



## Southwest Minnesota Arts Council

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*Serving Big Stone, Chippewa, Cottonwood, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, McLeod, Meeker, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Renville, Rock, Swift & Yellow Medicine counties*

## ART LEGACY PROJECT PLANNING GRANTS

### Fiscal Year 2021 Guidelines

Effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021

*The grants described in this guide are dependent on appropriations to the SW MN Arts Council from the State of Minnesota's arts & cultural heritage fund.*

**Deadlines:** submitted online by 4:30 pm

This program is a first-come, first-served monthly deadline until all funds have been expended. Application deadlines are the **1<sup>st</sup> of the month, October 2020 – November 2020 and January 2021 - April 2021.**

**Earliest project start date:** 1st day of the following month after the deadline

The start date for a SMAC grant is defined as the point at which the project is set in motion (e.g. auditions, rehearsals, advertising and public notification, payment of fees, ordering and/or paying for supplies or printed material, etc.). **No funds can be expended prior to the project start date.** Funds spent before the project start date, such as a deposit on a contract, cannot be included in the grant project budget. **No advertising by the applicant organization can take place before the start date,** whether or not it will be paid for through the grant. However, posting basic information such as event dates is allowed. **Projects must be concluded no later than June 30, 2022.**

### Program Intent & Eligibility

The intent of this grant program is to provide funding for organizations to plan for a specific large-scale project or activity that will create or advance a strong arts legacy in Minnesota. The activities funded through this grant help applicants prepare to apply for an Art Legacy Project grant for their final project.

Applicant organizations must be located within the eighteen counties of the SMAC service region (*Big Stone, Chippewa, Cottonwood, Jackson, Kandiyohi, Lac qui Parle, Lincoln, Lyon, McLeod, Meeker, Murray, Nobles, Pipestone, Redwood, Renville, Rock, Swift, and Yellow Medicine counties*) or on tribal lands within our service area. We acknowledge that this region occupies the traditional, ancestral, and contemporary lands of the Dakota people, who have stewarded these lands throughout the generations.

**Art Legacy Project Planning grants** may include, but are not limited to the following activities for a specific legacy project:

- Requests for proposals from artists
- Gathering community input
- Determining available resources and costs
- Researching the feasibility or sustainability of the future project

See restrictions in SMAC's general grant guidelines.

**Before beginning an application, you are strongly encouraged to contact SW MN Arts Council to determine if this grant program is appropriate for your project.**

## **Grant Amounts**

**Art Legacy Project Planning** grants are available for up to **\$2,500**. In fiscal year 2021, no cash match is required.

**If you have received a SMAC Operating Support grant**, you may not include pro-rated general operating costs in the budget for any other SMAC grant program (such as this ART LEGACY PROJECT PLANNING grant program) that occurs during the same time period as the Operating Support Grant.

## **Fiscal Sponsors**

The Art Legacy Project Planning grant program is open to nonprofit organizations as described in Section 501 (c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code with Articles of Incorporation on file with the State of Minnesota or official units of city, county, or state government of the State of Minnesota. Any formal organization not meeting this requirement may apply through a fiscal sponsor.

A fiscal sponsor is an organization meeting the requirements listed above. A signed agreement spelling out the relationship between the applicant and the fiscal sponsor must be submitted with the application. A fiscal sponsor, if used, must sign the application and, if funded, sign the Grant Contract. The fiscal sponsor is legally responsible for the completion of the project and for the proper management of grant funds.

## **Review Criteria**

The grant review panel will score your application based on:

- the impact of the planning on the final project (33%)
- the applicant's efforts toward including the underserved in planning (33%)
- the ability of the organization to accomplish the planning project (33%)

Applicants will also be awarded one additional percentage point for each of the following criteria they meet:

- First time SMAC applicant
- Applicant organization led by or primarily serving BIPOC or LGBTQIA2S+ communities or people with disabilities
- Applicant from a county that has received three or fewer SMAC grants in the last fiscal year

The panel's evaluation scoresheet is available on the SMAC website. Read more about the grant review process in the SMAC's general grant guidelines.