

GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS

GUIDELINES

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Grants for Arts Projects

(Landing page text)

Grants for Arts Projects is our largest grants program for organizations, providing comprehensive and expansive funding opportunities for communities.

Applicants may request cost share/matching grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

Designated local arts agencies eligible to subgrant may request from \$30,000 to \$150,000 for subgranting programs in the Local Arts Agencies discipline. A minimum cost share/match equal to the grant amount is required.

Read the “Program Description” located in the left sidebar to get started.

Sidebars for Website

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Program Description

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

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is proud to support the nation’s arts sector with grant opportunities so that together we can help everyone live more artful lives. The arts contribute to our individual well-being, the well-being of our communities, and to our local economies. The arts are also crucial to helping us make sense of our circumstances from different perspectives as we emerge from the pandemic and plan for the future.

Grants for Arts Projects

Grants for Arts Projects is our largest grants program for organizations, providing comprehensive and expansive funding opportunities for communities. Through project-based funding, the program supports opportunities for public engagement with the arts and arts education, for the integration of the arts with strategies promoting the health and well-being of people and communities, and for the improvement of overall capacity and capabilities within the arts sector.

We welcome applications from a variety of [eligible organizations](#), including first-time applicants; from organizations serving communities of all sizes, including rural and urban areas; and from organizations with small, medium, or large operating budgets.

We fund arts projects in the following disciplines: Artist Communities, Arts Education, Dance, Design, Folk & Traditional Arts, Literary Arts, Local Arts Agencies, Media Arts, Museums, Music, Musical Theater, Opera, Presenting & Multidisciplinary Arts, Theater, and Visual Arts.

Go to [Artistic Disciplines](#) for detailed information about each discipline’s project types and application deadlines.

Projects may be small, medium, or large; existing or new; and may take place in any part of the nation’s 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. jurisdictions. A project may consist of one or more specific events or activities; it may be a new initiative or part of your organization’s regular season or activities. Organizations that undertake a single short-term program in a year could apply for that event, or they could identify certain components (such as the presentation of a particular artist and the associated activities) as their project. Organizations may apply for any or all phases of a project, from its planning through its implementation. A project should not encompass all of an organization’s activities or costs in a given year.

Grants range from \$10,000 to \$100,000. All grants require a nonfederal cost share or match of at least 1 to 1. In the past few years, a majority of the agency’s grants have been for amounts less than \$25,000. In addition, designated local arts agencies eligible to subgrant may request cost share/matching grants ranging from \$30,000 to \$150,000 for subgranting programs in the Local Arts Agencies discipline.

Areas of Particular Interest

The NEA is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility, and fostering mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all individuals and groups. We encourage projects that address any of the following:

- Elevate artists as integral and essential to a healthy and vibrant society.
- Celebrate the nation’s creativity and/or cultural heritage.
- Facilitate cross-sector collaborations that center the arts at the intersection of other disciplines, sectors, and industries.
- Contribute to healthy and thriving local, regional, state-wide, and national arts ecosystems and arts infrastructures.
- Invest in organizational capacity-building and leadership development for arts organizations, arts workers, and artists.
- Build arts organizations’ capacity to serve a broad public through digital or emergent technology and/or support tech-centered creative practices across all artistic disciplines and forms.
- Originate from or are in collaboration with the following constituencies encouraged by White House Executive Orders:
 - [Historically Black Colleges and Universities](#),
 - [Tribal Colleges and Universities](#),
 - American Indian and Alaska Native tribes,
 - [Predominantly Black Institutions](#),
 - [Hispanic Serving Institutions](#),
 - Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, and
 - Organizations that support the independence and lifelong inclusion of people with disabilities.

In recognition of the United States of America’s 250th anniversary in 2026, we also welcome arts projects that educate and engage communities in dialogue about the past, present, and future of our nation.

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

Nondiscrimination Policies

The NEA is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility, and fostering mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all individuals and groups. Projects may focus on reaching a particular group or demographic; however, they may not be exclusionary under [Federal civil rights laws and policies](#) prohibiting discrimination. This extends to hiring practices, artist selection processes, and audience engagement. For additional information,

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Program Description

refer to this archived webinar: [Things to Know Before You Apply: Federal Civil Rights and Your Grants Application.](#)

Artistic Disciplines

We fund arts projects. Select the discipline that most closely aligns with your project.

Discipline descriptions and project types:

- [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](#)

[Contact us](#) if you are not sure which discipline to select.

If your project is developed and managed by a local arts agency, review the Local Arts Agency information. If you are proposing an education project for youth, see “[Choosing the Right Discipline for Youth Projects](#)” for more information.

In limited cases, staff may transfer an application to a discipline other than the one that was selected by the applicant to ensure appropriate panel review. However, we cannot guarantee that an application will be transferred in all cases where this might be desirable. [Contact us](#) if you have any questions about which discipline is most appropriate for your project. Each discipline has different instructions. Be sure to download the instructions according to the discipline that best suits your project.

Accessibility

Federal regulations require that all NEA-funded projects be accessible to people with disabilities. Individuals with disabilities may be audiences, visitors, artists, performers, teaching artists, students, staff, and volunteers. Funded activities should be held in a physically accessible venue, and program access and effective communication should 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.

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

Recommended projects may be subject to the [National Historic Preservation Act](#) (NHPA) and/or the [National Environmental Policy Act](#) (NEPA) compliance review.

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

- A project involving or occurring near or at a historic place, such as a property that is 50 years old or older, or a place listed in the National Register of Historic Places.
- The commissioning and installation of temporary or permanent outdoor installations, including sculptures, statuary, banners, mixed media, painting or murals, as well as small structures such as benches, bus shelters, and produce stands.
- An outdoor arts festival.
- Permanent wayfinding signs and other similar artistic directional installations.
- Maintenance or rehabilitation of landscapes and gardens.
- In-kind replacement or repairs at a facility that is older than 50 years of age.
- Design services and planning for projects that may affect historic properties.

See more information about NHPA/NEPA review under [Award Administration](#).

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Artistic Disciplines

Text for ALL Discipline pages

Deadlines

First Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:

Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov	February 9, 2023 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal	February 14-21, 2023 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time
Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection	November 2023
Earliest Start Date for Proposed Project	January 1, 2024

Second Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:

Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov	July 6, 2023 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal	July 11-18, 2023 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time
Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection	April 2024
Earliest Start Date for Proposed Project	June 1, 2024

Artist Communities

The NEA supports artist communities for projects that encourage and nurture the development of individual artists and foster and inspire their creative processes. An artist community is an organization or program, whether focused on a single discipline or multidisciplinary, that provides dedicated space, time, and resources to artists for incubation, thought, or creativity. Artist residencies foster and support the creative process of art making by providing artists with the conditions to advance their own artistic practice.

We encourage applications from a variety of [eligible organizations](#) of all budget sizes, and located in rural, suburban, urban, and tribal communities.

Competitive projects will:

- Offer clearly defined support that centers the needs of participating artists, such as space, time, and other resources, when applicable.
- Utilize an open application process to regularly recruit a diverse range of artists, encouraging a wide variety of aesthetic viewpoints, racial and ethnic backgrounds, cultures, disability perspectives, and/or geographic areas
- Clearly define juried and decision-making processes for selecting participating artists, when applicable.

The NEA is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility, and fostering mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all individuals and groups. Projects may focus on reaching a particular group or demographic; however, they may not be exclusionary under [Federal civil rights laws and policies](#) prohibiting discrimination. This extends to hiring practices, artist selection processes, and audience engagement. For additional information, refer to this archived webinar: [Things to Know Before You Apply: Federal Civil Rights and Your Grants Application](#).

Applicants may request cost share/matching grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

If your project is developed and managed by local government, see the [Local Arts Agencies description](#) to help you in your discipline selection.

For information on how to apply, see “How to Apply” on the left.

Project Types

Projects include, but are not limited to:

- Stipends and temporary living accommodations for professional artists where the primary purpose of the residency is determined by the artist.

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Artist Communities

- 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.
- Projects that advance or sustain the creative work or careers of people with disabilities through employment, technical assistance, and organizational capacity-building.
- Access to facilities or technology to meet the needs of interdisciplinary or new genre artists.
- Flexible-time or part-time residencies that increase access for artists whose ability to participate is limited due to personal circumstances.
- Collaborations between artists and those from sectors outside of the arts.
- Residencies that provide educational and related activities on-site or 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.
- Artist residencies that advance civic and social practice, conflict transformation, and collaborative work with community partners in ways that are mutually beneficial.
- Residency exchange programs with artists and artist communities in other countries.
- Digital capacity building efforts of organizations to create virtual programming, increase audience accessibility, and/or collaborate with other organizations using digital technology.
- Services to the Artist Communities field. This may include, but is not limited to:
 - Arts and arts-related conferences and convenings.
 - Leadership training, mentorships, and other professional development opportunities for artists and arts administrators.
 - Projects that include planning, capacity building, and training that supports an organization's capacity to respond to current events.
 - Archiving, preservation, and documentation projects.

Deadline

The application deadline for all projects is February 9, 2023. (Artist Communities does not accept applications at the July deadline.)

For Artist Communities projects with a distinct technology-focused media arts component: Your organization may be eligible to submit a second application under the July deadline for [Media Arts](#).

[NOTE: INSERT GAP1 CALENDAR]

Accessibility

Federal regulations require that all NEA-funded projects be accessible to people with disabilities. Individuals with disabilities may be audiences, visitors, artists, performers, teaching artists, students, staff, and volunteers. Funded activities should be held in a physically accessible venue (including living accommodations, studios, bathrooms, etc.) and program access and effective communication should 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.

Arts Education

The NEA 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. [NEA-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. Research also shows that students from low socioeconomic backgrounds, as well as students of color and students with disabilities, are more likely to attend schools with inadequate arts education programs.

Our funding is focused on providing arts education for all students and closing the opportunity gap for students for whom a high-quality arts education is so often out of reach. 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 in reimagining systems with arts at the core, and the impact their project has on students.

Competitive projects will:

- Increase student participation in 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.
- Demonstrate alignment with the NEA's commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility.

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](#)."

The NEA is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility, and fostering mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all individuals and groups. Projects may focus on reaching a particular group or demographic, however, they may not be exclusionary under [Federal civil rights laws and policies](#) prohibiting discrimination. This extends to hiring practices, artist selection processes, and audience engagement. For additional information, refer to this archived webinar: [Things to Know Before You Apply: Federal Civil Rights and Your Grants Application](#).

Applicants may request cost share/matching grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

For information on how to apply, see “How to Apply” on the left.

Project Types

Projects include, but are not limited to:

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 may occur in-person or online. 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 (including charter schools), arts organizations, community centers, faith-based organizations, makerspaces, public housing, tribal community centers, and/or juvenile justice facilities. Projects should engage students over an extended period of time; short-term projects will not be competitive.

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 should also describe how the project is reflective of the cultural experiences of the participants.

Applicants may provide examples of how they are using data to inform programmatic decision making, incorporating effective community partnerships, or working within a larger system or community effort to benefit students in that system. For ongoing programs, describe how the project is evolving, scaling up, or expanding existing arts education services.

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. Explain how you plan to measure increased knowledge and skills in the arts. 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, 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. For ongoing programs, describe how the project is evolving, scaling up, or expanding existing arts education services.

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 transform schools and communities by providing access and engagement in the arts for all students through collective, systemic approaches. Projects 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. Collective Impact grants are higher award amounts for longer term, large-scale projects that create lasting systems change tailored to community needs, fundamentally altering the ways in which the components and structures of a system behave and interact over time. Projects should have significant potential to be shared and customized in communities across the country.

[See further details about this project type](#). Applicants considering submission of a Collective Impact application are strongly encouraged to contact Arts Education Specialist Denise Brandenburg at brandenburg@arts.gov.

Choosing the Right Discipline for Youth Projects

Choose **Arts Education as your project discipline** if you are proposing a pre-K through 12th grade Professional Development project or a Direct Learning project that aligns with either national or state arts education standards. See more information on the [National Core Arts standards](#)

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Arts Education

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).

If your project is developed and managed by a Local Arts Agency, apply through the [Local Arts Agencies discipline](#) for these types of projects. However, Local Arts Agencies proposing a [Collective Impact project](#) should choose **Arts Education** as the project discipline.

