



Organizational Stabilization Program

Fiscal Year 2020 Deadline: May 8, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.

Organization Sustainability Grant.

\$2,000 to sustain nonprofit arts organizations during the COVID-19 crisis. Money can be used to pay artists, staff, or for needed equipment to provide art in a new setting. A portion of the grants will be set aside for teaching artists to pay for their time or needed equipment to convert their work to new virtual requirements.

Applications Open: April 15, 2020

Applications Deadline:

Friday, May 8, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.

For Projects beginning June 1, 2020

Your project must be completed, and grant funds spent by December 31, 2020.

Criteria:

- Organizational need (40%)
- Artistic Vision and Importance in the Arts Ecosystem of their Community (40%)
- Strength of plan to use the grant (20%)

Eligible organizations must be an arts producing, arts presenting, or artist service agency, dedicated primarily to the arts ("primarily" is defined as more than 75% of your organization's activities and budget must be solely dedicated to the arts); OR, a nonprofit organization run by Black,

Indigenous, and/or People of Color with substantial arts programming.

Eligibility

To be eligible, your non-profit organization must be located in one of the following Arrowhead counties: Aitkin, Cook, Carlton, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, or St. Louis.

What Kind of Organizations?

- Your organization must be an arts producing, arts presenting, or artist service agency, dedicated primarily to the arts ("primarily" is defined as more than 75% of your organization's activities and budget must be solely dedicated to the arts); OR, a nonprofit organization run by Black, Indigenous, and/or People of Color with substantial arts programming.
- The majority of your programming, services, or activities must take place in Minnesota, and must primarily serve and engage Minnesota audiences and participants.
- Your organization must have a history of at least one year of arts-related programs and services prior to applying.

This information can be made available in the following alternative formats: Braille, large print, and audio tape. We also can help your group find a language interpreter to translate these guidelines. To accommodate your request, the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council will need at least 10 working days.

Arrowhead Regional Arts Council
The Ordean Building
424 West Superior Street, Suite 104
Duluth, MN 55802
218-722-0952 or 800-569-8134
info@aracouncil.org
MN Relay Service 1-800-627-3529

- Your organization must have at least one paid or designated volunteer staff person.

If your group has not yet received non-profit, tax-exempt status, you may apply by using another nonprofit organization, accredited school, tribal government, or other unit of government as a fiscal sponsor. For information on how to use a Fiscal Sponsor, see the [Fiscal Sponsor Guidelines](#) page on our website, or contact us directly.

Coordination with Minnesota State Arts Board Support

Organizations currently receiving Operating Support from the Minnesota State Arts Board (MSAB) are not eligible to apply to this or any other ARAC program, though they may serve as an eligible group's fiscal sponsor or partner. Past ARAC grant recipients with an overdue, unaccepted, or falsified final report are ineligible to apply.

How Many ARAC Grants Can an Organization Receive in One Year?

In a single ARAC fiscal year (July 1-June 30), an organization can receive grant funding of **up to \$20,000 total** from applications reviewed in all eligible programs.

Americans with Disabilities Act

Funded applications must comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The ADA requires that organizations make access to publicly funded projects available to people with disabilities.

For more information contact: MN State Council on Disability at 800-945-8913, council.disability@state.mn.us, www.disability.state.mn.us.

What Kinds of Things are INELIGIBLE for Funding?

- The project attempts to influence any state or federal legislation
- The activity involves out-of-state travel.
- The project requires excessive entry or exhibition fees, includes tuition, fees or work toward a degree
- The project is for work in a K-12 or for-credit college or university setting.
- The project promotes religious socialization
- The project was once supported by state general fund appropriations
- The project is for capital improvement or construction
- The funds are requested for a project that serves as a benefit or fundraiser

Funding for this program comes from Minnesota's Legacy Amendment, which has a mandate that the money is to supplement activities that have traditionally been funded by other sources of money, not as a substitute for them. If you have questions about this requirement, please contact our office.

Note: ARAC has attempted to provide a thorough and clear articulation of its eligibility rules, but it reserves the right to declare an application ineligible for reasons not explicitly stated here. If you have questions about the eligibility of your project, please contact the office. Grantees are responsible for complying with all federal, state, and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances in relation to the use of these funds. Failure to comply may result in termination or forfeiture of the grant.

Tips on Applying for Grants

- If you have any questions, or if you are a first-time applicant, you are encouraged to contact ARAC staff at 218-722-0952, 800-569-8134, or grants@aracouncil.org.
- ARAC staff can review your grant application if you request that review two weeks or more before the grant deadline. Staff assistance in no way implies your grant request will be funded.
- Please review our website for our Grants FAQ.

Narrative Questions

- 1.) Please describe in general terms how the COVID-19 pandemic has cost your organization revenue and/or artistic opportunities
- 2.) What other forms of assistance from COVID-19-related loss of income has your organization applied for and/or received? Why or why not have you applied for assistance from other funders and/or the Small Business Administration (SBA)? [We ask in part to know how those forms of assistance are working or not working for various types of organizations as well as to assess how much the pandemic has affected your organization.]
- 3.) What is your organization's artistic vision?
- 4.) How does your organization act to be inclusive?
- 5.) What role do you play in the arts ecosystem of your community?
- 6.) How would you use this grant?

Optional:

- Is there anything more you would like to tell ARAC about your organization?

What happens after I apply?

1. The staff reviews all applications and materials for completeness and

eligibility. Applicants are responsible for the quality and scope of their application. Reminder: Late or incomplete applications are ineligible.

2. Eligible applications are reviewed by a panel of community and board members, who then send recommendations to the ARAC Board for final approval. All applicants will be notified of the meeting and are allowed to observe the proceedings. All board and panel meetings are open to the public.
3. Applicants will be notified via email of the Board's decision within fourteen days of the board grant review. Successful applicants will receive a contract and a final report form which must be completed and submitted within thirty days of completion of the project. Applicants are responsible for updating ARAC in writing of any major changes to their proposed project.
4. The Board's funding decisions may be appealed solely on alleged procedural errors. An applicant must request an appeal within thirty days of notification of the Board decision. A Review Process Subcommittee, consisting of at least three members appointed by the ARAC chair, will consider any appeals. The Review Process Subcommittee reports its findings and recommendations to the full ARAC Board for action.

Our website includes tip sheets about:

- **Applying for grants generally**
- **How to fill out our budget document**
- **How to use the ARAC Grant Portal**

About Us

Mission: The Arrowhead Regional Arts Council (ARAC) seeks 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.

Legislative Mandate: ARAC is one of eleven regional arts councils designated by the State of Minnesota "to make final decisions on the use of legislative appropriations for local/regional arts development." ARAC is charged to assess the needs of the seven counties in the Arrowhead Region and to plan and administer programs and services based on its assessment.

Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund Mandate: ARAC receives funding from the Legacy Amendment which was appropriated by the State Legislature with money from the vote of the people of Minnesota on November 4, 2008. The intent of this funding is to support and create access to the arts for artists, arts organizations, and communities; to support arts education for Minnesotans of all ages; and to support diverse ethnic and cultural arts traditions represented in this state.

NOTES: