

# Frequently Asked Questions

## What is an art grant?

- a sum of money offered to an individual or organization to fund a particular purpose – such as an arts event, an art project, or living support so the person/persons are free to concentrate on a body of work.

## Where does grant money come from?

As one of the 11 regional arts councils in Minnesota, ARAC's funding is derived from appropriations from the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the State's general fund and Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund (Legacy Amendment) as appropriated by the Minnesota State Legislature with money from the vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008.

ARAC also receives a generous grant from The McKnight Foundation.

## What is ARAC?

The ARAC office is located in Duluth and serves the seven counties of the Arrowhead region of northeastern Minnesota. Staff consists of 4.5 staff members: Executive Director, Operations/Systems Manager, Office Coordinator, Grants Manager and an Intern. The Arrowhead Regional Arts Council funds artists, organizations, and groups with an average of 150 grants awarded per year. Through our programs, ARAC is working to help the Arts touch the lives of everyone living in the Arrowhead region.

### ARAC MISSION

The Arrowhead Regional Arts Council's mission is to facilitate and encourage local arts development. This mission statement grows from a conviction that the arts improve the quality of life in the region.

### ARAC VISION

We believe that art strengthens communities, stimulates diversity of expression and communication, and commemorates communities and cultures. ARAC believes all people should have opportunities to engage in the arts.

### Accordingly, ARAC's vision for the region is that:

- The arts are integrated into the social, political, and economic fabric and identity of every community in the region.
- Artists, arts organizations, and arts activities thrive and contribute to the regional economy.
- Community members and audiences are arts literate.

## What happens after I submit my grant proposal?

After the deadline arrives, all grants are checked by the ARAC staff to be sure they qualify and everything is in order, after which the grants are released electronically to the review panel, where they review and do initial scoring. Next, we have a review panel meeting where each grant application is reviewed and discussed followed by official scoring. At the end of the meeting the computer system tallies all scoring.

The final step in the grant process is the board voting on each grant on the basis of the review panel recommendations. This entire cycle takes approximately 6-8 weeks.

## What is an Artist Statement?

- Describe your work. **(WHAT)**

- Describe the process used to create the work. **(HOW)**
- Describe why you create the work. **(WHY)**
- Describe how your work is evolving. What are you working on? **(GOALS)**

## What is an Artist Resume?

### Education/Training

- What you provide should give the reviewers information about how you learned to do what you do. Don't assume you have to list a school!

### Employment

- If you have employment history related to your creative practice, Congratulations! If not, don't worry about it.

### Volunteer Work

### Exhibitions

- If you have a long list, use your judgment given the space allowed. You can use any and all recent, or focus on 'biggies'.

### Awards

- If you have them and they are relevant, share them. *(If not, don't panic!)*

### Other Possible Headings

- Presentations/Commissions/Panels/Committees.

## Do I have to live in the Arrowhead region to receive a grant?

To be eligible to apply for any ARAC grant an artist must be 18 years old, a citizen or have permanent resident status, and be a resident of Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, or St. Louis County for at least six months, and remain a Minnesota resident for the duration of the project. Individuals enrolled in arts-related degree programs are INELIGIBLE to apply.

## How many ARAC Grants can an individual receive in one year?

In a single ARAC fiscal year (July 1-June 30), you may receive one grant from each eligible program, as long as they are each for separate projects.

## What Kinds of Things are INELIGIBLE for Funding?

- The project attempts to influence any state or federal legislation
- The request includes making improvements to the applicant's private property
- The project requires excessive entry or exhibition fees, includes tuition, fees or work toward a degree
- The project primarily involves developing school curriculum plans or teaching materials
- The project is primarily intended to support teaching related activities that will advance your teaching career
- The project promotes religious socialization
- The project was once supported by state general fund appropriations

