
- Design planning and services for projects that may involve a historic site, structure, or district.

This review and approval process may take up to several months to complete and may delay your project's start date and our ability to make a grant award/our ability to release grant funds. If you are recommended for an award which may have historic preservation or environmental concerns (NHPA/NEPA), you will be notified and asked to provide additional information. Thorough and complete information for all project activities and locations will expedite the review. The Arts Endowment cannot release an award and/or grant funds until the NHPA/NEPA review is complete.

To learn more about the questions you will need to answer for the review of a project impacted by the National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act , see here.

### **Accessibility**

Federal regulations require that all National Endowment for the Arts-funded projects be accessible to people with disabilities. Funded activities must be held in a physically accessible venue and program access and effective communication must be provided for participants and audience members with disabilities. If your project is recommended for funding, you will be asked to provide detailed information describing how you will make your project physically and programmatically accessible to people with disabilities:



## **GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: How to Prepare and Submit an Application**

We urge you to read these instructions in their entirety before you begin the application process. Submitting an application is a multi-step process:

- **Part 1:** Submit to Grants.gov the “Application for Federal Domestic Assistance/Short Organization Form.” Refer to the Part 1 instructions for important information and deadlines.
- **Part 2:** Complete the “Grant Application Form (GAF)” and upload items through the Arts Endowment’s Applicant Portal. Refer to the Part 2 instructions to learn more about how and when to access the Applicant Portal.

### **Tips**

#### **View a Guidelines Webinar:**

- We will conduct a live Grants for Arts Projects webinar on TBD, at 3:00 p.m., Eastern Time featuring an overview of this funding category and a Q&A session. [Register here](#) for this webinar or [go here](#) for an archive after it is concluded.
- We’ll also hold a webinar for previous Challenge America applicants who are interested in applying to Grants for Arts Projects on TBD, at 3:00 p.m., Eastern Time. [Register here](#) for this webinar or [go here](#) for an archive after it is concluded.

#### **View the Grant Application Form (GAF) Tutorial:**

This tutorial provides an overview of the Grant Application Form (GAF) to assist you during Part 2 of the application process: [Online Tutorial: Using the Grant Application Form](#)

#### **Ensure that your application is complete with this checklist:**

- [Grants for Arts Projects Application Checklist](#)

#### **Application updates after submission:**

Send new information that significantly affects your application (such as changes in artists or confirmed funding commitments) as soon as possible to the specialist for the field/discipline of your project. Remember to include your organization’s name and Arts Endowment application number.

**If you have questions, [use this list](#) to determine your Arts Endowment staff contact.**

## GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: Part 1: Submit Grants.gov

Complete and submit the Application for Federal Domestic Assistance/Short Organizational Form to Grants.gov.

**Register or renew/verify Grants.gov and SAM.gov registration | Go to the Grant Opportunity Package | Fill out the Application for Federal Domestic Assistance/Short Organizational Form | Submit your application to Grants.gov | Track Your Application**

First Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>February 13, 2020 by 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>February 18, 2020 at 9:00 a.m., Eastern Time to February 25, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least January 22, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least February 4, 2020.

Second Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:

<b>Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov</b>	<b>July 9, 2020 by 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
<b>Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal</b>	<b>July 14, 2020 at 9:00 a.m., Eastern Time to July 21, 2020 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time</b>

Note: To allow time to resolve any problems you might encounter, finalize your Grants.gov/SAM registration by at least June 17, 2020 and submit to Grants.gov by at least June 30, 2020.

1. Register or renew/verify Grants.gov and SAM.gov registration:

- Before submitting to Grants.gov, your organization must register or renew/verify its current registration with both **Grants.gov** and the **System for Award Management (SAM)**. Registrations with Grants.gov and SAM must be active for you to be able to submit your application. Failure to comply with these requirements will result in your inability to submit to Grants.gov.
- Go to Grants.gov's **Organization Registration** to create a new organization registration.
- **Grants.gov Contact Center:** Call 1-800-518-4726, e-mail **support@grants.gov**, or consult the information posted on the Grants.gov website at **Support**. The Grants.gov Contact Center is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. NOTE: You must contact

Grants.gov for help. Grants.gov is not a National Endowment for the Arts system and is outside of our control.

