



# ARTS PROJECT GRANTS

**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 the online grant system.

### **Program Description**

Arts Project Grants support arts programming, productions or events open to the general public. Support is limited to an arts project taking place within a defined period of time. The program or event may have multiple components and/or performances. Examples of project types include exhibitions, performances, poetry readings, commissions and/or support of new work development, arts festivals, community murals, and ethnic heritage projects.

This category may include projects supporting artists and cultural activities that broaden opportunities for underserved communities. The National Endowment for the Arts defines an underserved community as one whose residents often lack access to arts programs due to geographic isolation and/or have limited access to arts resources and programs due to economics, ethnic background, disability, or age.

### **Eligibility**

Nonprofit organizations incorporated in Nebraska that are federally tax-exempt, public agencies and sub-divisions of governmental agencies. PreK-12 accredited schools are required to apply for Arts Learning Project or Artists in Schools/Communities Grants.

#### **Notes:**

- Organizations and college/university departments may apply for either one Arts Project Grant or one Arts Learning Project Grant per deadline, not both.
- All projects primarily targeting youth must apply in the Arts Learning Project or Artists in Schools/Communities grant categories.
- Organizations receiving Basic Support Grant funding may not apply for an Arts Project Grant. They may, however, be a collaborating partner in an Arts Project Grant application made by another organization.

### **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.

### **Grant Amounts**

\$2,000 - \$7,500

**Note:** The applicant must have enough cash to match all of the dollars requested.

### **Review Criteria**

Panelists review Arts 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 30 points)

For the downloadable review criteria: [artscouncil.nebraska.gov](http://artscouncil.nebraska.gov) → GRANTS → Grant Categories → [Arts Project Grants](#)

(continued)



**Narrative Questions**

**Artistic Quality**

- Describe the project: What will happen, who will participate, where will it take place, and when?
- Discuss the artistic merit of the project, including the principal artists involved.

**Planning and Evaluation**

- Discuss the goals of the project. Discuss how the project will be evaluated based on these goals.
- If this is a project carried over from previous year(s), explain how your past evaluations and assessments are being used to refine and improve this project.
- Describe the planning process and identify the key people and collaborating organizations. Explain the role they play in planning this project.
- Discuss your agency’s plan for promoting this project.

**Outreach and Engagement**

- Describe the target audience and the current demographics of your city and/or region so the reviewer might better understand your community.
- Indicate community organizations with which you have established relationships and explain how you work with them to plan and/or implement cooperative projects.
- Discuss any educational and outreach activities.
- Describe methods you are using to actively engage new and underserved audiences. NOTE: The NEA defines underserved communities as lacking access due to geographic isolation and/or have limited access to arts programs due to economics, ethnic background, disability or age.

**\*Colleges and universities only:** Describe the extent of involvement by organizations outside of your college or university and how you will engage the community at large.

**Budget**

In the budget, you will be required to provide a detailed itemization for the following:

- Your budget must be balanced (Total Income must equal Total Expenses).
- You must also demonstrate enough cash match. Donated contributions may not be used as a match to 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.

Expenses	Cash Total
Artistic Fees & Services	\$
Space/Facilities	\$
Travel	\$
Marketing/Publicity	\$
Other Project Expenses	\$
Administrative (up to 25% of total)	\$
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$</b>

Income	Cash Total
Admissions	\$
Contracted Services (workshops, camps, etc.)	\$
Other Earned income	\$
Corporate Support	\$
Foundation Support	\$
Other Unearned Income	\$
Public Income	\$
Applicant Cash	\$
<b>NAC Request up to \$7,500</b> (Total Expenses minus Total Applicant Income)	<b>\$</b>
<b>Total Income</b> (should equal Total Expenses)	<b>\$</b>

(Continued)

**Required Materials**

These materials will be uploaded in the eGrant application.

- Project Timeline:** This document should be detailed and reflect all components of planning, programming and project follow-up.
- Artist(s) Bios:** Biographical information/company description for principal artists or arts organizations involved in the project. If artists have not been selected, describe the process and criteria for selecting them.
- Administrator Bio:** Provide brief biographical information for the person(s) administering the project finances and providing primary project coordination. Multiple bios may be included. Ensure there is enough detail to adequately address the administrators' expertise and contribution to the project.
- Letters of Support:** Letters from participating artists and/or collaborating organizations indicating their role in the project.
- Work Samples:** No more than three representative materials to assist the panel in understanding your organization and this project. Examples include photos, articles, newsletters, brochures, or catalogues.
- Audit:**  
(if applicable) 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.