Deadlines

Grants for Arts Projects applications will be accepted at two deadlines. All project types (described above) 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.

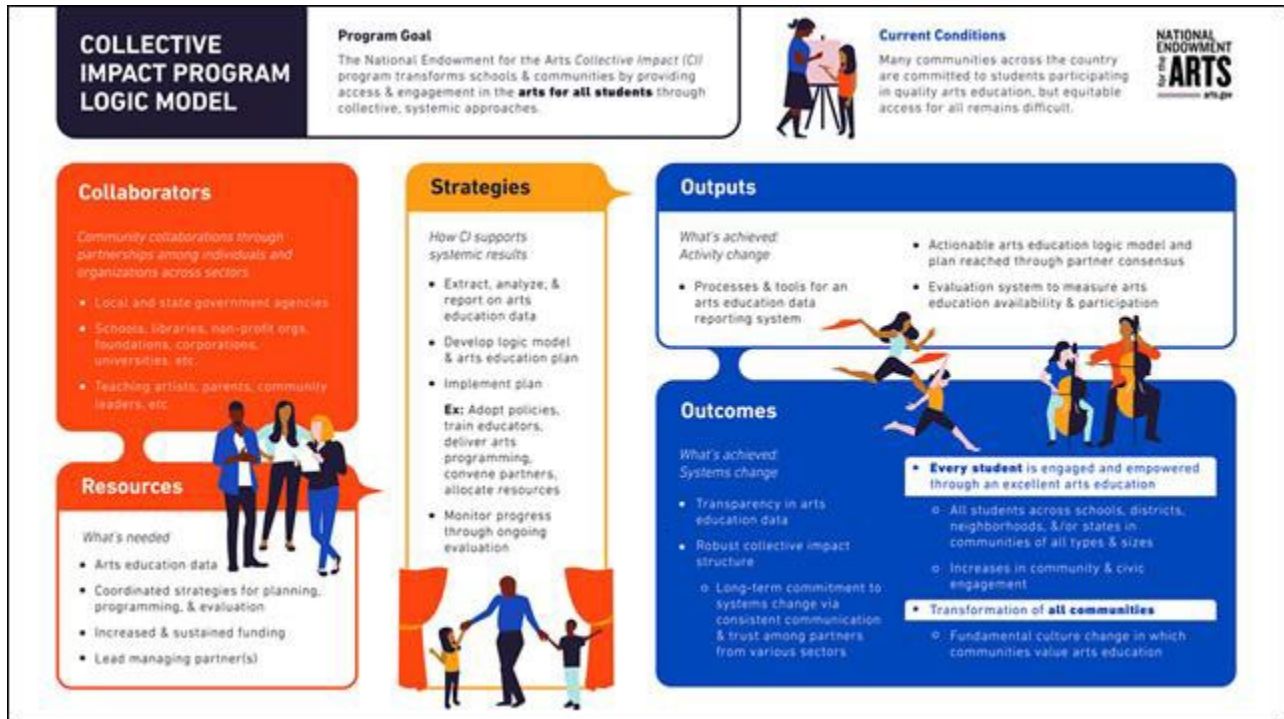
For projects with a distinct technology-focused media arts production component: Your organization may be eligible to submit a second application under the July deadline for [Media Arts](#).

[NOTE: INSERT GAP1 and GAP2 CALENDARS]

Arts Education Collective Impact Grants

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

The NEA’s Collective Impact grants transform schools and communities by providing access and engagement in the arts for all students through collective, systemic approaches. Projects 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.



View the Arts Endowment’s Logic Model for Collective Impact: [JPG](#) | [PDF](#)

Collective Impact grants are higher award amounts for longer-term, large-scale projects that create lasting systems change tailored to community needs, fundamentally altering the ways in which the components and structures of a system behave and interact over time. 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:

- Data:** Arts education data initiatives are critical to ensuring that all students have the opportunity to participate in the arts. Data initiatives provide transparency about young people’s participation in arts education, illustrate the inequities of arts offerings in schools and communities, and inform decision-making. In alignment with the [Arts Education Data Toolkit](#), developed as part of the agency’s [State Data Infrastructure](#)

[Project for Arts Education](#), steps for creating a robust arts education data initiative include:

[GETTING STARTED](#)

Define your goals, identify the data you need, understand your policy environment, gauge your capacity, identify your partners and make the case for your work.

[MAKING EFFECTIVE DATA REQUESTS](#)

Determine what data to request and define your questions as specifically as possible.

[PROCESSING THE DATA](#)

Working with key stakeholders and/or a research partner, analyze the data you receive and identify trends.

[REPORTING THE DATA](#)

Identify the target audiences for your information and what you want to report, choose a reporting mechanism, and create interactive data websites and visualizations.

[USING THE DATA TO PROMOTE BETTER DECISION-MAKING](#)

Use your data to set measurable goals for improvement, create communications tools specific to your state's conditions, recruit new champions and allies and troubleshoot along the way.

[ARTS EDUCATION DATA TOOLKIT WEBINAR](#)

- On March 24, 2021, NEA Arts Education staff, in partnership with the Education Commission of the States, conducted a Zoom webinar on the Arts Education Data Toolkit.
- **Partnership:** Key partners from different sectors share a long-term commitment to addressing inequities in arts education through systems change and bring their knowledge and skills to unearth the best approaches to ensure a quality arts education for all students. 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. Partners should authentically represent the populations served and their communities.
- **Planning:** A logic model and strategic plan present a common vision, goals, coordinated strategies, and benchmarks to evaluate goals for 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. The planning process should authentically incorporate the voices of the populations served and their communities.

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Arts Education

- **Shared Measurement:** A shared measurement system is an evaluation system that provides agreement on how success will be measured and reported and 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.
- **Programming:** Activities support the implementation of the strategic plan. Programming may include convening partners, stakeholders, services to students, professional development, and evaluation.

Collective Impact projects are multi-year, ongoing, initiatives. Specify in the application which phase(s) of the project are included in the request for NEA funding. All phases of a project – data, cross-sector partnerships, planning, shared measurement and programming -- 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. Activities may include cultivation of cross-sector partners, convenings, creation of an arts education data initiative, collective impact consultation, and/or creation of a logic model and an arts education strategic plan, or any other activities that support the development of a plan.

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

Activities may include adopting or aligning school district or community policies to support arts education goals, providing artist-based residencies based on priority needs of the plan, providing professional development for educators based on priority needs of the plan, trainings to use data for decision making, data reporting to measure progress towards arts education goals, evaluation of the quality of arts instruction, outcomes evaluation arts education goals, external evaluation of collective impact progress and systems change, or any other activities that support the implementation of the strategic plan.

Collective Impact Resources:

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Arts Education

See a list of NEA Arts Education Collective Impact

grants: <https://www.arts.gov/sites/default/files/collective-impact-grants-updated-May2021.pdf>

NEA podcast episode featuring Collective Impact grantee:

[Dr. Lisa Donovan, Berkshire Regional Arts Integration Network](#)

NEA webinars about Collective Impact:

[NEA Arts Education Webinar: Collective Impact, Part 1](#)

[NEA Arts Education Webinar: Collective Impact, Part 2](#)

[NEA Arts Education Webinar: Collective Impact, Part 3](#)

[NEA Arts Education Webinar: Collective Impact Trends](#)

[Leveraging Change: Increasing Access to Arts Education in Rural Areas](#)

[Arts Education Data Toolkit](#)

[Using State Data Systems to Report Information on Arts Education](#)
[50-State Comparison of Arts Education Data and Reporting](#)

Case Studies on Arts Education Data Initiatives in [California](#), [New Jersey](#), and [Texas](#) [Data Lessons and Resources for the Arts Education Field](#)

For information on how to apply, see “How to Apply” on the left.

Before applying, [review the reporting requirements for Arts Education](#).

Dance

Dance is a vital expression of culture and possesses the ability to create community, cultivate space for reflection and dialogue, and bring awareness to social issues through a spectrum of genres and practices. Grants support organizations including companies, presenters, service organizations, educators, festivals, and more. Dance companies may be artist-led, collaborative, and include disabled and non-disabled artists. Projects may be of any size and at any stage of the process including planning, creation, implementation, and may focus on providing services that strengthen the dance field's capacity through knowledge-sharing and resources.

In addition to the areas of interest outlined in the Grants for Arts Projects [program description](#), we encourage applications for projects that address one or more of the following:

- Are led by and/or engage disabled artists, practitioners, and/or students in pursuit of artistic and creative goals rather than therapeutic outcomes.
- Provide opportunities for artists to research, create, or share artistic practices and works, or access professional development programs essential for career advancement.
- Document and preserve choreography, performances, and other aspects of dance history in ways that increase the diversity of artists, forms, and cultures in existing archives using archival practices that demonstrate cultural integrity.
- Represent dance forms, techniques, and histories that stem from all over the world.
- If applicable, offer direct payments to artists as part of the project.

Competitive dance projects will address one or more of the following:

- Demonstrate alignment with the NEA's commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility.
- Involve reciprocal partnerships that advance the goals of the project.
- Make a significant impact within local or regional communities and/or the dance field.
- When applicable, clearly describe how artists/companies are selected and how those artists/companies are diverse, including in relation to audiences and the communities the project will engage.

The NEA is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility, and fostering mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all individuals and groups. Projects may focus on reaching a particular constituency; however, they may not be exclusionary under [Federal civil rights laws and policies](#) prohibiting discrimination. This extends to hiring practices, artist selection processes, and audience engagement. For additional information, refer to this archived webinar: [Things to Know Before You Apply: Federal Civil Rights and Your Grants Application](#)

Applicants may request cost share/matching grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000. In past years, the average grant size in Dance has been approximately \$20,000.

For information on how to apply, see “How to Apply” on the left.

Project Types:

Dance supports a variety of projects that align with the [review criteria](#) of Artistic Excellence and Artistic Merit. Examples of project types are offered below to show the range of possibilities. Your project may include activities in multiple areas listed below, and activities may take place virtually, in person, or in a hybrid format.

Creation, development, or restaging of works that are new, existing, or historically significant; involve creative or technical residencies, restaging, or rehearsal periods; include dance films and works that involve community in the creation of the work.

Presentation and Touring locally, regionally, and nationally, and may include activities that meaningfully engage specific and identified communities.

Preservation, documentation, and archiving of diverse dance forms, traditions, techniques, and histories that demonstrate cultural integrity, and are accessible to the dance field or the general public.

Professional Development and Services that strengthen the field such as dance publications; professional training; and programs that provide resources to artist and arts workers through convenings, mentorship opportunities, and capacity-building.

Education and Community Engagement projects that use dance in civic and social practice; involve collaborative work with community members; dance classes, workshops, and other trainings; and projects that reach broader and more diverse groups through digital or emergent technology, including hybrid (in-person and digital) programming activities.

In some cases, a project that involves dance may be better suited for review in another discipline. For example, if your project is developed and managed by a local government, see the [Local Arts Agencies description](#). If your project is for youth, see “[Choosing the Right Discipline for Youth Projects](#)” to help you in your discipline selection.

For more guidance about which discipline is most appropriate for your project, please [contact us](#).

Deadlines

Grants for Arts Projects has two application deadlines. Dance accepts all project types at both deadlines. Generally, an organization is limited to one application per year in the Grants for Arts Projects category.

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Dance

For Dance projects with a distinct technology-focused media arts component: Your organization may be eligible to submit a second application under the July deadline for [Media Arts](#).

[NOTE: INSERT GAP1 and GAP2 CALENDARS]

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 NEA supports design projects that have a public benefit and advance the field of design. In addition, we invite projects that respond to current events. 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.

The NEA is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility, and fostering mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all individuals and groups. Projects may focus on reaching a particular group or demographic; however, they may not be exclusionary under [Federal civil rights laws and policies](#) prohibiting discrimination. This extends to hiring practices, artist selection processes, and audience engagement. For additional information, refer to this archived webinar: [Things to Know Before You Apply: Federal Civil Rights and Your Grants Application](#).

Applicants may request cost share/matching grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

For information on how to apply, see “How to Apply” on the left.

Project Types

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:

- Commissions and production of new work, particularly projects that hire and/or provide direct fees to artists and designers.
- 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 groups/communities that have rich and dynamic cultural identities.
- Artistically excellent design projects that foster positive social impact, employ inclusive design concepts, or foster collaboration between design and non-arts disciplines.