- **SAM Federal Service Desk:** Call 1-866-606-8220 or see the information posted on the SAM website at [SAM Help](#). NOTE: You must contact SAM.gov for help. SAM.gov is not a National Endowment for the Arts system and is outside of our control.
- Registration in SAM.gov and Grants.gov can take several weeks. Exceptions to the deadline will be considered only for registration or renewal issues that are the result of failures on the part of DUNS, SAM, or Grants.gov as determined by the National Endowment for the Arts. To be considered for this exception, you must provide documentation of a DUNS, SAM, or Grants.gov failure dating from at least January 22 for the February 13 deadline or June 17 for the July 9 deadline.
- In addition to these instructions, you should periodically check the [Grants.gov blog](#) or the [Grants.gov homepage](#) for tips, updates, and alerts.

## 2. Go to the Grant Opportunity Package:

Access the Grant Opportunity Package with the Application for Federal Domestic Assistance/Short Organizational Form on Grants.gov by clicking on the link for your deadline:

**[CLICK HERE TO GO TO THE GRANT OPPORTUNITY PACKAGE ON GRANTS.GOV](#)**

For applications at the February 13, 2020, deadline:

[Funding Opportunity Number 2020NEA01AW1]

When you go to Grants.gov through the link above, the Grants.gov “View Grant Opportunity” screen will open. Choose “Apply” in the “Action” area. On the next screen, choose “Apply” again. You will be prompted to enter your Grants.gov Username and Password.

You will apply using a Grants.gov Workspace. To create a Workspace, look for the “Application Filing Name” field above the “Create Workspace” button (you must be logged in as the Authorized Organization Representative or AOR to be able to see this button and create the Workspace). Enter the legal name of your organization, click the “Create Workspace” button, and follow the screens from there. If you want to **[learn more about using Grants.gov’s Workspace, see here](#)**.

For detailed instructions on how to complete and submit the required forms through Workspace, see here.

You will submit the substantial part of your application during Part 2.

The Grant Opportunity Package for the July 9, 2020, deadline will be available mid-June 2020.

### 3. Fill out the Application for Federal Domestic Assistance/Short Organizational Form

**NOTE:** All asterisked (\*) items and yellow fields on this form are required and must be completed before you will be able to submit the form. Do not type in all capital letters when completing the form. Enter information directly into the form. Do not copy from an old Application for Federal Domestic Assistance/Short Organizational Form or another document and paste into the form.

**1. Name of Federal Agency:** Pre-populated.

**2. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:** Pre-populated.

**3. Date Received:** This will be filled automatically with the date that you submit your application; leave blank.

**4. Funding Opportunity Number:** Pre-populated.

**5. Applicant Information:**

**a. Legal Name:** The name provided here must be the applicant's legal name as it appears in the current IRS 501(c)(3) status letter or in the official document that identifies the organization as a unit of state or local government, or as a federally recognized tribal community or tribe. (Do not use your organization's popular name, if different.)

If you are a parent organization that is applying on behalf of an **eligible independent component**, do not list the name of the independent component here. You will be asked for that information later.

**b. Address:** Use Street 1 for your organization's physical street address. This address should agree with the address that you used with the SAM (System for Award Management). In addition, use Street 2 for your organization's mailing address if it differs from the physical street address.

In the Zip/Postal Code box, organizations in the United States should enter the **full 9-digit zip code** that was assigned by the U.S. Postal Service. If you do not know your full zip code, you may look it up at [www.usps.com/zip4/](http://www.usps.com/zip4/).

**d. Type of Applicant:** Select the item that best characterizes your organization from the menu in the first drop down box. Additional choices are optional.

**e. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):** Enter the 9-digit number that was assigned by the Internal Revenue Service; do not use a Social Security Number.

