



Emergency Working Artist Grant

Deadline: October 30, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.

Emergency Working Artist Grant provides \$2,000 for working artists to do a work of art in the next six months and sustain themselves during the COVID-19 crisis. The art produced does not have to be specifically about the pandemic, but rather we are looking for projects that can be done within the next six months. A portion of the grants will be set aside for **teaching artists** to pay for their time, an arts education project, or needed equipment to convert their work to new virtual requirements.

We plan to award grants of \$2,000.

Applications Open: September 18, 2020

Applications Deadline:

Friday, October 30, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.

For projects beginning late December 2020 your project must be completed, and grant funds spent by June 30, 2021.

Criteria

The criteria for this program includes artistic quality of both past and current work, the ability of the artist to complete the work, and a determination by the panel evaluating the grants that the slate of grants reflects the diversity of our region

(with diversity as defined by the state's Office of Grants Management best practices for competitive grants review). We want to ensure that the grants are divided among our geographic regions, in many artistic disciplines, and with racial diversity. This grant will be funded by our support from the Minnesota Legacy Fund.

- Artistic Vision, both of past work and of the proposal presented (75%)
- Ability to carry out the project (25%)

Artists must also assert that they are working artists and rely on their artistic income for a substantial portion of their income. **Note:** Need is not a criterion for this program.

Also, the review committee can determine how best to spread the grants to a wide selection of geographic areas, a wide range of artistic disciplines, racial diversity, and other factors included in the state of Minnesota's Office of Grants Management review criteria.

Those factors listed on the state's review criteria are:

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

- Racial and ethnic communities, including Indigenous Peoples
- LGBTQI communities
- Disability status
- Veterans
- Geographic diversity within and across Minnesota

ARAC is also interested in making sure that the grants go to a diverse range of artistic practices.

Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for this program, you must be at least eighteen years old, a U.S. 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.

Coordination with Minnesota State Arts Board Support

Projects seeking financial support from both ARAC and the Minnesota State Arts Board (MSAB) may do so only after consulting with ARAC staff.

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 activity involves out-of-state travel
- 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
- Teaching artists are eligible to apply but not those who teach for K-12 schools or for-credit colleges.
- The project promotes religious socialization
- The funds are requested for a project that serves as a benefit or fundraiser

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.

Grant Questions

Working Artist

Please explain to us why you fall into the category of working artist.

Artistic Vision

Reviewers will use your answers in this section to assess the vision of the work you have completed to date and the quality of the work you propose to do. Use the first question to tell us about your previous work. The second is to help us understand the significance of what you propose to do.

- Please tell us about your past work. Include how you place your work within your discipline or medium. What is distinguishing about your work in comparison to others in your discipline? **For teaching artists please describe your qualifications as an instructor.**
- Please tell us about the project you want to do. Include details that will allow our panel to assess its artistic vision. **For teaching artists please describe the educational vision behind your project.**

Ability

ARAC looks at a variety of factors as our panels assess your ability to carry out your project. One of those is a realistic proposed usage of the funds. We also look at timetables, past work successes, assessment strategies, and confirmation of partnerships (if applicable).

- What is your timetable for completing this project?
- How would you use this grant to complete the project? Be specific about how you would use the funds.
- Tell us about why we should have confidence that you can execute this project.

You'll be asked to attach a sample of your work.

Optional Questions:

- Is there anything else you would like to tell us about yourself or your proposal?
- Please feel free to speak to how you bring diversity to the arts of the region. [See our definition of the diversity we are looking for in the grant criteria above.]

What happens after I apply?

1. The staff reviews all applications and materials for completeness and eligibility.
2. Eligible applications are reviewed by a panel of Board and community members, and the panel's recommendations are approved by the full Board of ARAC. All applicants will be notified of the panel meeting and are allowed to observe the proceedings. All board and panel meetings are open to the public. Reviewers read grant applications in advance, so each proposal may not be discussed in detail at the meeting, but attendance is recommended so that applicants can understand how their application is received. Applicants are not allowed to address the review panel.
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. The final report 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 board subcommittee, consisting of at least three members appointed by the ARAC chair, will consider any appeals. The subcommittee reports its findings and recommendations to the full ARAC Board for action.

NOTES:

Our website includes tip sheets about:

- **Applying for grants generally**
- **How to fill out our budget document**
- **How to use our Foundant grant website**

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.