



NOTE: This information is provided as a reference for you to use as you prepare your Nebraska Arts Council (NAC) grant application. Grants to the NAC may only be submitted via its online grant system.

Program Description

Arts Learning Grants support programs with a strong educational emphasis in preK-12 schools or in community settings. Community-based projects must incorporate educational learning outcomes in the arts. School-based projects must incorporate local or national educational learning standards in the arts, and may also be aligned with standards in other disciplines. This grant category also supports arts programs for learners of all ages, including adults.

Arts educational learning standards resources:

Nebraska State Fine Arts Standards: <http://www.education.ne.gov/FineArts/>

National Arts Standards: <http://www.nationalartsstandards.org/>

Local school district standards vary. Please check directly with school districts about their arts education standards.

Highest priority for funding will be given to projects that identify, develop, and support best practices in educational and cultural collaborations addressing educational learning standards.

Eligibility

Nonprofit organizations incorporated in Nebraska that are federally tax-exempt, public agencies and sub-divisions of governmental agencies, including PreK-12 accredited schools.

- Organizations and college/university departments may apply for either one Arts Project Grant or one Arts Learning Project Grant per deadline, not both.
- Organizations receiving Basic Support Grants may apply for an Arts Learning Grant for projects in schools or for outreach initiatives in other communities.

Grant Amounts

\$2,000 - \$15,000

- Requests exceeding \$7,500 either must be school-based, including more than one school, or must involve significant outreach in multiple communities.
- The applicant must have enough cash to match all of the dollars requested.

Deadline

Spring deadline: March 15 (for projects taking place July 1-June 30)

Fall deadline: October 1 (for projects taking place January 1-June 30)

Note: Projects that span the summer may have a start date as early as June 1 and an end date as late as August 31. If deadline occurs on a weekend, the application is due the next business day.

Review Criteria

Panelists review Arts Learning Project Grants based on the following weighted criteria on a 100-point scale.

- Artistic Quality** (up to 40 points)
- Planning & Evaluation** (up to 30 points)
- Outreach & Engagement** (up to 20 points)
- Underserved Community Outreach** (up to 10 points)

Find review criteria rubric here: artscouncil.nebraska.gov → Grants → Grant Categories → Arts Learning Grants → [Review Criteria](#)

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Application Components

ARTISTIC QUALITY

- Summarize the project, including arts learning activities, and plans to extend the educational impact (teacher or staff in-service, study guides, follow-up, etc.).
- Artist Bio(s) Please provide brief artist bios of the performers/artists participating in this project.
- Administrator Bio (s) Provide brief biographical information for the person(s) administering the project finances and providing primary project coordination.
- Arts Learning Objectives - Discuss arts-related learning objectives that this project will address. If this project directly involves schools, include local, state, or national fine arts standards and how they will be addressed.
- Work Samples - Provide at least one, but not more than three, work samples.

PLANNING AND EVALUATION

Planning Process - Identify key individuals and partner organizations involved in this project, and describe their roles in the chart below. Include participating arts organizations, artists, art educators, as well as the applicant organization.

Timeline -Please upload a timeline for your project. This document should be detailed and reflect all components of planning, programming and project follow-up.

Evaluation Process - Discuss how this project will be evaluated. Include information about how student learning will be assessed.

Project Information - If this project has been funded by Nebraska Arts Council before, explain how past evaluation is being used to refine and improve this project.

Budget

- In the budget, provide a detailed itemization for the following expense and revenue categories.
- Your budget must be balanced (*Total Income must equal Total Expenses*).
- You must also demonstrate enough cash match. Donated contributions may not be used to match the NAC request.
- Total Applicant Income must be equal to or greater than the NAC request.
- Round all figures to the nearest dollar.
- You may use up to 25% of the grant budget for administrative costs specific to the project, such as personnel and overhead expenses, in the total project budget.
- Funds may be used for a variety of project related expenses such as artistic fees, related travel expenses, production and exhibition costs, marketing, evaluation, or teacher release time.
- Requests exceeding \$7,500 must be school-based and include more than one school, or must involve significant outreach in multiple communities.

Expenses	Cash Total
Artistic Fees & Services	\$
Space & Equipment Rental	\$
Travel	\$
Marketing	\$
Remaining Project Expenses	\$
Administrative	\$
Total Expenses	\$

Income	Cash Total
Admissions	\$
Tuition, workshop fees, etc.	\$
Private Support	\$
Public Support	\$
Applicant Cash	\$
Total Applicant Income	\$
NAC Request up to \$7,500 or \$15,000 (Total Expenses minus Total Applicant Income)	\$
Total Income (should equal Total Expenses)	\$

OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

- **Population Impacted** - Describe the population being impacted (students, youth, teachers, families, adults, etc.). Discuss local community characteristics, such as specific schools involved and local demographics that will help reviewers understand your community and /or region.
- **Letters of support** from partners/community members that explain the partnership and impact on the project. Provide at least one letter of support but not more than three.

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UNDERSERVED COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- Describe the extent of outreach to underserved populations. The NEA defines underserved communities as lacking access due to geographic isolation, and/or having limited access to arts programs due to economics, ethnic background, disability, or age.

Audit requirements:

If the organization requests \$50,000 or more from NAC for the current year in one application or any combination of applications, include the organization's most recently completed and reviewed financial statements. These could include an audit, an audited financial statement or financials reviewed by an outside financial expert. Please contact [Grants and Data Administrator](#) if questions.