**f. Organizational DUNS:** All organizational applicants for federal funds must have a DUNS number, which is recognized as the universal standard for identifying organizations worldwide. **The number that you enter here must agree with the number (either 9 or 13 digits) that you used with the SAM (System for Award Management) as part of the**

**Grants.gov registration. Otherwise, your application will not be validated by Grants.gov and will be rejected. Confirm your DUNS with SAM.gov before filling out this form.**

g. Congressional District: Enter the number of the Congressional District where the applicant organization is located. The Congressional District that you enter here must agree with the Congressional District that you used with the SAM (System for Award Management) as part of the Grants.gov registration. Use the following format: 2 character State Abbreviation-3 character District Number. For example, if your organization is located in the 5th Congressional District of California, enter "CA-005." If your state has a single At-Large Representative or your territory has a single Delegate, enter your 2 character state/territory abbreviation and "-000." If you need help determining your district, go to [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov) and use the "Find Your Representative" tool.

## **6. Project Information:**

a. Project Title: Enter "N/A." You will provide a project title in the Arts Endowment's Applicant Portal during Part 2 of the application process, not in Grants.gov. Anything you enter in Grants.gov will not be used in the review of your application.

b. Project Description: Enter "N/A." You will provide a project description in the Arts Endowment's Applicant Portal during Part 2 of the application process, not in Grants.gov. Anything you enter in Grants.gov will not be used in the review of your application.

c. Proposed Project Start Date/End Date: Enter the beginning and ending dates for your requested period of performance, i.e., the span of time necessary to plan, execute, and close out your proposed project. The start date should be the first day of the month, and the end date should be the last day of the month. Our support of a project may start on or after: 1) For applicants at the February 14 deadline, **January 1, 2021**; or 2) For applicants at the July 11 deadline, **June 1, 2021**. Generally, a period of performance of up to two years is allowed. **The two-year period is intended to allow an applicant sufficient time to plan, execute, and close out its project, not to repeat a one-year project for a second year.** Your budget should include only the activities and costs incurred during the requested period of performance.

## **7. Project Director:**

Provide the requested information for the Project Director. Select a Prefix (e.g., Ms., Mr.) even though this is not a required field.

Provide contact information, including an e-mail address that will be valid through the announcement date for your category. Due to restrictions from the Department of Homeland Security we are not able to send emails to alias addresses that forward to another email account. Do not enter this type of email address.

## **8. Primary Contact/Grant Administrator:**

Provide the requested information for the individual who should be contacted on all matters involving this application and the administration of any grant that may be awarded. For colleges and universities, this person is often a Sponsored Research, Sponsored Programs, or Contracts

and Grants Officer. Select a Prefix even though this is not a required field. For the Telephone number field, use the following format: 000-000-0000. Due to restrictions from the Department of Homeland Security we are not able to send emails to alias addresses that forward to another email account. Do not enter this type of email address.

In some organizations, particularly smaller ones, this individual may be the same as the Project Director. If this is the case, you may check the "Same as Project Director" box and not repeat information that you have already provided in Item 7. (If the Primary Contact/Grant Administrator is the same as the Authorizing Official, complete all items under both 8 and 9 even though there will be some repetition.)

#### **9. Authorized Representative:**

Enter the requested information for the AOR (Authorized Organization Representative) who is authorized to submit this application to Grants.gov. Select a Prefix even though this is not a required field. Due to restrictions from the Department of Homeland Security we are not able to send emails to alias addresses that forward to another email account. Do not enter this type of email address.

The AOR must have the legal authority to obligate your organization (e. g., be a senior member of the staff such as an Executive Director, Director of Development). See specific requirements for who can serve as an AOR for colleges and universities. Contractors, including grant writers or grant consultants, or administrative support staff cannot serve as an AOR.

**NOTE: By clicking the "I Agree" box at the top of Item 9, this individual will be certifying compliance with relevant federal requirements on your organization's behalf.** (These requirements can be found in the "Assurance of Compliance" section of these guidelines.)

The "Signature of Authorized Representative" and "Date Signed" boxes will be populated by Grants.gov upon submission of the application.

