



Folk and Traditional Arts | Community Projects

Grant Guidelines 2023-2024

DATES & DEADLINES

Applications open April 17, 2023, and are due June 6, 2023, by 11:59 pm Eastern

AWARD NOTIFICATION

Applicants will be notified of funding decisions by August 31 2023

PROJECT PERIOD

September 1, 2023-June 30, 2024

ACCESSIBILITY

This publication is available in .PDF format and as an accessible Word file at <https://www.midatlanticarts.org/>.

ABOUT THE FOLK AND TRADITIONAL ARTS

The folk and the traditional arts refer to art and creative practices that are based in and reflective of the knowledge, practices, and creativity of cultural communities. According to the National Endowment for the Arts, "Community members may share a common ethnic heritage, cultural mores, language, religion, occupation, or geographic region. These vital and constantly reinvigorated artistic traditions are shaped by values and standards of excellence that are passed from generation to generation, most often within family and community, through demonstration, conversation, and practice."

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Mid Atlantic Folk and Traditional Arts' Community Projects grants fund projects designed to support the vitality of traditional arts and cultural communities in the mid-Atlantic region.

Non-profit organizations in the mid-Atlantic region which seek to engage folk and traditional artists, practitioners, or culture bearers in community-based projects are eligible for funding in amounts from \$1,000 to \$7,000. The majority of project activities must take place within the mid-Atlantic region. Eligible project activities include but are not limited to performances, public art collaborations, workshops, trainings, exhibitions, fieldwork, and artistic collaborations. Projects must include some publicly accessible component, including but not limited to a performance, event, exhibit, video, podcast, Q&A session, public interest meeting, archival collection, website, or report. To identify

projects for funding, Mid Atlantic Arts will facilitate an open call for applications and a paneled review process.

Mid Atlantic encourages projects that cross sectors, state or territory borders, or connect organizations, artists, or practitioners within one state or territory. In alignment with Mid Atlantic Arts' strategic vision to promote equity, diversity, inclusion, and access, applications for projects that support or engage underserved or underrepresented artists, practitioners, traditions, or constituents are strongly encouraged. A diverse group of folk and traditional arts specialists, including folklorists, cultural workers, artists, practitioners, and culture bearers, will serve as panelists and provide program feedback informed by their role in application review.

Projects may focus on reaching a particular constituency; however, they may not be exclusionary under [national civil rights laws and policies](#).

Applicants are encouraged to contact Joel Chapman, Program Associate, Folk and Traditional Arts (jchapman@midatlanticarts.org) to discuss their project prior to submitting their application.

REQUIRED APPLICATION MATERIALS

- Applicant information
- Project details and narrative
- Project personnel/organizational bios
- Project budget
- Work samples

REVIEW CRITERIA

Applications will be reviewed based on:

Project Viability (40%), including the:

- Value and appropriateness of the project to the organization's mission, folk and traditional arts discipline, artists or practitioners, audience, community, and/or constituency;
- Ability to carry out the project based on such factors as the appropriateness of the budget, the quality and clarity of the project activities and goals, the resources involved, and the qualifications of the project's personnel;
- Plan for the project's publicly accessible component, including documentation and dissemination of the project results, as applicable;
- Collaborative quality of the project in its design to cross sectors, state or territory borders, or connect organizations, artists, or practitioners within one state or territory;
- Evidence of direct, appropriate compensation to artists, practitioners, and/or cultural workers;
- Appropriateness of proposed evaluation measurements.

Artistic Value & Community Involvement (30%), including the:

- Quality of the artists or practitioners, organizations, works of art, practices, and/or services that the project will involve and their relevance to the audience or communities being served. Artistic

value can be defined by the community of practice, audience(s), outside recognition, or some combination of the three.

- Extent to which the community is engaged in project planning, design, execution, and evaluation.

Promotion of Equity, Diversity, Access, and Inclusion (30%), including the:

- Potential to serve and/or reach individuals whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, race and ethnicity, economics, or disability, as applicable;
- Considerations for project accessibility accommodations
- Engagement with and support of underrepresented or underserved artists, practitioners, traditions, or constituents
- Project encourages diversity and promotes inclusion.

ELIGIBILITY

In order to receive Community Project grants, an organization must:

- Be located in Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Virginia, West Virginia, and Native nations that share this geography;
- Be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, a unit of state or local government, or a Federally recognized Indian tribal government. Units of state or local government must provide a document on official letterhead to confirm status as a government entity. Fiscal sponsorship is not permitted for this program;
- Be in good standing with Mid Atlantic Arts, with no overdue or outstanding required reports and/or grant documents.

GRANT AWARD LIMITATIONS

- Funding awarded by Mid Atlantic Arts is restricted to the specific, direct costs of the project and *may not be used for indirect costs*.
- Grants must be matched on a 1:1 basis. The match may not include Federal funds and the grant and the required match may not be used to match other Federal funds whether they are received directly from a Federal agency or indirectly, such as through a state agency or other entity.

GRANT AWARD TIMELINE & NOTIFICATION

- Applications will open April 17, 2023, and applications must be received by June 6, 2023.
- Applicants will be notified of grant award approval by August 25, 2023.
- Project activities will take place from September 1, 2023-June 30, 2024.

AWARD PAYMENTS AND FINAL REPORTS

If awarded, 90% of the grant amount will be sent to the grantee approximately 30-45 days prior to the project start date, provided all necessary materials have been received and approved. For projects scheduled to start in September and October 2023, the 90% payment will be sent 14-21 days after all necessary materials have been received and approved. A final report for the funded project is required no later than 30 days after the project completion date. The final report, made available in the online

portal at the time the grant is awarded, requires brief descriptions of the completed project, evidence of funder crediting, and an accounting of expenditures of the funded activities. Final report instructions are included with grant award documents when grantees are notified of the award. The final 10% of the grant amount will be sent to the grantee once the final report has been reviewed and approved by Mid Atlantic Arts staff.

CONTACT US

Joel Chapman, Program Associate, Folk and Traditional Arts at jchapman@midatlanticarts.org or (667)401-2488x117 or visit Community Project grants online [here](#).



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