

South Dakota Arts Council grants support the making and sharing of art and the development of the arts community throughout the state. Individuals and nonprofit organizations can apply for grant funding to support arts programs and activities.

Eligibility is limited to:

- South Dakota artists and residents
- South Dakota-based (tax-exempt, nonprofit) organizations
- Units of state or local government
- Federally recognized tribal governments

Grant awards in this cycle support work between **July 1, 2025, and June 30, 2026.**

Due Date and Time: Saturday, March 1, 2025, by 11:59 p.m. Central

Contact **Kate Vandel** (Grants Specialist) for assistance at **605.773.5929** or kathryn.vandel@state.sd.us.

Introduction

The **South Dakota Arts Council**, an office of the **South Dakota Department of Tourism**, provides grants throughout the state with funding from the [National Endowment for the Arts](#) and the **State of South Dakota**. The South Dakota Department of Tourism is comprised of [Travel South Dakota](#) and the South Dakota Arts Council. The department is led by Secretary James D. Hagen.

The South Dakota Arts Council is committed to serving all South Dakotans through the arts. **We believe:**

Mission.

Advance South Dakota's artistic and cultural vitality through funding, connection, and resources.

Vision.

An expansive arts community where people connect, build strong relationships, share, and develop ideas.

Future.

To better understand our intention, we invite you to review our complete strategic plan [\[linked here\]](#).

Are you eligible?

ELIGIBILITY RESTRICTIONS

- **All applicants** must reside or be physically located, with your legal address shown on your W-9 form/income tax return, in South Dakota or within the boundaries of the state's nine Tribal reservations.
- To apply, **artists or residents** must live in South Dakota for at least one year before July 1, 2025, and stay in the 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).
- Organizations must be **registered and in good standing with the South Dakota Secretary of State's Office**.
[<https://sosenterprise.sd.gov/BusinessServices/Business/FilingSearch.aspx>]
- Organizations must be **tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3)** of the Internal Revenue Code.
[<https://apps.irs.gov/app/eos/>]

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES:

We fund activities in the following arts disciplines: dance, music, opera/music theater, theater, visual arts, design arts, crafts, photography, media arts, literature, interdisciplinary arts, folk arts, humanities, multidisciplinary arts, or any combination of the above.

WE DON'T GRANT TO:

- fiscal agents for regranting to or on behalf of organizations that do not have nonprofit, tax-exempt status.
- religious organizations engaged in arts projects/activities that are religious, occur during a religious service, and/or benefit a limited audience/community.
- anyone pursuing a high school diploma, or a graduate, undergraduate, or professional degree.
- individuals and organizations seeking funds for the same project.

WE DON'T GRANT FOR:

- activities, events, programs, or projects that fall outside of the grant period (**July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026**).
- costs of goods for resale, including concessions, promotional merchandise, or any items purchased for sale, even if related to your programming.
- any recognition/award to an individual (including any level of prize money), awards to individuals or organizations to honor or recognize achievement.
- meals, social activities, receptions, parties, galas, etc., and **any associated costs** including food, catering, alcoholic beverages, as well as costs for the planning, staffing, and supplies, for such activities.
- fundraising activities or events, and any associated salaries or other costs for any fundraising activities, including those for donors, or that benefit the organization.
- activities/projects that exclude the public, including performances and workshops which are only available through a subscription, season tickets, or membership.
- activities that occur during a religious service.
- any activities when the primary purpose is to generate academic credit or towards academic or professional degrees, including academic research, formal study, tuition assistance, and scholarships.
- emergency relief funds for housing, food, etc. to individuals/artists.
- construction (new or permanent structural change), renovation, or restoration.
- endowment funds

Grant Categories

Project Grants: help nonprofit organizations and artists hold programs and activities that make public engagement with, and access to, the arts possible.

Artist Career Development: support artists committed to advancing their work and career.

Artist Fellowship: recognize past artistic achievement and encourage future growth.

Artist Collaboration: support artists working together, in the same or different disciplines.

Traditional Arts Apprenticeship: support master artists committed to teaching the traditional arts to apprentices. These grants have specific guidelines [[LINKED HERE](#)].

Support

WEBINAR

SDAC staff will hold webinars in **January**, hosted by Arts South Dakota; schedule and registration information online [[linked here](#)].

Q&A SESSIONS

SDAC staff host weekly chats online; schedule and registration information online [[linked here](#)].

GRANT APPLICANT PORTAL

The Grant Applicant Portal includes sample applications, narrative templates, and planning materials. [[linked here](#)].

ASK STAFF

SDAC staff are available Monday through Friday between 8 am and 5 pm Central Time.