#### 4. Submit your application to Grants.gov:

- To begin the submission process, log on to Grants.gov and go to the Forms tab on the Manage Workspace page. Click the "Sign and Submit" button, under the Forms tab.
- **Be certain that you are satisfied with your Application for Federal Domestic Assistance/Short Organizational Form before you click this button. No revisions to your form are possible through Grants.gov once it is submitted.**
- Once you complete and submit your application, you will see a confirmation screen explaining that your submission is being processed. Take a screenshot and retain the Grants.gov Tracking Number that you receive in the application submission confirmation screen.
- If you wait until the day of the deadline to submit your application, you are taking a significant risk! We strongly suggest that you submit your application no later than February 4 for the February 13 application deadline; and no later than June 30 for the July 9 application deadline. This should provide ample time to resolve any problems you might encounter.

- We will not accept late applications. The only exception is for a technological failure on the part of Grants.gov, as determined by the National Endowment for the Arts. To be considered for this exception, you must provide documentation of a Grants.gov technological failure dating from:
  - February 4 (for the February 13 deadline) or earlier, or
  - June 30 (for the July 9 deadline) or earlier.

We will consider and address your situation as appropriate. We will not make exceptions for applications that are the result of user error, including failure to register in SAM.gov or to verify that your application was validated by the Grants.gov system through **Track My Application**.

- Failure to successfully submit the Application for Federal Domestic Assistance/Short Organizational Form through Grants.gov will make you ineligible to complete Part 2 of the application process.

#### 5. Track Your Application:

- Verify that your application was validated by the Grants.gov system. Go to **Track My Application** to confirm the validation and track the progress of your application submission through Grants.gov. Take a screenshot of your validation confirmation for your records. Do not wait until the day of the deadline to verify your submission in case you encounter any difficulties.

For a detailed list of Workspace statuses, see here.

#### 6. Prepare to Complete Part 2:

- Read the **Part 2 instructions** to learn about how and when to access the Applicant Portal to submit material and upload items.
- To access the Applicant Portal, you'll need your **Agency Tracking Number/NEA Application Number**. The National Endowment for the Arts assigns the number to your application 1-2 business days after you submit your Grants.gov application.

#### Additional Help

For additional help on how to use Grants.gov, see the Grants.gov website at **Support**. You also can send e-mail to the Grants.gov Contact Center at **support@grants.gov** or call them at 1-800-518-4726, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

## GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS APPLICATION CHECKLIST

BEFORE APPLYING (Finalize by at least January 23 for the February 14 application deadline or June 17 for the July 9 application deadline)

- Finalize your entity registration/renewal with the System for Awards Management (SAM.gov)
- Register/Renew with Grants.gov

*Why do I need to register/renew so far in advance of the application deadline? See here.*

PART 1: GRANTS.GOV (Submit by at least February 4 for the February 13 application deadline or June 30 for the July 9 application deadline)

- Submit the Application for Federal Domestic Assistance/Short Organizational Form through Grants.gov

*Why do I need to submit my application to Grants.gov in advance of the application deadline? See here.*

## PART 2: APPLICANT PORTAL

- Log in to Grants.gov and go to "Check Application Status" to get your Grants.gov tracking number and agency tracking number to use as your username and password for the Applicant Portal. The Applicant Portal will be open February 18-25, 2020 and July 14-21, 2020.
- Complete & submit the Grant Application Form (GAF) by 11:59 pm ET on February 25 or July 21, 2020. Confirm that all tabs are correctly filled out before hitting Save and Submit.
  - Tab 1: View Application Data
  - Tab 2: Organizational Information
  - Tab 3: Arts Programmatic History
  - Tab 4: Project Information
  - Tab 5: Project Budget
  - Tab 6: Items to Upload – Required Works Samples and PDF attachments (For Certain Disciplines Only) Excess pages and items not listed in the guidelines will be deleted.
    - Required WORK SAMPLES (See your discipline's guidelines)
    - Required PDF ATTACHMENTS (See your discipline's guidelines)
  - Tab 7: Organization & Project Data

## RESOURCES

- Watch the Grants for Arts Projects webinar



- Watch the Grant Application Form tutorial
- Contact your discipline staff with any questions any questions any questions

FULL GUIDELINES CAN BE FOUND HERE

## **GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS Guidelines: Frequently Asked Questions**

### **How can I find out when new guidelines are released?**

National Endowment for the Arts guidelines are modified every year. Sign up for the notification service provided by Grants.gov, the federal government's online application system.

