

Program Description

The South Dakota Arts Council supports artists at all career stages. Artist Grants help with creating art, developing ideas, getting space and supplies, and promoting your work.

Awards are based on an individual's demonstrated artistic excellence and potential.

ONLY ONE application per cycle. Individuals can apply for:

- Artist Career Development: supports artists committed to advancing their work and career.
- Artist Fellowship: recognizes past artistic achievement and encourages future growth.
- Artist Collaboration: supports artists working together, in the same or different disciplines.
- Traditional Arts Apprenticeship: supports master artists committed to teaching traditional arts to apprentices.

ELIGIBILITY RESTRICTIONS:

- To apply, **artists or residents** must live in South Dakota for at least one year before the grant starts (July 1, 2025) and stay in state until the grant ends on June 30, 2026, or until their project is done and reviewed.
- **Fellowship applicants** must live in South Dakota for at least two years before applying (March 1, 2025).
- **Collaborating artists** do not have to live in South Dakota, but the applicant must be a South Dakota artist.
- **Traditional Arts Apprenticeship** grants have specific guidelines [[LINKED HERE](#)].

This table tells how long grantees must wait before they can apply for an artist grant again.

Recently received this grant	Can apply for ...	Can't apply for ...
Artist Career Development	Any artist grant except Artist Career Development	Can't apply for an Artist Career Development grant for three years.
Artist Fellowship	Can't apply for any artist grant for three years.	Can't apply for any artist grant for three years.
Collaborating Artists	Can't apply for any artist grant for three years.	Can't apply for any artist grant for three years.
Artist Project	Any artist grant	Can't apply to continue work on a project that received funding the previous grant year.
Traditional Arts Apprenticeship (Master artist and apprentice)	Any artist grant except Traditional Arts Apprenticeship	Master artist and apprentice must wait one grant cycle before reapplying for this grant.

INELIGIBLE (CAN'T APPLY):

- Artists and organizations **can't** seek funding for the same project.
- Artists **can't apply** in more than one grant category.
- Students **can't apply**, including high school, undergraduate, graduate, or professional certificate/degree.
- Members of the SDAC staff or current board of directors **can't apply** as an artist/resident.

Eligibility

Eligibility is limited to:

- Artists or residents must live in South Dakota for at least one year before the grant starts (July 1, 2025) and stay in state until the grant ends on June 30, 2026, or until their project is done and reviewed.
- Fellowship applicants must live in South Dakota for at least two years before applying (March 1, 2025).
- Collaborating artists do not have to live in South Dakota, but the applicant must a South Dakota artist.

Confirm your eligibility:

I am a South Dakota resident and meet with the eligibility requirements to apply.

My work (all planned project events/activities and expenditures) will take place during the grant year, July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026.

Applicants that do not meet the eligibility requirements are not reviewed.

Grant funding will support (Choose ONE):

Apprenticeship
Arts Instruction
Award/Fellowship
Concert/Performance/Reading
Creation of a Work of Art
Curriculum Development/Implementation
Distribution of Art
Equipment Purchase/Lease/Rental
Exhibition
Fair/Festival

Marketing
Professional Development/Training
Publication
Recording/Filming/Taping
Research/Planning
School/Other Residency
Seminar/Conference/Technical Assistance
Website/Internet Development
Other
(If you pick other, specify your project, 15 characters.)

ARTIST INFORMATION

(50% of total score)

When evaluating artistic merit, panelists want to see clear answers, addressing all the questions, and materials that highlight your career and connect to your application.

(Upload a single document. 1 page maximum.)

ARTIST STATEMENT

How do you self-identify as an artist?

What do you create?

Why do you do this work?

What are the key ideas, issues, struggles, and goals within your work or studio practice?

**Collaborating Artists, upload a single document, including a statement from each artist. 2 pages maximum.*

(Upload a single document. 1 page maximum.)

NARRATIVE

What do you hope to achieve?

How will this grant contribute to your growth and advance your career?

Why is funding important right now?

How will this work impact art in South Dakota?

**Collaborating Artists, describe your plan for the collaboration. Explain what will happen and who will participate.*

Upload a single document. 2 pages maximum.

BUDGET

Use the budget table and instructions [\[linked here\]](#) to complete. Do not include ANY items on this list [\[linked here\]](#).

Projected income must **AT LEAST EQUAL** projected eligible cash expenses in all cases.

You can request:

- Artist Career Development – Request \$2,000
- Artist Fellowship – Request \$5,000
- Artist Collaboration – Request \$6,000

Include your grant request on line C. State arts agency income in the *Sources of Project Cash Income* section.

1.	Fiscal Year	Previous	Current	Next
	Operating Income	0	0	0
	Operating Expense	0	0	0
Project Expenses				
2.	Total artistic fees for this project		\$	
3.	Total expenses for this project		\$	
Project In-kind				
4.	Total In-kind for this project		\$	
5. Sources of Project Cash Income				
	A. Earned Income		\$	
	B. Contributed Income		\$	
	C. State Arts Agency Income		\$	
	D. Local Government Income		\$	
	E. Other income (include applicant cash)		\$	
	F. Total project cash income		\$	
6. Sources of Project Cash Expenses - Actual Cash Expenses				
	A. Artistic Fees		\$	
	B. Production Costs (personnel, equip.)		\$	
	C. Space rental		\$	
	D. Marketing (publicity, etc.)		\$	
	E. Other expense		\$	
	F. Total project cash expense		\$	

ABOUT YOUR WORK

(50% of total score based on both record of work and your work)

When evaluating your work, panelists evaluate your artistic ability, skill, and talent.