Kate Vandel, Arts Grant Specialist: 605-773-5925, Email Kathryn.Vandel@state.sd.us

Annie Hatch, Traditional Arts Specialist: 605-608-0490, Email SDTraditionalArts@outlook.com

Patrick Baker, Director: Email Patrick.Baker@state.sd.us

Rebecca Cruse, Deputy Director: Email Rebecca.Cruse@state.sd.us

Sarah Carlson, Arts Program Specialist: Email Sarah.Carlson@state.sd.us

Grant Review

SDAC staff review applications and will contact you if we have questions.

Grant panelists evaluate and score applications. Panelists are in-state and out-of-state professionals, with arts knowledge and experience. Panels are chaired by members of the Arts Council's board and supported by staff. Panelists typically serve for two years, consecutively. The SDAC reports the names of panelists and grantees in our Annual Report to the Legislature.

Staff submit panel recommendations to the Arts Council board to make final funding decisions.

After notification, you can set up a feedback call with staff.

The SDAC is looking for panelists. If you are interested, fill out the nomination form online [[linked here](#)] or contact staff.

Grant Guidelines

Grants are divided into two categories, project grants and artist grants. Follow these guidelines for eligibility and review criteria.

PROJECT GRANTS

Project Grants: help nonprofit organizations and artists hold programs and activities that make public engagement with, and access to, the arts possible.

Artists and organizations can apply to support artistic projects, including programming, presentations, events, or artistic development that results in sharing your learning or activity with the **public**.

ONLY ONE application per cycle. Applicants can request:

- Organizations – Request up to \$5,000 or 50% of projected expenses, whichever is less.
- Artists – Request up to \$2,000 or 50% of projected expenses, whichever is less.

Required 1:1 cash match:

Project grants may cover up to half of the total eligible cash expenses. Projected income must at least EQUAL projected eligible cash expenses in all cases.

Eligibility is limited to:

- South Dakota artists and residents*
- South Dakota-based** (tax-exempt, non-profit) organizations***
- Units of state or local government
- Federally recognized tribal governments

*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.

****South Dakota-based:** Organizations **must be** physically located in the state of South Dakota or within the borders of the state's nine federally recognized Tribal reservations and be registered and in good standing with the South Dakota Secretary of State's Office. [<https://sosenterprise.sd.gov/BusinessServices/Business/FilingSearch.aspx>]

*****Nonprofit, tax exempt:** Organizations **must have** tax-exempt status under section **501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code**. [<https://apps.irs.gov/app/eos/>]

FUNDING & ELIGIBILITY RESTRICTIONS

- All programming supported with SDAC grant funding must take place in accessible spaces.
- Artists and organizations can't seek funding for the same project.
- Artists can't apply in more than one grant category.
- Artists can't apply to continue work on a project that received funding the previous grant year.
- Organizations can't seek funding to match an existing/upcoming SDAC grant (e.g., Touring Arts and/or Artists in Schools and Communities) nor any other grants from federal sources.
- Current Arts Challenge and/or Statewide Services Grant recipients can't apply.
- 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.

ELIGIBLE PROJECT COSTS:

- 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.
- Supplies and equipment.
- Facilities costs such as rent and utilities, e.g., electric, phone, gas bills.
- Marketing and promotion costs.
- Related travel.

ANNUAL FISCAL NOTICES

Fiscal Sponsor Notice: Fiscal Agents for regranting to organizations without 501(c)(3) status are not eligible.

Indirect Costs Notice: Applicants can recover Indirect Costs with a federally negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement. Identify these costs under "Overhead and Administrative Costs" and calculate them accurately. Applicants cannot use "Overhead and Administrative Costs" as part of their match. Applicants should calculate actual indirect costs associated with the proposal and not simply use a percentage of their project budget. Be sure that you are not "double dipping," costs must be consistently charged as either indirect or direct costs, not charged as both. Grantees must be able to easily document the specific expenses that fit within this line item on their final report.

Food Costs Notice: Food (meals) is ONLY ALLOWABLE when related to travel. Food, snacks, meals, and any associated costs, as well as costs for the planning, staffing, and supplies for such activities, are NOT eligible expenses. DO NOT include any costs associated with food, snacks, or meals for classes, meetings, receptions, etc.

REVIEW CRITERIA

Awards are based on a project's demonstrated artistic excellence and its ability to provide arts opportunities and programming that foster participation in local communities.

Artists and organizations can apply to support artistic projects, including programming, presentations, events, or artistic development that results in sharing your learning or activity with the **public**.

ARTISTIC MERIT

Artistic merit is evaluated based on:

- 1. IMPACT** (10 points possible)
Panelists consider the strength of your project when evaluating impact. Panelists assess what you gain from doing this work, your motivation for doing this work, and how you will measure the success of your project.
- 2. ENGAGEMENT** (10 points possible)
Panelists consider your connection to who you are serving when evaluating your project's engagement. Panelists assess what your audience and participants will gain from this project and how you will invite them to participate.
- 3. FEASIBILITY** (10 points possible)
Panelists consider your ability to carry out the project when evaluating feasibility. Panelists assess your financial readiness (including your budget and requested amount as it relates to the project) and personnel (including volunteers/anyone involved in doing the work).
- 4. ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE** (10 points possible)
When evaluating your work, panelists consider your artistic ability, skill, and talent as it relates to the project. Panelists want to see proof that your project is an opportunity for the public to engage with and access quality arts programs, activities, and experiences. Panelists assess the artists involved in the project (including volunteers/anyone involved in doing the work) and review your materials.

