

## SDAC American Rescue Plan Grants Guidelines

### Overview

The South Dakota Arts Council (SDAC) is grateful for the opportunity to help the arts sector **recover** from the COVID-19 pandemic through federal funding from the [American Rescue Plan](#) by way of the National Endowment for the Arts as well as a generous contribution from the South Dakota Legislature. Our agency recognizes this moment as an opportunity for the sector not just to **re-establish** old ways of operating, but to **rebuild** in a way that works better for all arts organizations. The SDAC seeks to support South Dakota arts organizations and artists **Recover, Re-establish, Rebuild** from the pandemic through its **American Rescue Plan Grants** program.

The SDAC will incorporate principles of equity, access, and inclusion in its implementation of the **American Rescue Plan Grants** program. As a first step, the agency will open the doors of opportunity wide, focus on smaller organizations and local arts communities, and offer flexibility through non-matching general operating support.

Application Deadline:	Oct. 8, 2021
Anticipated Announcement of Grant Awards:	Nov. 1, 2021
Estimated Number and Type of Awards:	Approximately 100 grants
Award Amount:	<b>Level I</b> - annual operating budget above \$20,000 – Grants of \$5,000 - \$20,000 <b>Level II</b> - annual operating budget below \$20,000 – Grants of \$4,500 with additional funds awarded to organizations that specifically engage underserved populations such as those whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, ethnicity, economics, or disability.
Cost Sharing/Match Required:	No match required
Period of Performance:	From grant award date through June 30, 2022.
Eligible Applicants:	South Dakota Arts Council funds may be granted only to eligible organizational subrecipients: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organizations</li><li>• Nonprofit institutions of higher education</li><li>• Units of state or local government</li><li>• Federally recognized tribal governments</li></ul>
American Rescue Plan Resource Page:	<a href="https://artscouncil.sd.gov/grants/ARP_Grants.aspx">https://artscouncil.sd.gov/grants/ARP_Grants.aspx</a>
Technical Assistance:	The <a href="#">American Rescue Plan Resource Page</a> will be updated periodically during the application period.

The SDAC has designed a simplified application process and expedited review for the distribution of these critical emergency relief funds. Funds are available to support the organization's regular, day-to-day work throughout the period of performance. **American Rescue Plan Grants CANNOT be for new or special projects or programs.** The SDAC especially encourages applications from underserved and minority-serving institutions and organizations.

## Objectives

- Rebuild/recover in a way that works better for all arts organizations.
- Incorporate principles of equity, access, and inclusion.
- Support arts organizations to inspire community recovery. Offer flexibility through non-matching general operating support.

## Funding Priorities

The Arts Council intends to make awards that will impact a broad constituency. We encourage applications from a variety of eligible organizations including:

- Organizations that serve populations who are underserved such as those whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by ethnicity, economics, geography, or disability.
- Organizations with small and medium-sized budgets.
- Organizations from rural to urban communities.
- Organizations that may be applying for federal support through SDAC for the first time.

## Eligibility Requirements

South Dakota Arts Council funds may be granted only to eligible South Dakota-based organizational subrecipients\*:

- Nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organizations
- Nonprofit institutions of higher education
- Units of state or local government
- Federally recognized tribal governments

**\*Arts programming** - Applicants must directly address the arts in their mission statement and more than 50% of (existing/ongoing) programming must be arts-related. ***Applicants must have a history of consistent engagement in arts/cultural programming and/or services prior to the application deadline.*** According to the National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of [1965](#), “The term ‘the arts’ includes, but is not limited to, music (instrumental and vocal), dance, drama, folk art, creative writing, architecture and allied fields, painting, sculpture, photography, graphic and craft arts, industrial design, costume and fashion design, motion pictures, television, radio, film, video, tape and sound recording, the arts related to the presentation, performance, execution, and exhibition of such major art forms, all those traditional arts practiced by the diverse peoples of this country. [,] and the study and application of the arts to the human environment.”

**\*South Dakota-based** - Nonprofit arts/cultural organization physically located in the state of South Dakota or within the borders of the state’s nine federally recognized Tribal reservations.

**\*501(c)(3) organizations** - Applicant organizations must demonstrate proof of nonprofit status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Fiscal Agents for regranting to/on behalf of organizations that do not have 501(c)(3) status are not eligible.

### **\*Limitations on Multiple Applications -**

- SDAC American Rescue Plan grant applicants are not eligible to apply for American Rescue Plan grants through the South Dakota Humanities Council.
- An applicant may directly apply for National Endowment for the Arts and SDAC funding but is not permitted to include overlapping project costs (e.g., utility costs, contract payment to artists for same project, rental assistance, etc., identified in budget/use of funds section of both applications).

## Allowable Uses of funds

Funds are intended to support **day-to-day business expenses/operating costs**. **American Rescue Plan Grants must support the organization's regular, day-to-day work and CANNOT be for new or special projects or programs.** Support is limited to any or all of the following:

- Salary support, full or partial, for one or more staff positions.
- Fees/stipends for artists and/or contractual personnel to support services they provide for specific activities of organizational operations.
- Facilities costs such as rent and utilities, e.g., electric, phone, gas bills. Not to include upgrades to HVAC systems. Note: Costs related to home offices are unallowable.
- Costs associated with health and safety supplies for staff and/or visitors/audiences, e.g., personal protective equipment, cleaning supplies, hand sanitizer, etc.
- Marketing and promotion costs.