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Design

- Design competitions. (Note: Cash prizes are unallowable project costs; stipends/fees are acceptable costs.)
- Projects that reach broader and more diverse groups through digital or emergent technology, including hybrid (in-person and digital) programming activities.

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.
- Projects that advance and/or sustain the creative work and/or careers for aspiring designers through employment, industry training, technical assistance, and organizational capacity-building.
- Projects that advance or sustain the creative work or careers of people with disabilities through employment, technical assistance, and organization capacity-building.
- Projects that support emerging fields of design.
- Innovative festivals, tours, or programming that raise awareness of design.

Note: 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.

If your project is developed and managed by local government, see the [Local Arts Agencies description](#) to help you in your discipline selection.

Deadline

The application deadline for all projects is February 10, 2022. (Design does not accept applications at the July deadline.)

For Design projects with a distinct technology-focused media arts component: Your organization may be eligible to submit a second application under the July deadline for [Media Arts](#).

[NOTE: INSERT GAP1 CALENDAR]

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.

Applications for Grants for Arts Projects in the Folk & Traditional Arts 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. Applicants may request cost share/matching grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000. Applicants are encouraged to contact Folk & Traditional Arts Division Specialist, Bill Mansfield, with questions: mansfieldw@arts.gov

The NEA is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility, and fostering mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all individuals and groups. Projects may focus on reaching a particular group or demographic; however, they may not be exclusionary under [Federal civil rights laws and policies](#) prohibiting discrimination. This extends to hiring practices, artist selection processes, and audience engagement. For additional information, refer to this archived webinar: [Things to Know Before You Apply: Federal Civil Rights and Your Grants Application](#).

For information on how to apply, see “How to Apply” on the left.

Project Types

While we welcome applications for a variety of projects, we particularly encourage those that focus on stewardship and awareness of living cultural traditions.

Project Types include, but are not limited to:

Cultural Sustainability & Education

- Projects with the primary purpose to support the transmission of tradition and the strengthening of living traditions (apprenticeship programs, mentorship programs).
- Workshops/classes offering instruction in various folk and traditional arts to the general public.
- For federally recognized tribes, programs whose primary focus is the reanimation, fortification, and continuation of traditional lifeways for tribal communities.
- Folk Arts in Education programs (folk arts are used to augment regular curriculum).

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Folk & Traditional Arts

- Training for teachers and/or folk and traditional artists and the creation of educational material to incorporate folk arts into the classroom.
- Publications (both hard copy and digital).

Research

- Ethnographic fieldwork to document folklife, lifeways, and cultural heritage and to identify traditional artists.
- Research in ethnographic fieldwork archives and collections related to folklife and cultural heritage.
 - Projects that seek to connect communities of practice (local or diasporic) to ethnographic fieldwork collections. Such projects might include:
Opportunities for tradition bearers to visit with archival collections, exploring materials, and sharing findings;
 - Strategies to utilize fieldwork collections to repair ruptured traditions, reanimate endangered languages and traditions, or reintroduce neglected repertoire or practices;
 - Collaborations between archives and cultural communities to identify collections, through crowd-sourcing or regular convenings.
- Marketing research to identify audiences for folk & traditional arts.

Services to the Field

- Local, regional, tribal, inter-tribal, and national convenings of cultural practitioners, traditional arts organizations, and public folklorists focused on regional identity, traditions, and resources, or focused on intersecting fields and critical issues such as:
 - Strategies to address the impact of environmental changes, pandemic crises, and issues of diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility relating to cultural heritage practices, communities, and landscapes;
 - Dialogue with fields that intersect with folk and traditional arts, such as public health, agriculture, and ageing;
 - The role of folk and traditional arts in building social cohesion and benefiting the public good;
 - The efficacy of folklife programs within museums;
 - Identification and articulation of best practices in the field of folk and traditional arts, including the development of a universal language for the field;
- Training and mentorships for folk and traditional artists, folklorists, cultural elders, and folk and traditional arts organizations.
- Projects that advance or sustain the creative work or careers of people with disabilities through employment, technical assistance, and organization capacity-building.

Public Programs

- Festivals.

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Folk & Traditional Arts

- Concerts, performances, plays, powwows, and symposia.
- Media projects:
 - Film (production, editing, screening, distribution, curating);
 - Radio and television broadcasts, podcasts, webcasts.
- Websites (includes creating, maintaining, and upgrading the sites).
- Projects that reach broader and more diverse groups through digital or emergent technology, including hybrid (in-person and virtual) programming activities.
- Exhibits (this includes fieldwork and archival research, construction, touring, catalogs, and ancillary events, such as lectures, concerts, screenings, panel discussions, workshops, and demonstrations).
- 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 lifeways of the applicant's tribal community.
- Creation of programs and partnerships that identify, document, and celebrate folklife and cultural heritage of the country's rural regions of the Great Plains, Rocky Mountain West, and Alaska.

If your project is developed and managed by local government, see the [Local Arts Agencies](#) description to help you in your discipline selection.

For Folk & Traditional Arts projects with a distinct technology-focused media arts component: Your organization may be eligible to submit a second application under the July deadline for [Media Arts](#).

Deadlines

[NOTE: INSERT GAP1 AND GAP2 CALENDARS HERE]

Literary Arts

Through its support of literary arts organizations, the NEA: encourages people of all ages to write and engage with literary content in meaningful ways; helps writers at all stages of their careers create, publish, and connect directly with readers; and helps readers in communities across the country have access to a diversity of voices. These organizations – such as literary presses and journals, book festivals, literary centers, literary presenters, and literary service organizations – complement the commercial publishing sector and play an important role in the shaping of contemporary literature.

The NEA is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility, and fostering mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all individuals and groups. Projects may focus on reaching a particular group or demographic; however, they may not be exclusionary under [Federal civil rights laws and policies](#) prohibiting discrimination. This extends to hiring practices, artist selection processes, and audience engagement. For additional information, refer to this archived webinar: [Things to Know Before You Apply: Federal Civil Rights and Your Grants Application](#).

Applicants may request cost share/matching grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000. Literary Arts welcomes applications for a variety of arts projects that address the [review criteria](#) of Artistic Excellence and Artistic Merit. Apply to the deadline that corresponds with the appropriate project type as outlined below.

This grant opportunity is intended for organizations, not individuals. Each year, the NEA offers a separate fellowships program to published [creative writers](#) and [translators](#) of prose and poetry.

For information on how to apply, see “How to Apply” on the left.

Project Types

Literary Arts supports projects in two distinct categories: **Literary Publishing** (February deadline) and **Public Engagement/Professional Development** (July deadline). Literary Arts applicants must choose the deadline that best matches their proposed project.

In some cases, a project that involves the literary arts may be better suited for review in another discipline. For example, if your project is developed and managed by a local government, see the guidelines for [Local Arts Agencies](#). If you are proposing an education project for youth, see [“Choosing the Right Discipline for Youth Projects”](#) for more information.

For more guidance about which category or discipline is most appropriate for your project, please [contact us](#).

Literary Publishing (February Deadline)

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Literary Arts

These projects from literary journals and independent and university presses seek to publish and promote literary content by contemporary writers and translators in such genres as poetry, fiction, drama, and creative nonfiction. We welcome project activities that focus on publishing, promoting, and distributing books and/or journal issues online or in print or audio formats. Projects may also include efforts to deepen and expand engagement with audiences (including through the use of digital or emergent technology), and/or collaborate within and across fields to advance literary publishing.

For projects with a book publishing component, proposed titles should already be selected and must be described in the application and represented in the work samples. Exceptions are made for titles that will be selected through a contest; in this case, work samples would include excerpts from past titles chosen through the contest.

Competitive proposals typically include: compensation to writers; clearly stated marketing and/or promotion efforts that are reflected in the budget; distributor information for print publications; work samples that reflect the applicant's mission or artistic vision; and consideration of diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility in relation to the project.

Public Engagement/Professional Development (July Deadline)

These projects from literary arts centers, festivals, presenters, and other organizations offer literary arts programming and services that focus on local, regional, and/or national activities designed to promote and develop practitioners of, and audiences for, the literary arts.

Proposals may include but are not limited to: reading series, festivals, writing workshops, conferences, residencies, and podcasts and other media that feature contemporary writers and writing. We welcome efforts to reach new audiences and deepen community connections, including through the use of digital or emergent technology. We also welcome efforts to collaborate within and across fields and/or build capacity within the literary arts field through knowledge-sharing, tools, resources, and evidence-based practices. The NEA supports a variety of projects across the country in urban, suburban, rural, and tribal communities of all sizes.

Competitive proposals typically include: clear activities that are reflected in both the narrative and budget and align with the applicant's mission or artistic vision; a demonstrated understanding of the intended audience; well-defined goals and plans for assessing those goals; and consideration of diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility in relation to the project.

We welcome projects that advance or sustain the creative work or careers of people with disabilities.

Deadlines:

[NOTE: INSERT GAP1 & GAP2 CALENDARS HERE]

Local Arts Agencies

Across the United States, 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 of Local Arts Agencies: 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 for the benefit of the community as a whole.

The Local Arts Agencies discipline also welcomes applications for arts projects developed and managed by:

- Non-arts departments of local government, including but not limited to economic development, parks and recreation, or planning departments. For the purposes of these guidelines, local governments are defined as counties, parishes, cities, towns, villages, or federally recognized tribal governments.
- Designated special districts, such as creative, arts and entertainment, or cultural districts.
- National or statewide service organizations that work primarily with a network of LAAs.

Note: Beginning with these FY 2024 guidelines, applications from organizations such as volunteer legal organizations and business councils should be submitted to the Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works discipline.

Local Arts Agencies can apply through Grants for Arts Projects for support through two project types: **Programming** and **Subgranting**. The NEA's legislation allows only State Arts Agencies, Regional Arts Organizations, and Local Arts Agencies to subgrant NEA funds. See LAA eligibility information below.

Subgranting awards are unique to Local Arts Agencies in the Grants for Arts Projects grant category. The subgranting project type recognizes the central role of grantmaking in the work of Local Arts Agencies, as well as the relationship between federal and local government. Local arts agencies are critical partners of the NEA, greatly extending federal reach and impact and translating national leadership into local benefit. Additional eligibility, documentation, and

reporting requirements for subgranting applications are detailed in the Project Types section below.

All Grants for Arts Projects applications submitted by LAAs will be reviewed within the Local Arts Agencies discipline. See more information on education programs for youth in the Projects section below.

The NEA is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility, and fostering mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all individuals and groups. Projects may focus on reaching a particular group or demographic; however, they may not be exclusionary under [Federal civil rights laws and policies](#) prohibiting discrimination. This extends to hiring practices, artist selection processes, and audience engagement. For additional information, refer to this archived webinar: [Things to Know Before You Apply: Federal Civil Rights and Your Grants Application](#).

For information on how to apply, see “How to Apply” on the left.

Project Types

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** (including Services to the Field) and **Subgranting**, both of which are described in detail below. Applications for programming may request from \$10,000 to \$100,000. Applications for subgranting may request from \$30,000 to \$150,000 and include additional eligibility, documentation, and reporting requirements.

We strongly encourage applicants to propose a programming project OR a subgranting project.

Eligible project types include the full breadth of programming typically developed and managed by local arts agencies*, such as **Programming (including Services to the Field)** and **Subgranting**.

Programming (including Services to the Field)

Cost share/matching grants range from \$10,000 to \$100,000, with a minimum cost share/match equal to the grant amount.

Examples of **Programming (including Services to the Field)** include, but are not limited to:

- The presentation of artists, artworks, and arts programming.
- The commissioning of artists for the creation of new work.
- Projects related to public art, such as creation, installation, documentation, and preservation. See “[Public Art Resources](#)” and “[National Historic Preservation Act and/or the National Environmental Policy Act Review](#)” for additional information.

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Local Arts Agencies

- The development and/or management of cultural facilities or artist residency projects.
- Services to advance the professional skills of artists and arts organizations, such as convenings, technical assistance, and professional development opportunities.
- Coordinated arts services, such as community-wide marketing campaigns, cross-sector partnerships, or cultural planning efforts.
- Projects and initiatives that build equity and extend the reach of the arts to groups/communities with rich and dynamic cultural identities that have been historically underserved.
- Projects that advance and/or sustain the creative work of and/or careers for people with disabilities through employment, industry training, technical assistance, and organization capacity-building.
- Education and related activities for youth, adults, intergenerational groups, and schools.