### **Sign up here.**

To receive discipline-specific newsletters, sign up on our website [here](#).

### **Does my project have to be new? Does it have to be big?**

No.

Projects do not have to be new. Excellent existing projects can be just as competitive as new activities.

Projects do not need to be big either; we welcome small projects that can make a difference in their community or field.

### **Does my project have to be outside the scope of my regular programming?**

No, a project can be a part of an applicant's regular season or activity. For example, a theater company's educational activities that occur year round could constitute an acceptable project. Other projects might be a workshop production of a work in progress or a charrette sponsored by a community design center. What is important is the specificity of the activities involved. Also, there can be no overlap with projects for which you already are receiving other National Endowment for the Arts or federal funds.

### **Can I apply for MORE National Endowment for the Arts funding for a project supported by an earlier grant?**

Yes. If you have previously received a grant to support an earlier phase of a project (for example, for research for a documentary, or early development work on a new play or choreographed work) you may re-apply to the National Endowment for the Arts for additional funding to support a later phase (for example, the post-production/editing/distribution phase of the documentary, or the final development/premiere of the new play or dance). However, each application must clearly describe the specific phase of work to be supported, and there can be NO overlapping project costs between the awards.

### **Can my partner organizations also apply for National Endowment for the Arts funds to support our collaborative work?**

A partnering organization may apply for funds to support a joint effort but there can be NO OVERLAPPING PROJECT COSTS between the applications. For example, if you are a dance company, and you are applying for the development of a new work and a presenting organization/theater is also applying for a residency/performance project that includes your company and the presentation of the new work, you must ensure that the costs are kept separate. You cannot include travel costs in your budget if these same costs are also reflected in the presenter's budget. You cannot include as cost share/match any income that is derived from a federal grant made to another entity (e.g., if a presenter includes your artist fees as an expense in their budget, you cannot use that as income in your own budget). In short, you should communicate closely with your partners to be sure that you are each clear on the division of costs and activity between the applications.

**Will you contact me if my application is missing anything?**

No. Because of the volume of applications, we have a strict approach to incomplete applications. For your application to be considered complete, every item that is required **MUST** be included in your application package, which must be submitted no later than the application deadline date under which you are applying. **Staff will not contact applicants to request missing material.** Don't let that happen. Use the "How to Prepare and Submit an Application" section for your category to make sure that you have included every item. Have the completeness and accuracy of your application package double-checked by a responsible staff member who understands the importance of this task. Allow at least six weeks to prepare your application, the work samples, and other supplementary information. We can't stress this enough: Do not wait until the day of the deadline to submit! We suggest setting an internal application deadline for your organization that is 24-48 hours before the actual application deadline.

**If my application is determined to be incomplete, may I add the missing item(s) and resubmit the application?**

No. The staff has to check thousands of applications. By the time that an application is identified as incomplete, it will likely be several weeks after the application deadline. An organization cannot add missing items and resubmit the application after the application deadline. We encourage you to double-check your application package against the "How to Prepare and Submit an Application" section to make sure that nothing is missing.

If new or updated information that significantly affects your application (including changes in artists) becomes available after the deadline, you must notify the specialist handling your application.

**Can I get a sample application?**

Yes. See the **FOIA Reading Room, Frequently Requested Records** for information on what is available as sample application material and how to request it.

**How soon after the "Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance" for my deadline does my project have to begin?**

The National Endowment for the Arts' support can start any time on or after that date.

**Can my project start before this date?**

No. Proposed project activities for which you're requesting support cannot take place before this date. Ask the National Endowment for the Arts to fund only the portion of your project that will take place after the "Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance." If you include project costs that are incurred before the "Earliest Beginning Date for National Endowment for the Arts Period of Performance" in your Project Budget, they will be removed.