ARTIST GRANTS

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.

ONLY ONE application per cycle. Individuals can apply for:

- Artist Career Development: support artists committed to advancing their work and career.
- Artist Fellowship: recognize past artistic achievement and encourage future growth.
- Artist Collaboration: support artists working together, in the same or different disciplines.
- Traditional Arts Apprenticeship: support master artists committed to teaching the 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.

Career Development/Fellowship/Collaboration

Artist grants support anyone (see Eligibility Restrictions) committed to advancing their artistic work and career.

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.

REVIEW CRITERIA

Grant review panels evaluate applications and assign points based on the **artistic merit** and **artistic excellence** of each proposal.

ARTISTIC MERIT (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. (50% of total score.)

ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE (50% of total score)

Panelists evaluate your artistic ability, skill, and talent to determine artistic excellence.

Budget Instructions

Use the table and instructions to complete your budget.

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		\$	

- Fiscal Year:** Enter **ZEROS (0)** for all fields in this section. WE DO NOT need this information.
- Total artistic fees for this project:** Include salaries, wages, fees for artists, instructors, artistic directors, etc., working with this project.
- Total expenses for this project:** Equals F. Total project cash expense from section 6. Project Cash Expenses.
- Total In-kind for this project:** Include the fair market value of services, labor, rental space, equipment, or supplies provided at no cost. The estimated value of volunteer service in South Dakota is \$30.90/hour. Do not value volunteer service at less than \$11.50/hour. ***In-kind expenses do not count as cash match.***
- Sources of Project Cash Income**, general definitions:

A. Earned Income:

- Admissions: Revenue from the sale of tickets, subscriptions, memberships, participation/classroom fees, registration, tuition, etc.
- Contracted Services: Income earned through sale of goods or services, advertising space, catalog sales, gift shop income, concessions, parking, and similar sources.
- Other Revenue: Income from other sources (not listed elsewhere), including non-operating revenue like interest, proceeds from the sale of an asset, a windfall from investments, and similar sources.

B. Contributed Income: Cash support from businesses, corporations, foundations, individuals, fund-raisers, etc.

C. SDAC Income: Grant amount you're requesting.

D. Government Support: Cash support from City/County, Regional/State, and Federal (Not including SDAC funding) government, including grants or appropriations.

E. Other Income (Include applicant cash): Cash support budgeted for this work, i.e., money from "your own pocket."

6. **Sources of Project Cash Expenses**, general definitions:

A. Artistic Fees, include salaries, wages, fees for:

- Administrative - Salaries, wages, and benefits for staff, business managers, clerical, and support staff (i.e., maintenance and box office).
- Artistic - Salaries, wages, fees for artists, instructors, artistic directors, etc., working with this project.
- Outside Artistic Fees and Services - Payments for services by artists who are not employees.
- Other Outside Fees and Services - Payments for non-artistic services such as legal, financial, etc.

B. Production Costs, include cash expenses for: program expenses such as scripts/scores, sets, royalties, equipment rental, shipping and hauling, art and workshop supplies.

NOTE: The costs of goods for resale, including concessions, promotional merchandise, or any items purchased for sale **ARE NOT eligible expenses**, even if related to your programming. Do not include any expenses for items on the list of unallowable expenses, page 3.

NOTE: Food, snacks, meals, and any associated costs **ARE NOT eligible expenses**, even if related to your programming. Costs for the planning, staffing, and supplies for such activities are NOT eligible expenses. DO NOT include any costs associated with food, snacks, or meals for classes, meetings, receptions, etc.

C. Space Rental, include cash expenses for:

- Space Rental - Rental of office, theater, gallery, and other such spaces.
- Utilities - Electric, phone, gas bills, etc.
- Other facilities or office expenses.

D. Marketing (publicity, etc.), include cash expenses for: marketing/publicity/promotion including costs of newspaper, radio, TV and/or other media advertising, printing, and mailing of brochures, flyers, etc.

E. Other, include cash expenses for travel: including mileage, lodging, meals, other transportation, and related items.
Suggested rates based on the State's travel policy:

- Mileage: \$0.67/mile
- Lodging: \$110/night
- Meals: Up to a maximum of \$40 a day

NOTE: Food (meals) is ONLY ALLOWABLE when related to travel. Food, snacks, meals, and any associated costs, as well as costs for the planning, staffing, and supplies for such activities, are NOT eligible expenses. DO NOT include any costs associated with food, snacks, or meals for classes, meetings, receptions, etc.