(Upload a single document. 2 pages maximum.)

RECORD OF WORK

What are your most notable artistic accomplishments?

What are your relevant educational/artistic background, work history/experience, and skills?

**Collaborating Artists, upload a single document, including a record of work from each artist. 4 pages maximum.*

All applicants MUST provide materials showcasing your previous work. ***If your application does not contain materials, it will not be reviewed.*** DO NOT EXCEED 20 materials, samples, examples, documents, links, files, etc.

Applicants have two paths for providing materials:

1. **SHARE MY WORK:** Include direct links to materials; be sure there is easy access, i.e., you do not need a password. Upload materials (PDF documents only).
2. **PORTFOLIO OF MY WORK:** Upload materials using the MEDIA LIBRARY. Create a portfolio attaching MEDIA LIBRARY files to your application.

Keep in mind that panelists will spend an average of 15 minutes reading, watching, and reviewing materials, so selecting appropriate material is important. Preferred format and file types are website links, PDFs, and JPEGs. Links to hosted media are preferred to large media file uploads.

We suggest you include:

- Recent work, created within the last 3 – 5 years. Older samples may be submitted with an explanation.
- Work samples in the order you want them to be viewed. Start with your strongest materials.
- Examples of work you have done in the past that show you can do the type of work you plan to do.
- Examples of the type of work you plan to do.
- Examples of you working alongside the community or audience you will serve.
- Press: articles written about you or your work or articles where you are featured or mentioned.
- Reviews: assessments of your work/the work of the organization.
- Audience reactions: social media posts about your work, in-person feedback, emails, letters, etc.
- Quotes, testimonials, feedback: statements you request, e.g., comments on an audience survey.
- Process photos and videos: footage/photos taken throughout your process or during an exhibit, performance, or activity to show the context of your work.

SHARE MY WORK

All applicants MUST provide materials showcasing your previous work. ***If your application does not contain materials, it will not be reviewed.*** DO NOT EXCEED 20 materials, samples, examples, documents, links, files, etc.

Here, applicants can include direct links to materials and/or upload materials (PDF documents only).

Keep in mind that panelists will spend an average of 15 minutes reading, watching, and reviewing materials, so selecting appropriate material is important. Preferred format and file types are website links, PDFs, and JPEGs. Links to hosted media are preferred to large media file uploads.

You do not have to provide materials here; you can instead create a portfolio attaching materials you select from your MEDIA LIBRARY in the next section.

(Must be typed in the space provided. 1500 characters maximum.)

Direct Links: Include direct links; be sure content does not require a password or present other barriers to easy access. Provide a short description of the media followed by the associated hyperlink. Be sure to include <https://> in the links provided.

(Upload documents. PDF ONLY.)

PORTFOLIO OF MY WORK

All applicants MUST provide materials showcasing your previous work. ***If your application does not contain materials, it will not be reviewed.*** DO NOT EXCEED 20 materials, samples, examples, documents, links, files, etc.


Here, applicants can create a portfolio attaching materials you select from your MEDIA LIBRARY. The MEDIA LIBRARY is not your application. Applicants must attach work samples from the MEDIA LIBRARY to their application. Use this SECTION to attach work samples from your MEDIA LIBRARY. Learn more about that page and how to use the MEDIA LIBRARY by [watching this video](#).

Keep in mind that panelists will spend an average of 15 minutes reading, watching, and reviewing materials, so selecting appropriate material is important. Preferred format and file types are website links, PDFs, and JPEGs. Links to hosted media are preferred to large media file uploads.


You do not have to provide materials here; you can instead include direct links to materials and/or upload materials in the previous section.

 Attach Image

- You may attach up to 10 image file(s).
- You have attached 0 image file(s).
- Image file size must not exceed 4.00 MB.

 Attach Audio

- You may attach up to 10 audio file(s).
- You have attached 0 audio file(s).
- Audio file size must not exceed 10.00 MB.

 Attach Video

- You may attach up to 2 video file(s).
- You have attached 0 video file(s).
- Video file size must not exceed 150.00 MB.

 Attach Document

- You may attach up to 10 document file(s).
- You have attached 0 document file(s).
- Document file size must not exceed 4.00 MB.

APPLICANT ASSURANCES

Before you submit your application, review the entire application, and then print/save a copy of the PDF for your records. Once you submit your application, you will not be able to make changes.

DRAFT REVIEW DEADLINE: February 10, 2025, at 11:59 pm Central. Staff will review your application prior to submission to check for mistakes or omissions that might cause ineligibility and provide feedback ahead of the application deadline. Staff will not provide feedback on wording, spelling, or grammar.

Certify that that you have read, understand, and agree to these statements.

This application is true and complete. I understand that any funds granted are to be used for the purposes set forth herein.

COPY ONLY