**How long can my project last? May I apply for another project during this period?**

We generally allow a period of performance of up to two years. Many applicants request a grant period somewhere between 12 and 24 months. Ask for the amount of time that you think is necessary. The two-year period is intended to allow an applicant sufficient time to plan, execute, and close out its project, not to repeat a one-year project for a second year.

If you get close to the end of your grant period and think you need more time, you may request an extension from our Office of Grants Management, but approval is not guaranteed.

As long as it meets all other eligibility requirements, an organization may apply for another project (with totally different project costs) the following year even if a National Endowment for the Arts-supported project is still underway. Note that if you receive an extension on a previous year's project, it may affect your grant period for your new proposed project.

**If my application is rejected, can I find out why?**

After notification, applicants who have questions may contact the staff responsible for handling their application. Any applicant whose request has not been recommended for funding may ask for an explanation of the basis for rejection. In such instances, the National Endowment for the Arts must be contacted no later than 30 days after the official notification.

**Can federally recognized tribes apply?**

Yes.

In keeping with federal policies of **Tribal Self Governance** and **Self-Determination**, we may provide support for a project with a primary audience restricted to enrolled members of a federally recognized tribe. Applicants (federally recognized tribal governments, nonprofits situated on federally recognized tribal lands, or other nonprofits whose mission primarily serves federally recognized tribal enrollees) should consult with **our staff** to verify their eligibility before preparing an application.

**Can non-federally recognized tribes apply?**

Yes, as long as the applicant is a nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3), U.S. organization. Projects for non-federally recognized tribes and indigenous groups may be supported, but project participation can't be restricted to only tribal members.

**Can Native Hawaiian groups apply?**

Yes, as long as the applicant is a nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3), U.S. organization. Projects for Native Hawaiians may be supported, but project participation can't be restricted to only Native Hawaiians.

**The "We Do Not Fund" section says that subgranting is not allowed. What is subgranting?**

Subgranting is defined as regranteeing funds to an individual or organization for activities that are conducted independently of your organization and for the benefit of the subgrantee's own program objectives. A subgrantee is not directly employed by or affiliated with your organization.

Examples of subgranting include:

- Awards and prizes.
- Payment to an individual or organization to obtain training or technical assistance for their own benefit with little or no involvement from your organization. (Allowable activities would include services that are offered or coordinated by your organization such as making your facilities available, conducting workshops or conferences, or providing hands-on assistance. These activities also should be monitored and evaluated by your organization.)
- Production funds awarded to an individual or organization through a competitive review process with little or no subsequent involvement from your organization.

Most organizations that apply to the National Endowment for the Arts can't subgrant federal funds to individuals or organizations. Congress prohibits the National Endowment for the Arts from making grants for subgranting activity, with exceptions only for state arts agencies, regional arts organizations, and local arts agencies designated to operate on behalf of local governments. Eligible local arts agencies must have completed a three-year history of subgranting in the arts in order to apply for a subgranting project.

**My organization wants to apply for support of its apprenticeship program. How can I clarify in my application that my project does not include awarding subgrants even though my budget may include fees to individual artists?**

The key to avoiding the appearance of subgranting is the involvement of your organization.

Many types of projects can and should include fees to individual artists. For example, a budget for an apprenticeship program might include fees paid to artists. These fees are not considered subgranting if your organization provides substantive supervision of and involvement in the mentor-apprentice relationship. This might include:

- Planning a detailed description of the individual master-apprentice course of study.
- Monitoring and evaluating the progress of the activity including conducting site visits.
- Documenting apprenticeship activities including reports from masters and apprentices.
- Arranging public exhibition or performance opportunities for masters and apprentices.
- Archiving material related to the apprenticeships and publicly distributing information about the apprenticeship program and its activities.

Note that simply "checking in" on the activity, including obtaining progress and final reports, does not qualify as substantive involvement in the project.

You can provide evidence of your organization's involvement with this activity through project-related information on your website, announcements and evaluations of public events, and archival documentation.