If you are proposing an education project for youth, see "[Choosing the Right Discipline for Youth Projects](#)" to help you select between the Local Arts Agencies and Arts Education disciplines. Arts Education Collective Impact projects from Local Arts Agencies will be reviewed in the Arts Education discipline.

* See "Unallowable Activities/Costs" to make sure your project is eligible.

Subgranting

Designated local arts agencies (see Subgranting Documentation section below) eligible to subgrant may request \$30,000 to \$150,000 for subgranting programs, with a minimum cost share/match equal to the grant amount. Unlike recent stimulus grant programs (such as the NEA's American Rescue Plan Local Arts Agencies subgranting program), subgrants through Grants for Arts Projects cannot support general operating expenses.

Local Arts Agencies may apply to subgrant NEA funds in support of programming and services to the field activities by arts organizations. Subgranting through Grants for Arts Projects may provide support for **arts projects** by arts organizations. If you are a designated Local Arts Agency that is allowed to subgrant and plan to **subgrant to individuals**, you should first review the [Subgranting Terms and Conditions](#) to confirm allowable uses of funds.

For the purposes of NEA subgranting awards, a Local Arts Agency subgranting federal funds is considered a "passthrough" entity. A subgrant relationship exists when NEA grant funds are regranted to subgrantees for activities conducted independently of the Local Arts Agency grantee. A Local Arts Agency grantee may not subgrant NEA funds to organizations through a fiscal sponsor.

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Local Arts Agencies

Please be sure to review the [Subgranting Terms and Conditions](#) resource for additional information on the definition of subgranting, and requirements for subgrantee eligibility. This document outlines specific requirements related to subgranting federal funds, including guidance for review criteria and other compliance considerations.

The Subgranting project type includes additional **eligibility, documentation, and reporting** requirements.

Subgranting Eligibility:

In addition to the Grants for Arts Projects [Applicant Eligibility](#) requirements, to be eligible to subgrant NEA funds, a Local Arts Agency must be an arts agency that is a unit of city or county government or officially designated to operate as an arts agency on behalf of its local government. This designation will be demonstrated in the documentation outlined below.

In addition to the [Applicant Eligibility](#) section for all Grants for Arts Projects applicants, applicants for subgranting projects must have completed a history of grantmaking that occurred anytime within the ten-year period immediately preceding this program's application deadline (i.e., February 9, 2023 if you are applying to the February 2023 deadline, or July 6, 2023 if you are applying to the July 2023 deadline). Organizations that do not meet this requirement are encouraged to contact NEA staff to discuss alternative project types.

Subgranting Documentation

A. Designation Documentation:

A copy of the local government ordinance, resolution, charter, or contract that assigns your organization the authority to operate on your local government's behalf. Note: This document should demonstrate your eligibility to subgrant as a designated local arts agency.

We recognize that local governments may formalize this designation through a variety of formats and with various timelines. We reserve the right to request additional information to verify eligibility.

While we strongly encourage you to include this documentation with your application, the designation documentation may be submitted after the application deadline via email (send to: locals@arts.gov) up until the following dates:

- Applicants to the February 9, 2023 Grants for Arts Projects deadline may submit designation documentation via email to the NEA no later than July 31, 2023.

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Local Arts Agencies

- Applicants to the July 6, 2023 Grants for Arts Projects deadline may submit designation documentation via email to the NEA no later than December 31, 2023.

B. Grantmaking History:

You must submit the following information by the application deadline:

Paragraph 1: Briefly describe your organization's grantmaking history, including dates for the grantmaking activities. This information should demonstrate the eligibility requirement that your organization has a history of grantmaking that took place anytime within the ten years immediately preceding this program's application deadline (February 9, 2013 for the February 2023 deadline, or July 6, 2013 for the July 2023 deadline).

Paragraph 2: Briefly describe the selection process for your most recent grantmaking activities, including review criteria definitions, review process and panelist selection, and grant program priorities.

Paragraph 3: Briefly describe the applicant pool for your most recent grantmaking activities, including number of applicants, the artistic disciplines and/or communities represented, and the range of organizational budget sizes.

Paragraph 4: Briefly describe the grantees awarded during your most recent grantmaking activities, including number of grantees, the artistic disciplines and/or communities represented, and the range of organizational budget sizes.

Subgranting Reporting

Subgranting applicants that are recommended for funding will have additional reporting requirements as grantees, including but not limited to the below. For a complete understanding of grantee requirements, see the [Subgranting Terms and Conditions](#) resource.

- Require their grantees to provide a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) before a grant can be made.
- Report subgrants of \$35,000 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 NEA, including requirements for pass-through entities as provided for under 2 CFR 200.331 and the NHPA/NEPA and accessibility requirements described below.

Deadlines

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

[NOTE: INSERT GAP1 AND GAP2 CALENDARS HERE]

Media Arts

The NEA supports projects that contribute to a healthy and thriving arts ecosystem that is responsive to the dynamic, diverse, and evolving nature of the film and media arts field. This includes support for artists and audiences to engage with a spectrum of media arts genres and practices, such as traditional or expanded forms of storytelling, visual expression; and performance using film, cinema, audio, broadcast, new media, creative code, and related formats at the intersection of arts and technology.

Projects

In addition to the general areas of interest described in the Grants for Arts Projects [program description](#), film and media arts project proposals should further one or more of the following:

- Provide opportunities for artists to create, research, or share artistic practices and works; or provide opportunities for artists (at all stages of their career) to access significant artistic or professional development programs essential for career advancement.
- Provide opportunities for public audiences to experience film and media art works and/or engage directly with artists, art works, or artistic processes, across all forms and genres.
- Integrate media arts activities with strategies that promote the well-being and resilience of communities.
- Build capacity and strengthen the film and media arts field through knowledge-sharing and resources.

Note: We do not prioritize funding for the creation and distribution of general broadcasts, podcasts, video games, or journalistic content that are not in pursuit of artistic and creative goals related to the film and media arts field, nor any non-arts content or educational modules unrelated to advancing the film and media arts field.

Competitive media arts projects will address one or more of the following:

- Increase paid, contract-based, or commission-based opportunities for independent film and media artists, creative coders, arts collectives, and freelance arts workers, including those with specialized expertise at the intersection of arts and technology.
- Advance or sustain the creative work or careers of people whose opportunities to engage within the field of media arts are limited by factors such as geography, race or ethnicity, economics, or disability.
- Respond to the opportunities, challenges, and needs of the media arts field, as well as align with the focus of recent [Media Arts Impact Initiatives](#). For example, see documents

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Media Arts

published by the NEA: [State of the Field: A Report from the Documentary Sustainability Summit](#) and [Tech As Art: Supporting Artists Who Use Technology as a Creative Medium](#).

- Builds the capacity and expertise of arts organizations, arts workers, artists, and audiences to engage with digital or emergent technology.

The NEA is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility, and fostering mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all individuals and groups. Projects may focus on reaching a particular group or demographic; however, they may not be exclusionary under [Federal civil rights laws and policies](#) prohibiting discrimination. This extends to hiring practices, artist selection processes, and audience engagement. For additional information, refer to this archived webinar: [Things to Know Before You Apply: Federal Civil Rights and Your Grants Application](#).

Applicants may request cost share/matching grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

If your project is developed and managed by local government, see the [Local Arts Agencies description](#) to help you in your discipline selection.

If your organization typically submits to an artistic discipline other than Media Arts, but will be submitting a project adapted for film, online streaming, or broadcast due to COVID-19, we encourage you to apply to your primary artistic discipline. For example, if your organization typically submits to the Dance discipline and wants to complete a dance-related film or project for online streaming or broadcast due to COVID-19, you should continue to submit your application to the Dance discipline. If you have questions about this, [contact staff](#).

For information on how to apply, see “How to Apply” on the left.

Additional Applications in Media Arts

Generally, an organization is limited to one application per year in the Grants for Arts Projects category. However, an organization of any artistic discipline may submit **one additional application** in the Grants for Arts Projects category through the Media Arts discipline for the July deadline.

If your organization is submitting an additional application to the Media Arts discipline’s July deadline, the project **must** be an initiative that builds the capacity and expertise of arts organizations and/or artists to serve a broad public through digital or emergent technology and/or for support tech-centered creative practices. Examples of such projects include activities that:

- Develop opportunities for artists, audiences, and learners to create, access, or explore art projects that incorporate new media, creative code, and/or cross-disciplinary collaborations at the intersection of arts and technology.

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Media Arts

- Implement field-building initiatives that develop networks across artistic disciplines and relevant industries that invest in tech-centered creative practices and artist-driven explorations of digital or emergent technology.
- Deepen the capacity of arts organizations to deliver tech-centered, digital, and hybrid arts and cultural programs to audiences and learners.
- Support digital infrastructure for the cultural sector at the local, regional, or national level through cross-sector collaboration and programmatic partnerships, training or knowledge-sharing, evidence-based practices, and/or the development of resources.
- Integrate the arts with technology to bridge digital divides, increase digital literacy, and/or broaden engagement with computer science technology within local communities or across different segments of the arts sector.

The NEA recognizes the use of digital and emergent technology in creative media as a dynamic but consistently under-resourced field of artistic practice. Over the next few years, the NEA will invest in greater capacity for arts organizations and artists to offer digital opportunities for arts participation—inclusive of hybrid programming—to reach a broad public, as detailed in its [FY2022-2026 Strategic Plan](#).

Deadlines

Grants for Arts Projects applications will be accepted at two deadlines. All project types are accepted at both deadlines. Apply at the deadline that most closely fits the schedule of activities or timeline of your proposed project.

Organizations must apply directly on their own behalf; [applications through a fiscal sponsor/agent are not allowed](#).

[NOTE: INSERT GAP1 AND GAP2 CALENDARS HERE]

Museums

The NEA is committed to supporting museum activity that demonstrates exceptional aesthetic investigation and meaningful community engagement. Specifically, the NEA 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 NEA demonstrate artistic excellence and artistic merit in and across a variety of mediums, movements, eras, and cultures.

The NEA is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility, and fostering mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all individuals and groups. Projects may focus on reaching a particular group or demographic; however, they may not be exclusionary under [Federal civil rights laws and policies](#) prohibiting discrimination. This extends to hiring practices, artist selection processes, and audience engagement. For additional information, refer to this archived webinar: [Things to Know Before You Apply: Federal Civil Rights and Your Grants Application](#).

Applicants may request cost share/matching grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

If your project is developed and managed by local government, see the [Local Arts Agencies description](#) to help you in your discipline selection.

For information on how to apply, see “How to Apply” on the left.

Project Types

Project types include, but are not limited to:

- 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 and/or projects that use technology to serve broader audiences.

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Museums

- Services to the museums field.
- Projects that engage people with disabilities.

Deadlines

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

For Museums projects with a distinct technology-focused media arts component: Your organization may be eligible to submit a second application under the July deadline for [Media Arts](#).

[NOTE: INSERT GAP1 AND GAP2 CALENDARS HERE]

Music

The NEA 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 NEA accepts applications from professional artist development programs, artist residencies, community engagement projects that involve diverse communities; education activities for people of all ages; 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 NEA 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 NEA encourages the commissioning and performance of new American works.

The NEA is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility, and fostering mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all individuals and groups. Projects may focus on reaching a particular group or demographic; however, they may not be exclusionary under [Federal civil rights laws and policies](#) prohibiting discrimination. This extends to hiring practices, artist selection processes, and audience engagement. For additional information, refer to this archived webinar: [Things to Know Before You Apply: Federal Civil Rights and Your Grants Application](#).

Applicants may request cost share/matching grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

If your project is developed and managed by local government, see the [Local Arts Agencies description](#) to help you in your discipline selection.

For information on how to apply, see “How to Apply” on the left.

Project Types

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

We welcome and encourage applicants to contact the discipline staff to discuss potential proposed project types, many of which are listed below.

Performances, presentations, and commissions

- Public presentations of musical works.
- Commissions and/or co-commissions.

