

PART 3: Guidelines & Scoring Criteria:

Quick Support for Artists

PROGRAM GUIDELINES

Quick Support for Artists grants are available for up to **\$1,000**.

No matching funds are required for this grant, which means that artists do not need use any of their own funds for their project, unless their costs are greater than the amount they can request.

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.

Quick Support for Artists grants are open to:

- Adults, age 18+ by the time of signing a grant contract.
- Residents of one of the 18 counties of the SMAC service region. Applicants must be a region resident for at least six months before submitting an application and remain a resident through the contract period.
- Artists in any discipline, at any stage of their careers.

Arts Disciplines may include:

- *Dance*: ballet, ethnic/jazz/folk-inspired and modern
- *Music*: band, chamber, choral, experimental/electronic, ethnic-folk inspired, jazz, popular, solo/recital and orchestral
- *Opera/Music Theatre*
- *Theatre*: classical, contemporary, experimental, mime, puppet, young audiences, storytelling
- *Visual*: experimental, graphics/printmaking/ book arts, painting, sculpture
- *Craft*: clay, fiber, glass, leather, metal, paper, plastic, wood, mixed media
- *Photography*
- *Media Arts*: film, audio, video, technology/ experimental
- *Literature*: fiction, nonfiction, playwriting, poetry
- *Interdisciplinary*: Pertaining to art forms/art works that integrate more than one arts discipline to form a single work (e.g., collaboration between/among the performing and/or visual arts).
- *Folk/Traditional Arts*: Pertaining to oral, customary, material and performance traditions informally learned and transmitted in contexts characteristic of ethnic, religious, linguistic, occupational, and/or regional groups – folk/traditional dance, music, crafts & visual arts, oral traditions

Eligible project types include:

- **Artist-focused projects**
 - *Creating new work*: supplies or equipment, space, research, artist's time, day care costs, etc.
 - *Sharing 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**
 - Connecting with the community to help them experience art in a new way or reaching out to a segment of the population that is not normally exposed to the art form

The following are *not eligible* for Quick Support 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
- Applications that primarily involve developing curriculum plans or teaching materials
- Activities for the religious socialization of the participants or audience
- Activities that attempt to influence any state or federal legislation
- Applicants with a past SMAC grant project still in progress

SCORING CRITERIA

Ability to accomplish the project: 0-5 pts (38%)

- The applicant's artistic ability and experience are a good fit for the project.
- The applicant has a clear plan with a reasonable timeline.
- The budget is clearly itemized, responsible, and meets the needs of the project.
- For community projects, there is an appropriate marketing/publicity plan.

Impact of the project: 0-8 pts (62%)

- The applicant has identified specific proposed changes to take place as a result of their project and a plan to measure or prove whether those changes have taken place.
- The project meets the artistic needs of the applicant and will play a role in their artistic or professional development.
- For community projects, community members are able to develop knowledge, skills, and understanding of the arts.

Later in the process, applicants will also be awarded one additional *percentage* point for each of the following criteria they meet:

- First time SMAC applicant
- BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, & People of Color) or LGBTQIA2+ applicant or person with a disability
- Applicant from a county that has received three or fewer SMAC grants in the last fiscal year