[Additional specific examples of allowable use of funds can be found on the American Rescue Plan Resource Page.]

## Application Review Criteria

A grant review panel consisting of SDAC staff members will adjudicate applications based on the artistic excellence and artistic merit of the proposal which includes the following criteria (application questions will address these same criteria):

1. **Organization Size:** Based on the organization's budget threshold, grant **funding levels** are as follows:
  - a. **Level I – annual operating budget above \$20,000 – Grants of \$5,000 - \$20,000 based on annual operating budget**
  - b. **Level II - annual operating budget below \$20,000 – Grants of \$4,500 with additional funds awarded to organizations that specifically engage underserved populations such as those whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, ethnicity, economics, or disability.**
2. **Mission and Impact:** Arts central to the mission and core work of the organization (applicant is required to include both mission and organization history in their online profile). Demonstrates how the organization supports, advances, and or benefits the cultural and/or educational sectors and/or the general public. Demonstrates potential to have a significant and immediate impact on the arts workforce.
3. **Management and Leadership:** Organization demonstrates the ability to carry out an award including the appropriateness of the budget, the resources involved, and the personnel. Understanding of how the requested funds contribute to your overall ability to ensure the organization's long-term viability.
4. **Arts and Cultural Engagement:** Organization is responsive to the needs and priorities of the audience, community, and/or constituency it serves through its programming and services. Organization's attempt to offset the pandemic's impact, including continued delivery on mission despite these challenges.
5. **Equity and Access:** Demonstrated effort to actively engage with underserved populations such as those whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, ethnicity, economics, or disability, or other factors in ways that are responsive to the needs and priorities of these communities. Demonstrates that its programs, services, information, and facilities – including online spaces – are accessible for individuals with disabilities.

## Application Questions

Applicants will be required to answer the following questions.

**1. Organization Size: (corresponds to review [criterion 1](#))**

Organization's annual operating budget: \$

Based on the organization's annual operating budgets, grant funding levels are as follows:

- **Level I - annual operating budget above \$20,000 – Grants of \$5,000 - \$20,000 based on annual operating budget**
- **Level II - annual operating budget below \$20,000 – Grants of \$4,500 with additional funds awarded to organizations that specifically engage underserved populations such as those whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, ethnicity, economics, or disability.**

**2. Mission and Impact (corresponds with review [criterion 2](#))**

Briefly describe the core work of your organization, providing examples of how it **supports** or **advances** the arts for the benefit of the cultural and/or educational sectors and/or the general public. Briefly describe how support of your organization's regular, day-to-day work has the potential to significantly and immediately impact the arts workforce.

**3. Management and Leadership (corresponds with review [criterion 3](#))**

Describe your organization's capacity to administer a grant award in compliance with relevant regulations given the challenges brought on by the coronavirus pandemic (such as suspended operations, telework, etc.). How will the requested funds contribute to your overall ability to ensure your organization's long-term viability? Identify the resources and personnel involved.

**4. Budget (corresponds with review [criterion 3](#))**

Funds are intended to support **day-to-day business expenses/operating costs**. **American Rescue Plan Grants must support the organization's regular, day-to-day work and CANNOT be for new or special projects or programs.** Using the funding levels provided, identify the projected use of **grant funds**. Within the application, use the budget to identify only the costs that will be covered by **grant funds**. Indicate the **percentage of grant funds** (using 1 – 100 ONLY) that will cover the allowable uses of funds listed and make certain your total is 100.

- Salary support, full or partial, for one or more staff positions.
- Fees/stipends for artists and/or contractual personnel to support services they provide for specific activities of organizational operations.
- Facilities costs such as rent and utilities, e.g., electric, phone, gas bills. Not to include upgrades to HVAC systems. Note: Costs related to home offices are unallowable.
- Costs associated with health and safety supplies for staff and/or visitors/audiences, e.g., personal protective equipment, cleaning supplies, hand sanitizer, etc.
- Marketing and promotion costs.

**If over 50% of funding will be used for salary support or fees/stipends for contractual personal, please include the following:** Indicate title(s) of the position(s) that would be retained or created. Provide a summary of how these positions support the organization's regular, day-to-day work.

**5. Arts and Cultural Engagement (corresponds with review [criterion 4](#))**

Describe how your organization is responsive to the needs and priorities of the audience, community, and/or constituency you serve through the core work of your organization. Explain how your organization has attempted to offset the pandemic's impact. Describe how you have continued to deliver on your arts mission during the pandemic despite these challenges.

**6. Equity and Access (corresponds with review [criterion 5](#))**

Is your organization actively working to engage (either through audience or leadership) with underserved populations such as American Indian artists and the people in the communities within the borders of the nine Indian reservations in

South Dakota; people of color; people in the LGBTQIA+ community; refugee and immigrant populations; people with disabilities; non-English speaking people; low-income individuals and families; rural communities that are geographically isolated; K-12 students without access to arts education; and any other populations whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, ethnicity, economics, disability, or other factors?

Briefly describe how your organization is actively working to engage with underserved populations, identify the populations, and explain how this work is responsive to the needs and priorities of these communities.

Your organization's programs, services, information, and facilities – including online spaces – are accessible for individuals with disabilities, including but not limited to individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind, have difficulty speaking, have a physical disability, visual disability, developmental disability, learning disability, mental illness, or chronic illness.