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Music

- 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 broadcasts or webcasts, 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.](#)"*
- Projects that advance and/or sustain the creative work of and/or careers for people with disabilities through employment, industry training, technical assistance, and organizational capacity-building.
- Projects that include planning, research, and training that supports an organization's capacity to respond to current events.

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).

Deadlines

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

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Music

For Music projects with a distinct technology-focused media arts component: Your organization may be eligible to submit a second application under the July deadline for [Media Arts](#).

[NOTE: INSERT GAP1 AND GAP2 CALENDARS HERE]

Musical Theater

The NEA 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 NEA 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 NEA 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.

The NEA is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility, and fostering mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all individuals and groups. Projects may focus on reaching a particular group or demographic, however, they may not be exclusionary under [Federal civil rights laws and policies](#) prohibiting discrimination. This extends to hiring practices, artist selection processes, and audience engagement. For additional information, refer to this archived webinar: [Things to Know Before You Apply: Federal Civil Rights and Your Grants Application](#).

Applicants may request cost share/matching grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

If your project is developed and managed by local government, see the [Local Arts Agencies description](#) to help you in your discipline selection.

For information on how to apply, see “How to Apply” on the left.

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.

Project types include, but are not limited to:

- Musical theater projects that encourage the participation of artists, production staff, and administrators from a wide variety of aesthetic viewpoints, racial and ethnic backgrounds, cultures, disability perspectives, and/or geographic areas.
- Commissioning, development, and production of new musicals.
- Production of existing contemporary musicals or works 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.

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Musical Theater

- 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 NEA 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, archiving, and dissemination of America's musical theater heritage, including capturing live performance.
- Community-based projects that involve the creation and/or production of musical theater with community members.
- Projects and initiatives that explore issues of inequality and extend the reach of the arts to groups/communities with rich and dynamic cultural identities that have been historically underserved.
- 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.
- Projects that advance and/or sustain the creative work of and/or careers for people with disabilities through employment, industry training, technical assistance, and organization capacity-building.
- 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.)
- Professional development activities such as adaptive capacity building, resilience training, and workforce development.
- Digital capacity building efforts of organizations to create virtual programming, increase audience accessibility, and/or collaborate with other organizations using digital technology.

Deadlines

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

For Musical Theater projects with a distinct technology-focused media arts component: Your organization may be eligible to submit a second application under the July deadline for [Media Arts](#).

[NOTE: INSERT GAP1 AND GAP2 CALENDARS HERE]

Opera

The NEA is committed to nurturing and advancing operatic artistry to enrich communities large and small across the nation. Opera is a multifaceted art form that may include singing, acting, orchestral and chamber music, choreography, dance, scenic design, costume design, and lighting design to convey a story or dramatic concept.

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

The NEA supports the commissioning, development, presentation, and professional recordings of new or existing operatic works; professional artist development programs and artist residencies; community engagement projects that involve diverse communities; education activities for people of all ages; and projects by service organizations. Applications for collaborations and innovative projects that engage audiences in new and meaningful ways are encouraged.

The NEA is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility, and fostering mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all individuals and groups. Projects may focus on reaching a particular group or demographic, however, they may not be exclusionary under [Federal civil rights laws and policies](#) prohibiting discrimination. This extends to hiring practices, artist selection processes, and audience engagement. For additional information, refer to this archived webinar: [Things to Know Before You Apply: Federal Civil Rights and Your Grants Application](#).

Applicants may request cost share/matching grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

If your project is developed and managed by local government, see the [Local Arts Agencies description](#) to help you in your discipline selection.

For information on how to apply, see “How to Apply” on the left.

Project Types

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

We welcome and encourage applicants to contact the discipline staff to discuss potential proposed project types, many of which are listed below.

Commissions, Premieres, Performances, and Presentations

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Opera

- Creation of new operatic works, especially those that are innovative or that cross genres (including commissions, co-commissions, residencies, and workshops with artists).
- Premieres of operas.
- Repeat productions of previously-premiered 21st century operatic works.
- New productions of traditional and contemporary operas.
- Remounting of existing opera 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 Artist Development

- Post-conservatory professional artist development and training programs for musicians, including vocal coaching, diction, language, acting, stage movement, conducting, mentorship, and career development.
- Creative artist residency programs, including those for composers, librettists, conductors, and directors.
- Residencies and workshops with artists.

Recordings, Technology, Education, and Engagement

- Recordings of opera works (by international or American composers).
- Technology projects such as broadcasts or webcasts (including simulcast performances and online resources that provide public access to opera).
- Archival, documentation, and preservation projects.
- Education and related activities for youth, adults, and intergenerational groups.
- Community engagement projects that involve diverse communities and/or reach new audiences.
- Projects that include planning, research, and training that supports an organization's capacity to respond to current events.
- Innovative methods of engaging audiences including collaborations with other organizations, and new approaches that have the potential to increase the impact on audiences, artists, communities, and/or the opera field.
- Opera performances and activities in public spaces intended to foster community interaction and/or enhance the unique characteristics of a community.
- Projects that advance and/or sustain the creative work of and/or careers for people with disabilities through employment, industry training, technical assistance, and organization capacity-building.

Services to the Opera Field

- Services to the opera field that reach a broad constituency of musicians (including singers, composers, and librettists), music educators, arts administrators, and/or volunteers. This may include, but is not limited to:
 - Arts and arts-related workshops, conferences, and convenings.
 - Leadership training and other professional development opportunities for artists and arts administrators.
 - Projects that include planning, capacity building, performance measurements, and training that supports an organization’s ability to respond to current events.
 - Archiving, preservation, and documentation projects.

Deadlines

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

For Opera projects with a distinct technology-focused media arts component: Your organization may be eligible to submit a second application under the July deadline for [Media Arts](#).

[NOTE: INSERT GAP1 AND GAP2 CALENDARS HERE]

Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works

The Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works program supports projects from a diversity of organizations that include presenters, festivals, the circus arts, artist collectives, community-based organizations, and service organizations, among others. The NEA supports projects that present multiple artistic disciplines and practices, 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 engagement of audiences and communities. In addition, we also fund projects that provide services to artists and arts organizations.

The NEA encourages and values applications from a variety of [eligible organizations](#) of all budget sizes, and located in rural, urban, and tribal communities.

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.

The NEA is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility, and fostering mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all individuals and groups. Projects may focus on reaching a particular group or demographic; however, they may not be exclusionary under [Federal civil rights laws and policies](#) prohibiting discrimination. This extends to hiring practices, artist selection processes, and audience engagement. For additional information, refer to this archived webinar: [Things to Know Before You Apply: Federal Civil Rights and Your Grants Application](#).

Applicants may request cost share/matching grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

If your project is developed and managed by local government, see the [Local Arts Agencies description](#) to help you in your discipline selection.

For information on how to apply, see “How to Apply” on the left.

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.

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works

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.

Projects include, but are not limited to:

- 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 commissioning, development, and creation of new works, including creative artist residency programs.
- Projects, participatory art works, and community-based work that utilize art in civic and social practice, conflict transformation, and collaborative work with community partners in ways that are mutually beneficial.
- 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.
- Arts learning, 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.)
- Projects that advance or sustain the creative work or careers of people with disabilities through employment, technical assistance, and organizational capacity-building.
- Digital capacity building efforts of organizations to create virtual programming, increase audience accessibility, and/or collaborate with other organizations using digital technology.
- Services to artists and arts organizations, including projects by organizations such as volunteer legal organizations and business councils. (**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, mentorships, and other professional development opportunities for artists and arts administrators.
 - Projects that include planning, capacity building, and training that supports an organization's ability to develop emergency preparedness plans and response measures.
 - Archiving, preservation, and documentation projects.

Deadlines

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

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works

For Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works projects with a distinct technology-focused media arts component: Your organization may be eligible to submit a second application under the July deadline for [Media Arts](#).

[NOTE: INSERT GAP1 AND GAP2 CALENDARS HERE]

Theater

The NEA 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 NEA 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.

The NEA is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility, and fostering mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all individuals and groups. Projects may focus on reaching a particular group or demographic; however, they may not be exclusionary under [Federal civil rights laws and policies](#) prohibiting discrimination. This extends to hiring practices, artist selection processes, and audience engagement. For additional information, refer to this archived webinar: [Things to Know Before You Apply: Federal Civil Rights and Your Grants Application](#).

Applicants may request cost share/matching grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

If your project is developed and managed by local government, see the [Local Arts Agencies description](#) to help you in your discipline selection.

For information on how to apply, see “How to Apply” on the left.

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.

Project Types include, but are not limited to

- Theater projects that encourage the participation of artists, production staff, and administrators from a wide variety of aesthetic viewpoints, racial and ethnic backgrounds, cultures, disability perspectives, and/or geographic areas.
- 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 NEA does not fund festivals for which no

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Theater

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, archiving, and dissemination of America's theater heritage, including capturing live performance.
- Community-based projects that involve the creation and/or production of theater with community members.
- Projects and initiatives that explore issues of inequality and extend the reach of the arts to groups/communities with rich and dynamic cultural identities that have been historically underserved.
- 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.
- Projects that advance and/or sustain the creative work of and/or careers for people with disabilities through employment, industry training, technical assistance, and organization capacity-building.
- 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.)
- Professional development activities such as adaptive capacity building, resilience training, and workforce development.
- Digital capacity building efforts of organizations to create virtual programming, increase audience accessibility, and/or collaborate with other organizations using digital technology.

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.

For Theater projects with a distinct technology-focused media arts component: Your organization may be eligible to submit a second application under the July deadline for [Media Arts](#).

[NOTE: INSERT GAP1 AND GAP2 CALENDARS HERE]

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 NEA 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 NEA 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 NEA is committed to encouraging individual artistic development, experimentation, and dialogue between artists and the public.

The NEA is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility, and fostering mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all individuals and groups. Projects may focus on reaching a particular group or demographic; however, they may not be exclusionary under [Federal civil rights laws and policies](#) prohibiting discrimination. This extends to hiring practices, artist selection processes, and audience engagement. For additional information, refer to this archived webinar: [Things to Know Before You Apply: Federal Civil Rights and Your Grants Application](#).

Applicants may request cost share/matching grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

If your project is developed and managed by local government, see the [Local Arts Agencies description](#) to help you in your discipline selection.

For information on how to apply, see “How to Apply” on the left.

Project Types

Project Types include, but are not limited to:

- 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.

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Visual Arts

- 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 and/or projects that use technology to serve broader audiences.
- Services to the field.
- Projects that engage people with disabilities.

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.

For Visual Arts projects with a distinct technology-focused media arts component: Your organization may be eligible to submit a second application under the July deadline for [Media Arts](#).

[NOTE: INSERT GAP1 AND GAP2 CALENDARS HERE]

Application Calendar

There are two Grants for Arts Projects application deadlines. Some disciplines (e.g., Literary Arts) 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:

Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov	February 10, 2022 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal	February 14-21, 2023 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time
Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection	November 2023
Earliest Start Date for Proposed Project	January 1, 2024

Second Grants for Arts Projects Deadline:

Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov	July 6, 2023 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time
<i>Prepare application material so that it's ready to upload when the Applicant Portal opens</i>	
Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal	July 11-18, 2023 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time
Earliest Announcement of Grant Award or Rejection	April 2024
Earliest Start Date for Proposed Project	June 1, 2024

All Artist Communities and Design applicants must apply at the February 9, 2023, deadline.

An organization may submit only one application under these FY 2024 Grants for Arts Projects guidelines (i.e., one application per calendar year). See "[Application Limits](#)" for the few exceptions to this rule.

Before applying, your organization must create and maintain up-to-date registrations with both the System for Award Management (SAM) at [SAM.gov](#) and [Grants.gov](#). Registering and maintaining accounts with SAM and Grants.gov is always FREE. See [How to Apply](#) for more information.

Registration in SAM.gov and Grants.gov can take many weeks. Give yourself plenty of time to get registered. Similarly, submit your application to Grants.gov well in advance of the deadline in case you encounter any difficulties.

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

Exceptions to the deadline will be considered only for registration or renewal issues or technical malfunctions that are the result of failures on the part of SAM, Grants.gov, or NEA systems, as determined by the NEA. To be considered for this exception, you must provide documentation of a SAM, Grants.gov, or NEA systems failure that prevented your submission by the deadline.

