

## The Program

Residencies for Recovery creates a space for the formation and activation of dialogue between artists and society. Residencies for Recovery is based on the premise that artists are creative problem-solvers able to build community bonds using methods beyond the usual capacities and expertise of government entities. It emphasizes a place for art beyond the aesthetic, as a way of engaging and addressing the challenges communities face.

Nonprofit arts and cultural organizations and certain government organizations are eligible to apply for Residencies for Recovery to employ artists to help develop and implement creative planning to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, prepare for future disasters, and build resilient arts communities.

Programming may include strategic planning, re-envisioning how the community can be served, artist projects, workshops for community members, exhibitions, and special projects that enrich civic and cultural life and use art to improve and revive the community post-pandemic.

The work is funded by the South Dakota Arts Council with federal relief funds from the National Endowment for the Arts through the CARES Act.

Applicants should begin with a conversation between representatives of partnering entities, community members, artists, and a local government agency to decide on a broad population, challenge, or goal that the community wishes to focus on. There is then an open call for artists, or artists are approached based on their knowledge of the particular issues addressed by the residency. Once an appointment is made, there is a research phase, in which the artist learns about the community and challenge, meets the planning team, and explains their own artistic practice. The artist then makes a proposal for internal planning and public-facing participatory projects to be implemented with the lead and partnering agencies.

## Overview

Residencies for Recovery funds will be spent solely on payment to artists who work intensively with community service organizations and local government entities to engage with the local community, research and produce artworks and programs that will assist with recovery, present the work publicly, and build networks within the community with a focus on preparedness and resiliency. Residencies should last 6-12 months and may include more than one artist.

## Impact

Residencies for Recovery aims to create a space for reflection during this time of uncertainty and transition; a space for the rejuvenation of ideas and progressive thought

that connect South Dakotans with their communities and the world through art; and a unique opportunity for local and visiting artists to use their creative skillset to help address organizational and community challenges born from the COVID-19 pandemic in a productive manner.

### Themes, Issues and Disciplines

This residency program is directed at community arts and cultural organizations and artists working in any discipline whose work is connected to concepts and issues of social relations, interactivity, community-building, public space, rural development, and strategic planning. While we encourage organizations to hire local community artists, proposals including visiting artists are eligible for funding.

### Project Planning

Organizations describe a challenge they would like to address when they apply, but the South Dakota Arts Council expects plans to evolve once the artist has been contracted and begins working. The organization is expected to help facilitate planning with local government, connect artists-in-residence with local youth, and organize workshops, exhibitions, and other programs that engage the public.

### Support Provided

Artists receive payment for their work and access to public and common spaces agreed upon by both parties and partnering entities. Organizations are asked to cover costs associated with public programming and events including supplies, space/equipment rental, hospitality, and insurance. Artists are asked to cover costs for their own tools, equipment, and supplies for personal work accomplished while in-residence.

### Selection Process and Criteria

The Residencies for Recovery program is open to nonprofit arts and cultural organizations who are eligible for grants from the South Dakota Arts Council. The residency grants will be awarded in addition to the amount of other SDAC funding and will not require a dollar-for-dollar match. Applicants are asked to partner with community organizations and local government entities to carry out the program. Applicants will be asked to submit their residency proposals by email indicating the community challenge they'd like to address, partners, and process for selecting artist(s)-in-residence.

### Payment to Artists

Grants of \$7,225 will be awarded to organizations, which will then use the full grant amount as payment to the artists. Hours, length of residency, and payment terms will be determined during the planning phase and reasonable proposals will be approved. As a guide, please use 150-175 hours of residency work and allow the same amount of time for the artist's personal work, in-residence, for planning purposes. If the residency includes more than one artist, time and payment should be divided accordingly.

### **Expectations of Artist in Residence**

- 6-12 month commitment, agreed upon during planning phase.
- Spend equal time dedicated to personal work and work within the program, on a weekly or monthly basis, determined during planning phase.
- Commitment to public engagement, workshops, and presentations.
- Participation in program events and special projects with the community.
- At least one public artwork, permanent or temporary, will be created with community members.

### **Expectations of Sponsoring Organization/Community**

- Organize planning, programming, and assessment with artist and team of community members including at least one representative from local government.
- Use SDAC grant funds to pay artist monthly throughout the residency duration; keep records/receipts of payments using grant funds.
- Provide workspace/studio space for artist. Home studio work is acceptable if agreed upon by artist and sponsor, but a significant portion of residency work should be carried out in a common, publicly accessible, and safely designed space.
- If artist is not local to community, provide reasonable accommodations and travel expenses.
- Commitment from local government: A local official, elected, appointed, or public employee must be part of the planning team and participate in programming and assessment through regular check-ins with artist and lead organization.

## How to Apply

Residencies for Recovery proposals will be accepted through April 1, 2021. Organizations are asked to prepare a brief proposal and submit the document by email to [sdac@state.sd.us](mailto:sdac@state.sd.us). Please keep your proposal to 2 pages or less. The proposal should address the following:

1. Describe the main challenge you would like to address as the focus of the Residencies for Recovery program.
2. Describe the process you will use to select your artist(s)-in-residence.
3. Describe the main partners for this project and the roles they will play.
4. Tell us about the public official serving on the planning team and why they are the right person for this project.