Plan for Emergency Assistance Grants

The South Dakota Arts Council (SDAC) – with support from the National Endowment for the Arts through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act – has developed a program to help secure jobs and keep nonprofit organizations in South Dakota’s statewide arts community operational in the wake of the COVID-19 crisis.

SDAC has designed a plan to distribute critical CARES funds as quickly as possible. Emergency assistance will be carried out through one-time grants to eligible nonprofit arts and culture organizations.

Emergency Assistance Grants – Organizations

Types of Funding

For eligible arts and culture organizations, the following types of funding will be available:

- **Operational Support** for current SDAC Arts Challenge grant recipients, Fiscal Years 2019-2020: Funding will be distributed based on eligible operating expenses as reported in applications for the FY19-20 cycle. Funding will be provided through an amendment to existing grant agreements. *Organizations seeking immediate support must complete a pre-application.*

- **Operational Support** for selected FY19-20 SDAC Statewide Services grant recipients: Funding will be determined at the discretion of SDAC. Funding will be provided through an amendment to existing grant agreements. *Organizations seeking immediate support must complete a pre-application.*

- **Small Organizational Support:** Local or community arts organizations not currently receiving operating support from SDAC will be eligible for competitive one-time grants based on need. *Organizations seeking immediate support must complete a pre-application.*

- **Residencies for Recovery:** Community arts or service organizations can apply for funds to pay artists to conduct long-term community residencies during which artists will use their creative skillset to help address challenges born from the COVID-19 pandemic in a productive manner. Details and guidelines will be released June 1.

Eligibility (see “Additional Information” for further eligibility requirements)

You must be able to answer YES to all the following questions:

1. Is the applicant a nonprofit arts and cultural organization (or a current SDAC Arts Challenge Grant recipient)?
2. Does the applicant have tax-exempt status under Section 501(c) (3) of the U.S. IRS Code?
3. Is the applicant organization incorporated/physically located in the state of South Dakota?

Use of Funds

*These funds are to be used for three main purposes:*

1. Salary support (full or partial) for one or more staff members
2. Fees for artists and/or contractual personnel
3. Facility costs, such as rent and utilities
**Funding Priorities**

Eligible nonprofit arts and culture organizations facing significant financial hardship related to the COVID-19 pandemic; hardships include, but are not limited to:

- Temporary or permanent closure
- Loss of, or difficulty preserving, paid staff
- Loss of venue or workspace
- Significant loss of revenue

**Emergency Assistance Grants descriptions**

**Operational Support** – Arts Challenge/selected Statewide Services

- To receive Operational Support through the Emergency Assistance Grants program, current eligible grantees must complete the online application and be prepared to answer the following:
  - Have you been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic? How?
  - What do you intend to do with CARES funds? (see list of approved categories below)
    - Salary support (full or partial) for one or more staff members
    - Fees for artists and/or contractual personnel
    - Facility costs, such as rent and utilities
  - Funding tiers – Arts Challenge grantees (ACG) based on eligible operating expenses (EOE) from FY19-20 applications; Statewide Services levels determined by SDAC
    - $12,500 – ACGs with EOE above $350,000
    - $10,000 – ACGs with EOE above $100,000
    - $7,500 – ACGs with EOE above $75,000
    - $5,000 – ACGs with EOE above $50,000
    - $2,500 – ACGs with smallest operating budgets

**Small Organizational Support** – Competitive category for smaller organizations

- To receive a Small Organizational Support grant, smaller arts organizations must complete the online application and be prepared to answer the following:
  - Have you been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic? How?
  - What do you intend to do with CARES funds? (see list of approved categories below)
    - Salary support (full or partial) for one or more staff members
    - Fees for artists and/or contractual personnel
    - Facility costs, such as rent and utilities
  - To be eligible, organizations must meet the following criteria:
    - Must directly address the arts in mission statement
    - More than 50 percent of programming must be arts-related
  - Awards of up to $2,500
  - Grant awards determined by SDAC staff and the Council, its advisory board
  - Application and scoring criteria focused on how organizations serve the community equitably. Community impact measured through inclusion, diversity, equity, and access should be directly addressed in application.
Additional Eligibility Information

**Eligible organizations include:**

- Arts Education Organizations - These organizations provide an arts education experience for students outside the K-12 classroom.
- Arts Service Organizations - These organizations provide support services for other arts and cultural organizations and/or artists locally, regionally, statewide (i.e., art councils).
- Collecting or Material Organizations - These organizations provide public access to physical collections and exhibits (i.e., museums, historical societies).
- Public Broadcasting Organizations - These organizations regularly provide significant arts and cultural programming and/or coverage of the activities and issues facing South Dakota arts and cultural organizations.
- Literary Arts Organizations - These organizations provide opportunities in creative literary expression, presentation, and participation.
- Performing Arts Organizations - These organizations produce and/or present live, discipline-based performance experiences.
- Visual Arts/ Film/Video/Digital Organizations - These organizations encourage the creation and/or presentation of visual art forms, support artists, visual, and media arts.

**Organizations NOT eligible to apply to this program include:**

- Organizations whose primary mission does not focus on areas of art or culture
- For-profit organizations
- Government agencies, universities, colleges, academic departments, or entities with significant public funding
- K-12 schools
- Religious organizations
- Auxiliary support organizations (i.e., friends of xyz)
- Organizations that receive direct CARES relief funding from the National Endowment for the Arts or Arts Midwest grant programs