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

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

Questions? Call or email: [Agency Contacts](#)

Access for individuals with disabilities:



Contact the Office of Accessibility at 202-682-5532 / accessibility@arts.gov or the Office of Civil Rights at civilrights@arts.gov to request an accommodation or an alternate format of the guidelines.

CFDA No. 45.024

OMB No. 3135-0112 Expires TBD

December 2022

Award Information

Grant Amounts, Cost Share, and Matching Funds

Grants range from \$10,000 to \$100,000.

Designated local arts agencies eligible to subgrant may request from \$30,000 to \$150,000 for subgranting in the Local Arts Agencies discipline. Additional eligibility, documentation, and reporting requirements for subgranting applications are detailed in the [Local Arts Agencies section](#) of the guidelines.

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.

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, a majority 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

Our support of a project (i.e., "Earliest Start Date for Proposed Project") can begin no sooner than:

- January 1, 2024 (for applicants at the February 9 deadline), or
- June 1, 2024 (for applicants at the July 6 deadline).

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 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 Start Date for Proposed Project" will be removed from the Project Budget.

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Application Calendar

A grantee may not receive more than one NEA grant for the same activities during the same period of performance.

Unallowable Activities/Costs

The activities and costs listed below are **not** allowable, and should not be included as part of your project or budget. This includes activities/costs covered by cost share/matching sources.

Unallowable Activities

- General operating or seasonal support.
- Direct grants to individuals.
- Direct grants to 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/coursework 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 artistic merit. Examples include festivals, exhibitions, or publications for which no jury/editorial/curatorial judgment has been applied.
- Social activities such as receptions, parties, galas, community dinners, picnics, and potlucks.
- Awards to individuals or organizations to honor or recognize achievement.
- Commercial (for-profit) enterprises or activities, including concessions, food, T-shirts, artwork, or other items for resale. This includes online or virtual sales/shops.
- 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.
- 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 NEA 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.)
- Subgranting or regranting. Only state arts agencies, regional arts organizations, or local arts agencies that are designated to operate on behalf of their local governments or are

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Unallowable Activities/Costs

operating units of city or county government may subgrant NEA funds. ([See more information on subgranting.](#))

Certain Unallowable Costs

- Cash reserves and endowments.
- Costs for the creation of new organizations.
- 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.
- 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 <https://www.treasury.gov/about/organizational-structure/offices/pages/office-of-foreign-assets-control.aspx> or contact our Office of Grants Management at 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.
- Alcoholic beverages.
- Gifts and prizes, including cash prizes as well as other items (e.g., electronic devices, gift certificates) with monetary value.
- Stipends/fees to individuals who are incarcerated.
- Contributions and donations to other entities.
- General miscellaneous or contingency costs.
- Fines and penalties, bad debt costs, deficit reduction.
- 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.
- The purchase of vehicles.
- Visa costs paid to the U.S. government.
- Costs incurred before the beginning or after the completion of the official period of performance.

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Unallowable Activities/Costs

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.

Eligibility

The following **are eligible** to apply:

- Nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3), U.S. organizations;
- Units of state or local government; or
- Federally recognized tribal communities or tribes.

Applicants may be arts organizations, local arts agencies, arts service organizations, local education agencies (school districts), and other organizations that can help advance the NEA's goals.

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

- Meet the NEA's "[Legal Requirements](#)" including nonprofit, tax-exempt status at the time of application.
- 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.
 - You will be asked to provide examples of previous programming in the application. For applicants to the February 2023 deadline, programming must have started in or before February 2020; for applicants to the July 2023 deadline, programming must have started in or before July 2020.
 - Programming is not required to have taken place during consecutive years.
 - Organizations that previously operated as a program of another institution may include arts programming it carried out while part of that institution for its three-year history.

Eligible organizations that received American Rescue Plan (ARP) or CARES Act funding may apply to this program as long as there are no overlapping costs during the same grant period.

An organization whose primary purpose is to channel resources (financial, human, or other) to an affiliated organization may only apply if the affiliated organization does not submit 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 be registered with the System for Award Management (SAM, www.sam.gov), have a Unique Entity Identifier, and maintain an active SAM registration until the application process is complete--and should a grant be made, throughout the life of the award.

The following **are not eligible** to apply:

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Eligibility

- Individuals;
- Applications through a fiscal sponsor/agent (organizations must apply directly on their own behalf, [see more information on fiscal sponsors/agents](#)); or
- Designated state and jurisdictional arts agencies (SAAs) and their regional arts organizations (RAOs).

SAAs and RAOs may serve as partners in projects. However, they may not receive NEA 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.

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

Application Limits

An organization may submit only one application to the FY 2023 Grants for Arts Projects program (i.e., one application per calendar year), with limited exceptions.

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 **project that is different from any project submitted in an application by its independent component(s)**.

See detailed information about Parent (and Related) Organizations, including definitions and other requirements.

- **Applicants to the Media Arts discipline at the July 6, 2023, deadline**
 - An organization of any artistic discipline may submit one additional application in the Grants for Arts Projects category through the Media Arts discipline at the **July 6, 2023**, deadline. The additional application must be for a distinctly different project and must align with certain programmatic requirements described here: Additional Applications in Media Arts ([LINK TO MEDIA ARTS DISCIPLINE PAGE WITH SECTION DETAILING REQUIREMENTS](#)).

Applications to other NEA funding categories:

- **An organization may not apply to both the Challenge America category and the Grants for Arts Projects category in the same calendar year.**

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Eligibility

- An organization may apply to other NEA funding opportunities, including Our Town, in addition to Grants for Arts Projects. If you submit applications to other opportunities, each 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.

If you have other NEA awards with activities and/or periods of performance that will overlap with your proposed Grants for Arts project, please contact staff for guidance to ensure that the projects are different or for a distinctly different phase of a project.

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, but you may not apply on your own.

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.

More Information about 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 **project that is different from any project submitted in an application by its independent component(s)**.

An eligible independent component must be a unit that is both programmatically and administratively distinct from the parent organization. The independent status is demonstrated by the component's:

- Unique mission, separate and distinct from the parent entity;
- Separate, dedicated staff, with duties specific to the mission of the component;
- Independent board, mostly consisting of members not associated with the parent entity and generally functioning with substantial oversight and management of the component;
- Separate budget, maintained by the component; and
- Three-year history of arts programming undertaken by the component.

To qualify as an eligible independent component, it should be equivalent to a stand-alone institution.

A parent organization should consult with [our staff](#) to verify the eligibility of its component before preparing an application. If an application is submitted by a parent organization on behalf of a component that is determined by the NEA not to be independent and separate from the parent organization, then that application may be allowed as the parent's single application.

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

- Academic departments of colleges and universities.
- Programs, initiatives, and projects of organizations.
- Collaboratives or consortiums of multiple 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

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Eligibility

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.

The application for the independent component must be for a project of the component. For example, if a university campus submits an application for its art museum as an independent component, the project must be for the art museum. The art museum cannot be used as a passthrough entity for projects from other areas of the university.

The parent organization must meet the eligibility requirements for all applicants. 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.

How to Apply

Submitting an application is a multi-step process:

- **Register** with [Login.gov](#), [SAM](#) and [Grants.gov](#) or renew/verify these registrations.
- **Part 1:** Submit to Grants.gov the “Application for Federal Domestic Assistance/Short Organization Form.” This is a brief form that will collect very basic information about your organization. A direct link to the Grants.gov Opportunity Package is included further down this on this page.
- **Part 2:** Complete the “Grant Application Form (GAF)” and upload items through the NEA’s Applicant Portal. This web form is where you will enter the majority of your application material (e.g., project description, timelines, budget information).

Login.gov, SAM, Grants.gov (Part 1), and the NEA’s Applicant Portal (Part 2) are all separate online systems.

Instructions for Part 1 and Part 2, including a list of all the application questions, can be found by **selecting the arts discipline that corresponds with your project (e.g., Arts Education, Music, Visual Arts, etc.)** [from the list at the bottom of the page.](#)

[How to Apply Graphic]

All Applicants: Registration and Renewal

Applying for a federal grant for the first time? [See here.](#)

[Register with Login.gov, SAM and Grants.gov or renew/verify these registrations](#)

Before applying, your organization must create and maintain up-to-date registrations with [Login.gov](#), the System for Award Management (SAM) at [SAM.gov](#) and [Grants.gov](#). Registering and maintaining these accounts is always FREE.

These registrations can take several weeks to finalize, so begin this process early! Registrations with Login.gov, SAM and Grants.gov must be active for you to submit your application. Finalize your registrations well before the application deadline. This should allow you time to resolve any issues that may arise.

We recommend that you register in the following order:

1. Login.gov
2. SAM
3. Grants.gov

Both SAM and Grants.gov will require you to use your Login.gov username and password to log in to their sites.

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: How to Apply

Login.gov Registration

Go to [Create an account](#) to set up your Login.gov account. This account will allow you to access many government websites, including both SAM and Grants.gov.

SAM Registration

Go to [SAM Entity Registration](#) to get started on a new registration, or to renew/check the status of an existing registration.

Your SAM registration must be current at the time a grant is made, and throughout the life of the award. SAM registrations, once activated, can take a day or more to be visible in Grants.gov. Verify your SAM registration well ahead of the application deadline.

When registering/renewing your SAM account, you must select “Yes” when completing the “Representations & Certifications” section. All awardees are required to have these representations & certifications in order to receive an award.

Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)

To apply for federal funds, organizations must have a Unique Entity Identifier, also known as a “UEI.” The UEI is a 12-character alpha numeric value that will be assigned by SAM for free during the registration process. Organizations can find their UEI in their SAM record.

If you have difficulty locating the UEI, contact SAM at 1-866-606-8220 or see the [help section](#) of SAM’s website.

Grants.gov Registration

New Applicants:

- If your organization is not yet registered with Grants.gov, go to [Organization Registration](#), after setting up your Login.gov account, and registering with SAM.
- During the Grants.gov registration process, you will be asked to set up a separate username and password for Grants.gov.
- After creating your Grants.gov account, you may link your Grants.gov and Login.gov accounts.
- After linking accounts, you will use your Login.gov credentials each time you sign in to Grants.gov.

Returning Applicants:

- If your organization already has registered with Grants.gov, renew your registration with SAM and verify that your registration with Grants.gov is current.
- If you have not already linked your Grants.gov and Login.gov accounts, you will be prompted to link your accounts when you click the “login” button on Grants.gov.

You must complete the Grants.gov registration process to access the Part 1 application package (see below). You will need the Login.gov Username and Password that you obtain during the

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registration process to submit your application, and you won't be able to submit your application unless your SAM registration is active and up-to-date.

Login.gov, SAM, and Grants.gov Help

The NEA does not have access to your Login.gov, SAM, or Grants.gov accounts. If you have any questions about or need assistance with these sites, including questions regarding electronic accessibility, contact them directly:

- **Login.gov Help:** Consult the information posted in their [Help Center](#), or use their [online form](#) to submit a question.
- **SAM Federal Service Desk:** Call 1-866-606-8220 or see the information posted on the SAM website at [SAM Help](#).
- **Grants.gov Contact Center:** Call 1-800-518-4726, email 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.

Part 1: Go to the Grant Opportunity Package

Access the Grant Opportunity Package for Part 1 with the Application for Federal Domestic Assistance/Short Organization Form on Grants.gov by clicking on the link below:

For the February 9, 2023 deadline:

[CLICK HERE](#)

Funding Opportunity Number: 2023NEA01GAP1

The Grant Opportunity Package for the July 2023 deadline will be available by June 2023.

1. Clicking the link above will take you **directly** to the pre-populated application package in Grants.gov.
2. The Grants.gov "View Grant Opportunity" screen will open, click the red "Apply" button.
3. You will be prompted to log in. In order to create the Workspace application, you must be logged into Grants.gov with a participant role of either **Workspace Manager** or **Authorized Organization Representative (AOR)**. See more [information on participant roles](#).
4. After logging in, to create a Workspace application:
 - a. Fill in the Application Filing Name field with your organization name, then
 - b. Click the **Create Workspace** button.
5. Afterwards, you will be directed to the Manage Workspace page, where you can begin working on the application.

Learn more about [using Grants.gov's Workspace](#).

Application Questions and Instructions:

For instructions on completing Part 1 and Part 2, including the application questions, and a link to the NEA Applicant Portal for Part 2, select the artistic discipline that most closely corresponds with your proposed project activities. Instructions and requirements vary between disciplines.

