



CONTACT: Rebecca Cruse, Deputy Director, SDAC

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APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR SDAC FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

PIERRE, S.D. - South Dakota artists, arts organizations and other nonprofit groups are invited to seek grant support from the South Dakota Arts Council to assist in funding arts projects and programs throughout the state. The application deadline is March 1.

South Dakota artists may apply for funding through five grant programs, including a new category for emerging artists:

- [Artist Fellowships](#) of \$5,000 are awarded to South Dakota artists of exceptional talent in any discipline or medium to recognize past artistic achievement and encourage future artistic growth.
- [Artist Project Grants](#) between \$1,000 and \$2,000 are matching grants for talented South Dakota artists in any discipline or medium to fund specific arts-related projects that not only further the artist's career but also benefit the public in some way.
- [Artist Collaboration Grants](#) encourage South Dakota artists to collaborate among themselves or with an out-of-state artist in the creation of a joint project or activity that will significantly benefit the artists and the state. A maximum of \$6,000 may be requested.
- [Traditional Arts Apprenticeship Grants](#) promote the continuation of folk and traditional arts and culture by providing up to \$4,000 in support of a master folk artist to teach qualified apprentices.
- [Artist Career Development Grants](#) of \$2,000 are designed to provide financial support to *emerging artists* committed to advancing their work and careers as artists.

South Dakota nonprofit organizations can seek funding support in the following categories this year:

- [Arts Challenge Grants](#) provide general operating support to non-profit arts organizations with annual budgets greater than \$20,000. The Arts Challenge Grants program is divided into two categories, based on the size of the organizations' budgets.
- [Statewide Services Grants](#) fund statewide cultural service organizations partnering with the South Dakota Arts Council to help meet the goals of the SDAC's long-range plan. *Applicants must be invited to apply in this category.*
- [Project Grants](#) assist non-profit organizations in the presentation of a single arts event or a series of similar and related arts activities that benefit the general public.
- [Importation of Musicians Grants](#) enable small South Dakota orchestras that don't receive funding in another grant category to improve the quality of their performance seasons by importing musicians from outside their local communities to supplement local orchestra personnel.

Applicants have until March 1 to apply for projects and activities that will occur July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017. Applications are available at www.artscouncil.sd.gov and must be submitted online through the South Dakota Arts Council's E-grant system. Hard-copy applications submitted through the mail **will not** be accepted, with the exception of Traditional Arts Apprenticeship grants.

Applicants should review the eligibility requirements, granting criteria, and the application procedure on the website before beginning the application process.

SDAC staff will be available to help assess specific needs and assist in the development of grant proposals for artists and nonprofit organizations. Contact the South Dakota Arts Council by calling 605-773-3301 or by emailing sdac@state.sd.us with any questions.