



Southwest Minnesota Arts Council

www.swmnarts.org • 507-537-1471 • info@swmnarts.org

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

QUICK SUPPORT FOR ARTISTS

Fiscal Year 2022 Guidelines

Effective July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022

The grants described in this guide are dependent on appropriations to the SW MN Arts Council from the State of Minnesota's arts and cultural heritage fund. Grants to individuals are taxable income; for further information, contact your tax preparer.

Deadlines: submitted online by 4:30 pm

This program has monthly application deadlines while funds remain.

- Deadlines are the **1st of the month, August 2021 through April 2022.**
- 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 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, 2023.**

Program Intent:

The intent of the Quick Support for Artists grant program is to provide artists with more quickly accessible funds for activities such as creating or sharing work, attending classes, and small artist-led community projects. All arts disciplines are accepted, and artists at any stage of their careers may apply.

Eligible project types include:

- **Artist-focused projects**
 - *Creating new work:* supplies or equipment, space, research, artist's time, day care costs, etc.
 - *Sharing your work:* framing, recording, editing, portfolio production, website, etc.
 - *Artistic or professional development:* one-on-one study with a mentor or attending a workshop, class, or conference
- **Community-focused projects**
 - Connect with your community to help them experience art in a new way or reach out to a segment of the population that is not normally exposed to your art form

Eligibility: The Quick Support for Artists grant program is open to permanent residents 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.

Applicants must be a region resident for at least six months prior to submitting an application and remain a resident throughout the contract period. Applicants may be asked to provide proof of residency, which must be demonstrated by

the following, each showing an eligible address: 1) A valid MN state ID/driver's license or other federally recognized documentation and 2) Bills for utilities or mortgage/rent.

Applicants must be at least 18 years old by the time of signing their grant contract. Applicants must also have no outstanding final reports due to SMAC. An artist may not apply for a second project that runs concurrently with another SMAC-funded individual artist grant project.

Artist grant panelists who will be reviewing grants in a particular round cannot apply in that round. Immediate family members (children, parents, or spouse/partner) of SMAC Board members or SMAC staff are ineligible to apply for this grant program. SMAC Board Members are not eligible to apply for this program during their tenure on the Board or until two years following their resignation from the Board.

In addition to the restrictions listed in SMAC's general grant guidelines, the following are NOT eligible for Individual Artist grants:

- Equipment requests not specifically tied to the proposed project.
- Travel or activities outside of the state of Minnesota.
- Credits or materials necessary to fulfill degree requirements for students, including tuition, class projects, and school-related exhibits, performances, or shows.
- Projects that primarily involve developing curriculum plans, teaching materials, or other related activities intended to advance your professional teaching career; or applications that are primarily educational projects within a school system.
- Applications that support strictly commercial activities; projects intended for mass-market distribution or those that have profit as the primary motive.

Grant Amount: Quick Support for Artist Grants are available for up to **\$1,000**, no match required. **Grant funding counts toward your taxable income.**

Review Criteria

The grant review panel will score your application based on:

- Impact of the project (62%)
- Ability to accomplish the project (38%)

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

- First time SMAC applicant
- Applicant from an underserved community (BIPOC, LGBTQIA2+, 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.

*Contact the SW MN Arts Council office with questions, for a draft review,
or if you need accommodations while applying for this grant:
507-537-1471 or 800-622-5284, info@swmnarts.org*