If you are unsure which discipline is the right choice, review the [Artistic Disciplines descriptions](#), or contact our [staff](#).

[LINKS TO INSTRUCTIONS DOCS]

Application Review

Review Criteria

Applications will be reviewed on the basis of the criteria below, with equal weight assigned to artistic excellence and artistic merit. The review criteria reflect the NEA's priorities and are aligned with our strategic plan. While proposals need not address each criterion marked "as applicable," applicants may consider all of the criteria when developing their proposals.

Proposals must be for arts projects with specific, definable activities. The application may be rejected if it does not sufficiently describe the project activities.

For more information about how these criteria relate to a specific discipline, review the discipline-specific guidelines and/or contact a discipline staff member. We are here to help.

ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE

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

- The quality of the artists and other key individuals, creative process, works of art, organizations, arts education providers, artistic partners, and/or services involved in the project and their relevance to the audience or communities the project aims to serve.

ARTISTIC MERIT

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

- The value and appropriateness of the project to the organization's mission, artistic field, artists, audience, community, and/or constituency.
- The ability to carry out the project based on such factors as the appropriateness of the budget, clarity of the project activities, resources involved, and the qualifications of the project's personnel and/or partnerships.
- Clearly defined goals and/or proposed outcomes and an appropriate plan to determine if those goals and/or outcomes are met. This includes, where relevant, measures to assess student and/or teacher learning in arts education.
- Evidence of direct compensation to artists, art collectives, and/or art workers.

As applicable:

- Engagement with individuals whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, race or ethnicity, economics, or disability.
- Ability to strengthen the arts sector through knowledge-sharing and resources.

What Happens to Your Application

Applications are evaluated according to the "Review Criteria" above.

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 virtually 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 an open public session.

The Council makes recommendations to the NEA Chair.

The NEA Chair 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 NEA 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.

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 NEA 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 reviewing changes to the project budget, the number of awards to be processed, whether the agency has its appropriation from Congress, etc.

Final Reporting

Before a grant is awarded, organizations must have submitted acceptable Final Report packages by the due date(s) for all NEA grant(s) previously received.

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 NEA will conduct a review of your project to ensure that it is in compliance with NHPA/NEPA.

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

- A project involving or occurring at or near a place that is 50 years old and therefore potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. This includes a property, such as a historic house museum or a historic plaza; or a historic district with multiple historic properties. Historic places may also be structures, such as bridges, or objects, such as sculptures, or a landscape that is historically significant.
- The commissioning and installation of temporary or permanent outdoor installations, including sculptures, statuary, banners, mixed media, painting or murals.
- An outdoor arts festival.
- Permanent wayfinding signs and other similar artistic directional installations.
- Maintenance or rehabilitation of landscapes and gardens.
- In-kind replacement or repairs at a facility that is older than 50 years of age.
- Design services and planning for projects that may affect historic properties.

This review and approval process may take up time 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

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Frequently Asked Questions

recommended for an award which may have historic preservation or environmental concerns (NHPA/NEPA), you will be notified and asked to provide additional information.

To expedite the review, ensure that you include thorough and complete information for all project activities and locations. The NEA cannot release an award and/or grant funds until the NHPA/NEPA review is complete. If asked for additional information for a review, please indicate the timeline for determining grant activities and locations, if they are not yet finalized. In some cases, such as for permanent art installations at historic properties or advanced design (more advanced than early design development) affecting historic properties, you may be instructed to continue the review with the appropriate State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO).

[See here 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.

Accessibility

Federal regulations require that all NEA-funded projects be accessible to people with disabilities, including audiences, visitors, artists, performers, teaching artists, students, staff, and volunteers. 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, including people who are d/Deaf or hard of hearing, people who are blind, and people with physical, cognitive, sensory, and/or psychological 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/no-step entry, ramped access, and/or elevators to project facilities and outdoor spaces;
 - Integrated and dispersed wheelchair seating in assembly areas;
 - Wheelchair-accessible box office, stage/backstage, meeting, and dressing rooms;
 - Wheelchair-accessible display cases, exhibit areas, and counters;
 - Accessible studio, classroom, and work spaces;
 - Accessible artist residency studios and living spaces, to include dining facilities and restrooms;
 - Wheelchair-accessible restrooms and water fountains; and
 - Directional signage for accessible entrances, restrooms, and other facilities; and
 - Accessible workspaces for employees.
- 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 providing:

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Frequently Asked Questions

- Designation of an accessibility coordinator and publicly-available contact information (on website and promotional materials) for requesting accommodations;
- Accessible and screen reader-compatible electronic materials, documents, websites, virtual platforms, and inclusion of alternative text for images;
- Accessible on-line application and grant systems (where relevant);
- Print materials in alternative formats, such as large-print brochures/labels/programs, braille, and electronic/digital formats;
- Accommodations for performances, tours, virtual streamed events, conferences, and lectures, such as sign language interpretation, real-time captioning, and audio description;
- Tactile art, signage, sculpture, and representations of two-dimensional artwork;
- Closed/open captioning and audio/visual description for video, film, television broadcasts;
- Transcripts of radio programs and podcasts;
- Auxiliary aids and devices such as assistive listening devices;
- Sensory-friendly programming, spaces, and approaches for people with sensory-processing issues and other neurological conditions;
- Accommodations for live and archived virtual events, including captioning, sign language interpreting, and audio/visual description; and
- Accommodations to integrate students with disabilities in arts learning programs.

See the Nondiscrimination Statutes in our "Assurance of Compliance" for additional information.

For technical assistance on how to make your project accessible, contact the Accessibility Office at accessibility@arts.gov, 202-682-5532 Voice; or the Civil Rights Office at civilrights@arts.gov, 202-682-5454 Voice; or see our online [Accessibility Resources](#).

Civil Rights

The Office of Civil Rights at 202-682-5454 or civilrights@arts.gov investigates 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 Civil Rights at 202-682-5454 or civilrights@arts.gov.

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

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Frequently Asked Questions

Direct Learning Grant will be required to describe the assessment methods used to assess learning.

NEA 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 grantees will be asked to assist in the collection of additional information that can help the NEA 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.

Crediting Requirement

Grantees must clearly acknowledge support from the NEA in their programs and related promotional material including publications and websites. Additional acknowledgment requirements may be provided later.

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 NEA 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 NEA.

General Terms & Conditions

Federal and agency requirements that relate to grants awarded by the NEA 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 NEA 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. **Grantees must review, understand, and**

comply with these requirements. Failure to do so may result in having a grant terminated and/or returning funds to the National Endowment for the Arts, among other things.

Changes in Projects

Applicants must notify the NEA 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 NEA 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 NEA. 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 in the NEA's [General Terms & Conditions](#) for Grants to Organizations.

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 CFR 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 requirements set forth in Subpart C of 2 CFR 180, as adopted by the National Endowment for the Arts in 2 CFR Part 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 CFR Part 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. 8101 et seq. and 2 CFR 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.) applies to any organization that controls or possesses Native American cultural items, such as human remains or 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 NEA 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 CFR 1110.
- Solely on the grounds of disability, in accordance with **Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973** (29 U.S.C. 794), implemented by the National Endowment for the Arts at 45 CFR 1151, and the **Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990** ("ADA"), as amended, (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.).
- 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 CFR 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:

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Frequently Asked Questions

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 civilrights@arts.gov. For inquiries about limited English proficiency, go to <http://www.lep.gov>, the [FOIA Reading Room](#), or contact the Office of Civil Rights at civilrights@arts.gov or 202-682-5454.

Regulations Relating to Lobbying

For organizations applying for more than \$100,000 (31 U.S.C. 1352).

The Applicant certifies that:

- a) It has not and will not use federal appropriated funds to pay any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of a National Endowment for the Arts advisory panel or the National Council on the Arts, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of or modification to any federal grant or contract.
- b) If it has used or will use any funds other than federal appropriated funds to pay any person for influencing or attempting to influence any of the individuals specified above, the Applicant:
- c) Is not required to disclose that activity if that person is regularly employed by the Applicant. (Regularly employed means working for at least 130 days within the year immediately preceding the submission of this application.)
- d) Will complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," if that person is not regularly employed by the Applicant.
- e) It will require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards of more than \$100,000 and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

Standards for Service

The National Endowment for the Arts has 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, 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 26 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, 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.

Frequently Asked Questions

[FAQs for Applicants & Awardees in Response to COVID-19 »](#)

My organization received American Rescue Plan (ARP) or CARES funding. Can we also apply to Grants for Arts Projects?

Yes. However, you need to be sure that there are no overlapping costs. If your ARP or CARES and Grants for Arts Projects applications include items such as salaries, fees, or facilities costs, make sure those costs don't overlap, i.e., occur at the same time.

Can our organization use funds we received from the Small Business Administration (SBA) or other federal agencies as cost share/match for an NEA grant?

No. Federal funds are not allowed to be used as cost share/match for federal grants (2 CFR §200.306). In addition, the NEA's enabling legislation does not allow any federal funds to be used as cost share/match for its grants. This includes the Paycheck Protection Program and Shuttered Venues Operators Grants (SVOG) from the SBA, as well as other federal funding, including funding from:

- AmeriCorps
- National Endowment for the Humanities
- National Park Service
- National Science Foundation
- U.S. Department of Agriculture
- U.S. Department of Education (e.g., 21st Century Community Learning Centers)
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
- Or an entity that receives federal appropriations such as the Corporation for Public Broadcasting or Amtrak

Note that organizations are eligible to apply for NEA funding even if they have applied for and received funding from the SBA, provided the organization isn't double-claiming any individual's salary. Recipients will be required to keep documentation to show which employees are being paid from each funding source so that the government isn't paying more than 100 percent of a salary. Applicants with additional questions about SBA programs should contact the SBA directly as we are unable to provide guidance on programs other than our own.

Can my organization apply for the same types of costs that were available for funding in ARP or CARES?

Yes. You can apply for salaries, fees, facilities costs, and marketing costs as long as they are allocable/directly related to carrying out the proposed project.

There is a key difference between ARP or CARES and Grants for Arts Projects. Grants for Arts Projects applications must be for projects only. A project may consist of one or more specific

events or activities, and it may be a part of an applicant's regular season or activities. We do not fund seasonal or general operating support in Grants for Arts Projects.

Should the application address how my organization will respond if our project activities end up being affected by COVID-19?

This is not a requirement, but you can provide a very brief description of any contingency plans in the Project Description narrative. The Project Description is where you should address all of the [Review Criteria](#), and it may be useful for the panel's assessment of your organization's ability to carry out the project (see the criteria under artistic merit).

What if my organization ends up not being able to carry out the project activities in our application due to COVID-19?

If you are recommended for a grant, you will have an opportunity to request changes (e.g., a time extension, a modification to project activities) at that stage of the process. If you receive a grant, you will have the opportunity to request project changes later in the process, as outlined in the [How to Manage Your Award Handbook](#).

We will work with you to try to accommodate changes to your project, but approval is not guaranteed. If you need to request a change, please contact your NEA specialist to discuss what is possible. Cancellation costs are not allowable.

How should my organization formulate its project if we're not sure if an in-person gathering will be possible due to COVID-19? Will it be possible to make project changes if needed later in the process?

You should do your best to complete information within the application to the best of your knowledge.

If you are recommended for a grant, you will have an opportunity to request changes (e.g., a time extension, a modification to project activities) at that stage of the process. If you receive a grant, you will have the opportunity to request project changes later in the process, as outlined in the [How to Manage Your Award Handbook](#).

We will work with you to try to accommodate changes to your project, but approval is not guaranteed. If you need to request a change while your application is still under consideration, contact your NEA specialist to discuss what is possible.

My organization usually applies for in person performances. Can we apply for virtual performances, or the costs associated with planning for virtual performances?

Yes.

Our project will involve virtual and online programming. Are we allowed to charge a cost for admission to access these online events?

Yes.

If my organization will be submitting a project for online streaming or broadcast due to COVID-19, do we submit our application to the Media Arts discipline? My organization typically submits to an artistic discipline other than Media Arts.

No. If the work of your project is primarily rooted in an artistic discipline other than Media Arts, you should submit your application to that discipline. For example, if your organization typically submits to the Dance discipline and wants to complete a dance-related project for online streaming or broadcast, you should submit your application to the Dance discipline. If you have questions about this, contact [staff](#).

Our project may need updated technology to support quality virtual programming. To what extent can these costs be included in the project budget, and do we need to differentiate between supplies or equipment costs?

You can apply for costs related to updated technology as long as they fit into the proposed project. Costs could include:

- Equipment, purchase or rental
- Hardware
- Software, e.g., timed ticketing software
- Increased bandwidth
- Streaming subscriptions
- Specialized audio-visual equipment for performers

The distinction between supplies and equipment is determined by cost and useful life. A justification for the cost is required in some cases.

If you intend to purchase equipment that costs \$5,000 or more per item with an estimated useful life of more than one year, clearly identify the equipment and you will need to provide a justification for this expenditure either in the Project Budget form or in your narrative.

Digital devices or other technologies are considered supplies if they are less than \$5,000 per item, regardless of the length of useful life, and no additional justification is required.

Can my project budget include the cost of open or closed captions or sign language interpretation for virtual events?

Yes.

Our exhibition space and/or performance venue will need to make physical changes to meet social distancing requirements, such as the removal of seats or installation of plexiglass to protect staff. To what extent can these costs be included in the project budget?

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You can apply for costs related to physical changes as long as they are allocable/directly related to the proposed project. However, we do not fund the costs of physical construction or renovation, or the purchase costs of facilities or land.

Can project budgets include expenses related to increased sanitation measures due to COVID-19, such as additional personnel, cleaning services, PPE, and other supplies?

Yes. You can apply for costs related to increased sanitation as long as they fit into the proposed project.

How can I make sure that my project that addresses gender or racial equity is in compliance with Federal civil rights laws that prohibit discrimination (such as on the grounds of race, color, or national origin)?

Projects may focus on reaching a particular group or demographic, however, they may not be exclusionary under [Federal civil rights laws and policies](#) prohibiting discrimination. This extends to hiring practices, artist selection processes, and audience engagement. Please review the [Assurance of Compliance](#), as well as [NEA Civil Rights guidance](#) on our website including the NEA Civil Rights webinar, [Things to Know Before You Apply: Federal Civil Rights and Your Grants Application](#).

How can I find out when new guidelines are released?

NEA Grants for Arts Projects guidelines are updated every year, generally in mid-December. [Sign up for the notification service](#) provided by Grants.gov, the federal government's online application system. To receive our discipline-specific newsletters, [sign up on our website](#).

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

No. Projects do not have to be new. Existing projects can be just as competitive as new activities. Projects do not need to be big either; we welcome small and medium-sized 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 NEA or federal funds.

Can I apply for more NEA 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 NEA for additional funding to support a later

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Frequently Asked Questions

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 NEA 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.

We missed the application deadline. Can I submit a late application?

Late, ineligible, and incomplete applications will not be reviewed. Exceptions to the deadline will be considered only for registration or renewal issues or technical malfunctions that are the result of failures on the part of SAM, Grants.gov, or NEA systems, as determined by the NEA. To be considered for this exception, you must provide documentation of a SAM, Grants.gov, or NEA systems failure that prevented your submission by the deadline.

Examples of Reasons Why Late Applications Will Not Be Accepted:

- Heavy administrative responsibilities on the part of the applicant's staff, relocation of an office/other workspace, personal events, or a very busy schedule.
- Problems with computer systems or Internet access at the applicant organization, or failure to complete or renew required registrations in advance of the application due date.
- Failure to follow instructions in the guidelines or funding opportunity announcement.

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 successfully submitted to the Grants.gov system. The NEA is under no obligation to accept applications that are late for these reasons.

Reminders:

- The NEA expects that applications will be submitted on time.
- On time submission means an application is submitted error free no later than 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on the application due date.

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Frequently Asked Questions

- Permission for late application submission cannot be granted in advance.
- Applications submitted late or outside the Grants.gov system (e.g., an emailed SF-424) will not be processed, reviewed, or considered for funding.

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 Apply" instructions 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 Apply" instructions 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 Start Date for Proposed Project" for my deadline does my project have to begin?

The NEA's 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 NEA to fund only the portion of your project that will take place after the

"Earliest Start Date for Proposed Project." If you include project costs that are incurred before the "Earliest Start Date for Proposed Project" 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 NEA-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 NEA 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 "Unallowable Activities/Costs" section says that subgranting is not allowed. What is subgranting?

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Frequently Asked Questions

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.
- Emergency relief funding for housing or food.

Most organizations that apply to the NEA can't subgrant federal funds to individuals or organizations. Congress prohibits the NEA 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.

Designated local arts agencies are eligible to apply for subgranting through the Local Arts Agencies discipline of the Grants for Arts Projects category. Designated local arts agencies must meet additional eligibility requirements, provide additional documentation in the application, and follow additional reporting and compliance requirements. Designated local arts agencies are encouraged to contact [Local Arts Agencies staff](#) to discuss eligibility and application requirements when preparing a subgranting application.

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. In the example of 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.

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- 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.

Applicant Resources

Webinars

All webinars are free to attend; however, registration is required. Recordings of the webinars will be posted shortly after the presentations.

PLACEHOLDER FOR GAP WEBINAR DATE AND REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Archived Webinars

[Things to Know Before You Apply: Federal Civil Rights and Your Grants Application Webinar](#)

Office Hours

Register for informal virtual sessions with office staff to answer questions about submitting a competitive application. All times are Eastern Time.

Additional Resources

[Applying for a Federal Grant for the First Time?](#)

[Common Application Mistakes](#)

[Grants.gov Support](#)

[SAM Help](#)

[Online Tutorial: Using the Grant Application Form \(GAF\)](#)

[Sample Application Narratives](#)

[Application Checklist](#)

[Accessibility Requirements for Applicants and Grantees](#)

[Accessibility Checklist](#)

[Accessibility Questions for Recommended Applicants](#)

[Recent Grants](#)

[Responsible Conduct of Program Evaluation and Research](#)

[NEA's Historic Preservation Review Process](#)

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.

Our staff experiences a high volume of inquiries. To help ensure a timely response, we encourage you to email a discipline specialist with your inquiry and contact information. Correspondence will be returned promptly.

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

[JUMP LINKS TO EACH AREA]

Artist Communities (organizations and projects that offer artist residencies):

- Jennie Terman, 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 or 202-682-5044: Music, Opera
- Nancy Daugherty, daughern@arts.gov or 202-682-5521: Dance, Literary Arts, Musical Theater, Theater
- Lakita Edwards, 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 or 202-682-5521

Collective Impact Projects:

- Denise Brandenburg, brandenburg@arts.gov or 202-682-5044

Dance (including dance presentation):

- Kate Folsom, folsomk@arts.gov or 202-682-5764
- Juliana Mascelli, 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 or 202-682-5603

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Contacts

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

- William Mansfield, mansfieldw@arts.gov or 202-682-5678

Literary Arts:

- Jessica Flynn, flynnj@arts.gov or 202-682-5011

Local Arts Agencies (including projects by arts councils, department of cultural affairs offices, arts commissions, statewide service organizations partnering with local arts agencies, and arts projects by local government and special districts). Consult with staff prior to submission:

- Mike Orlove, orlovm@arts.gov or 202-682-5469

PLACEHOLDER FOR NEW STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Media Arts:

- Avril Claytor, 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: Toni Lindsay, lindsayt@arts.gov or 202-682-5529
- Organizations with names that begin O through Z: Tamika Shingler, shinglert@arts.gov or 202-682-5577

Music (including music presentation):

- Organizations with names that begin A through L: Court Burns, burnsc@arts.gov or 202-682-5590
- Organizations with names that begin M through Z: Anya Nykyforiak, nykyfora@arts.gov or 202-682-5487
- Jazz Projects: Katja von Schuttenbach, 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 or 202-682-5509
- Organizations with names that begin N through Z: Ian-Julian Williams, williamsi@arts.gov or 202-682-5020

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

Grants for Arts Projects FY24 Guidelines: Contacts

- Organizations with names that begin F through Z: Katryna Carter, carterk@arts.gov or 202-682-5779

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, williamsi@arts.gov or 202-682-5020

Visual Arts:

- Organizations with names that begin A through F: Tamika Shingler, shinglert@arts.gov or 202-682-5577
- Organizations with names that begin G through Z: Meg Brennan, brennanm@arts.gov or 202-682-5703

Login.gov, SAM, and Grants.gov Help

The NEA does not have access to your Login.gov, SAM, or Grants.gov accounts. If you have any questions about or need assistance with these sites, including questions regarding electronic accessibility, contact them directly:

- **Login.gov Help:** Consult the information posted in their [Help Center](#), or use their [online form](#) to submit a question.
- **SAM Federal Service Desk:** Call 1-866-606-8220 or see the information posted on the SAM website at [SAM Help](#).
- **Grants.gov Contact Center:** Call 1-800-518-4726, email 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.

Responsible Conduct of Program Evaluation and Research

As a federal agency, we are committed to the responsible conduct of research. The NEA requires applicants to comply with all applicable laws and regulations governing the conduct of research in the United States for projects supported with NEA funding.

If you are recommended for a grant and your project includes *program evaluation and/or research activities that involve directly collecting information from program participants*, the NEA may conduct a review of your project to ensure that it complies with our general guidance regarding the responsible conduct of research.

Data collection activities conducted under an award are the sole responsibility of the recipient organization. The NEA's support of the project does not constitute approval of those data collection procedures. Accordingly, data collected from respondents/participants will be conducted by the awardee or at the awardee's direction, and any NEA-funded researchers collecting data from respondents/participants may not represent to those subjects that such data are being collected on behalf of the NEA.

Many projects under the Grants for Arts Projects program include some type of informal evaluation, such as conducting anonymized surveys of audiences about their satisfaction with a program, or even basic field observations of program participants such as counting the number of audience members or tickets sold. These types of activities are often exempt from a program evaluation ethics review. Furthermore, data collection activities related to completion of the Final Descriptive Report (FDR) are exempt from a program evaluation ethics review. Examples of questions on the FDR are [available here](#).

Whether formal or informal, however, evaluation activities of arts programs occurring within schools or school districts must be done under the rules and regulations governing those institutions or jurisdictions.

On the other hand, some grantees want to conduct more formal program evaluation and/or research as part of their grant. Program evaluation may require an ethics review, especially if the activities will be completed during the grant's period of performance and will use funding from the grant or its match (if applicable). Examples include activities that require asking program participants to provide sensitive and/or confidential information about themselves, and/or that involve systematic studies to assess a program's benefits for participants.

If you are recommended for an award that may require a program evaluation ethics review, you will be notified and asked to provide additional information. This may include providing more detail on such factors as: the purpose and nature of any research or evaluation activities; when data will be collected for these purposes; the source of funding to support these activities, the steps taken to comply with applicable laws and regulations; steps taken to obtain permissions (including but not limited to the acquisition of existing data) from all appropriate entities or individuals (including but not limited to minors or other sensitive populations) for

conducting the proposed evaluation activities; and evidence of ethics training in the conduct of human subjects research.

Costs of submitting research proposals to Institutional Review Boards (IRBs) are allowable if the activity occurs during the award's period of performance; however, the grantee must provide evidence that the applicant has consulted with its preferred IRB or IRBs. If you receive an award, we may withhold funds until IRB approval is demonstrated and evidence of ethics training in the conduct of human subject's research is provided for all individuals engaged in research activities that include human subjects. Such evidence can take the form of an active, unexpired certificate of completion of a training module. The NEA does not specify or endorse any specific educational programs. The NEA will not reimburse costs for ethics training.

The [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services](#) provides additional guidance and resources for learning about the responsible conduct of research, including decision charts for assessing whether a project needs an ethics review, a set of free training modules (which can be used to provide evidence of ethics training for an NEA application), and a database of registered IRBs. The [National Science Foundation](#) and the U.S. Department of Education also have resources related to IRB and human subjects' protections.

Additional information for regarding systematic evaluation studies can be found here: <https://www.arts.gov/impact/research/resources-program-evaluation-and-performance-measurement>.

A program evaluation review and approval process may take up to several months to complete and may delay your project's start date and the NEA's ability to make a grant award or the ability to release award funds. Thorough and complete information for all project activities will expedite our process for approving the release of funds. The NEA may withhold award funds until the program evaluation review is complete.