



CARES Arts Organization Relief Grants

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Monday, June 22, 2020, 5PM EST (updated)

FUNDING PERIOD

July 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020

ACCESSIBILITY

This publication is available in .PDF format and as an accessible Word file at www.midatlanticarts.org.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation (MAAF), with support from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, has announced the CARES Arts Organization Relief Grants program in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Small to midsized non-profit arts organizations in MAAF's partner states, jurisdictions, and territories may apply through a competitive process for one-time, non-matching grants of up to \$20,000. MAAF is committed to the equitable distribution of the grants across our region.

Support is limited to any or all of the following:

- Salary support for one or more positions that are critical to an organization's artistic mission.
- Fees for artists and/or contractual personnel to maintain or expand the period during which such persons would be engaged.
- Facilities costs such as rent and utilities.

Please note: due to overwhelming need in our sector, organizations receiving CARES Act funding directly from the National Endowment for the Arts will not be eligible to receive MAAF's CARES Arts Organization Relief Grants. For more information, see Frequently Asked Questions below.

Funds are limited. MAAF seeks to make awards that will impact a broad constituency.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

Organizations applying for funding must:

- be designated by the United States Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization;
- be based in Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Virginia, or West Virginia;
- have the arts as their primary mission/function;
- have an operating budget between \$50,000 - \$3,000,000 based on CY/FY19 financials;
- have a three-year history of arts-based work/programming;
- provide a valid EIN;

- provide a DUNS Number (note: if your organization does not currently have a DUNS number, you can obtain one at <https://fedgov.dnb.com/webform/> – keep in mind this may take three to five days to process); and
- be in good standing with Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation at the time of application, with no overdue or outstanding required reports and/or grant documents.

The following are not eligible for support through this program:

- Organizations whose primary mission or focus is not on the arts
- For-profit organizations
- K-12 Schools (public or private)
- Colleges and universities
- Units of government, including divisions or departments of local, state or federal agencies
- Public television and other public media organizations
- Fiscally sponsored organizations/projects
- Auxiliary/partnering organizations (i.e. Friends of ABC)
- Individuals

APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND REQUIRED MATERIALS

An online application must be completed and submitted through the eGRANT online system at <https://midatlanticarts.egrant.net> on or before Monday, June 22, 2020, 5PM EST.

MAAF's CARES Arts Organization Relief Grants application consists of the following:

1. Applicant Information
2. Upload CY/FY19 Financial Statement
3. Application Narrative
4. Requested Expenses
5. Certificate & Statement of Assurances

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APPLICATION REVIEW

Applications will be evaluated by MAAF staff and subsequently a peer review panel for final recommendations, according to the following criteria:

- Potential to have a significant and immediate impact on the arts workforce.
- Significance to the mission and core work of the organization.
- Ability to carry out an award including the appropriateness of the budget, the resources involved, and the personnel.
- As appropriate, extent to which the organization serves underserved populations such as those whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, ethnicity, economics, or disability.

If awarded, grants are set for fixed amounts determined by the size of the applicant organization:

- Organizations with operating budgets between \$50,000 and \$250,000 are awarded at \$5,000.
- Organizations with operating budgets between \$250,001 and \$1,000,000 are awarded at \$10,000.
- Organizations with operating budgets between \$1,000,001 and \$3,000,000 are awarded at \$20,000.

AWARD PAYMENTS AND FINAL REPORTS

If awarded, 100% of the grant will be released at the beginning of the grant period provided that the grant recipient has reviewed and executed the grant award agreement.

A final report is to be completed through eGRANT and is due no later than 30 days after the grant end date of December 31, 2020. The final report, made available in eGRANT at the time the grant is awarded, requires brief description of how the grant was used and its impact on the organization along with an accounting of expenditures.

Final report instructions are provided as part of the grant award documents. In addition to the final report, grantees will be required to retain all records, receipts, and proof of expenses and provide these documents upon request.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

I thought the program is no longer accepting applications, why is it open again?

Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation initially opened the CARES ACT Organization Relief Grants application portal on Tuesday, June 2nd, 2020. We realize that opening the program portal on Blackout Tuesday during a time when many were focusing on racial injustice was a significant misstep that inadvertently upheld systemic racism at the very time when we should have been demonstrating solidarity with the Black community. This choice, combined with the extremely short window of time that the application was open before we reached our imposed cap, has caused hurt and distrust. We made a mistake and we own it.

The CARES ACT Organization Relief Grant was reopened on Thursday, June 11, 2020. The portal will close again on Monday, June 22, at 5PM EST.

Are you still limiting the number of applications you will accept, by state or otherwise?

No. There will be no limit or caps of any kind to the number of submissions we accept before the June 22 deadline.

Is this considered a second round of grants, with additional funding?

No. All applications submitted to this CARES program, regardless of rounds, will be considered for the same initial funding.

I think I submitted my application in the previous round but I'm not sure if I made the cut. Do I need to submit again?

All submitted applications in the previous round, including NY applications submitted after the New York applicant cut-off, will be treated as successfully submitted. You may refer to [this list of applicants](#) to see if your organization has successfully submitted in the previous round. If you do NOT see the

name of your organization on the list, you will need to access your application draft, complete, and submit by the June 22 deadline.

Can I make edits to the application that I submitted in the previous round?

If you successfully submitted an application in the previous round and would like the opportunity to review and/or make edits to your work, please contact Program Support Specialist, Ann Turiano at ann@midatlanticarts.org, and we will re-open your application. Be sure to resubmit your application before the June 22 deadline.

My organization has applied to the National Endowment for the Arts CARES Act funding. Can I also apply for MAAF's CARES grant?

Yes. As long as your organization meets the listed eligibility requirements, you may apply; however, if an organization directly receives CARES Act funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, its application to MAAF's CARES Arts Organization Relief Grants would no longer be considered for funding. MAAF will review the National Endowment for the Arts' recipient list prior to selecting applications for funding.

My organization has applied to our State Arts Agency's CARES Act funding. Am I eligible for MAAF's CARES grant?

Yes. As long as your organization meets the listed eligibility requirements, you may apply. It is possible to receive CARES Act funding from both MAAF and your State Arts Agency.

My organization has not completed our FY19 financial review, may I submit a FY18 financial statement?

Submit an itemized document with actuals of income and expenses for calendar year or fiscal year 2019. While preferred if available, the statement does not need to be audited. Do NOT submit a FY18 financial statement.

My organization has never applied for/never received a grant from MAAF before. Are we eligible to apply?

Yes. As long as your organization meets the listed eligibility requirements, you may apply.

What do you mean by "arts organization"?

For the purpose of this program, we are defining an arts organization as one that specifically centers the arts at the core of its mission and work. This includes arts making, arts education, service, presenting/exhibiting organizations, in all artistic disciplines, such as folk/traditional, literary, performing, and visual arts.

Please contact Program Officer Haowen Wang at haowen@midatlanticarts.org if you are unsure about your eligibility.

Can I submit more than one application for my organization?

No. Each organization is limited to one application by the deadline.

Can I apply through a fiscal sponsor?

No. Fiscally sponsored organization/projects are not eligible to apply. An organization must submit with its own 501(c)(3) nonprofit status.

How many grants do you expect to award for this program?

We expect to award approximately 50-70 grants throughout our region.

If I get a grant, how and when can I use it?

Grants may be used for salaries, artist and contractor fees, and benefits or facilities costs, including rent/mortgage and utilities, and may not be re-granted. Grants must be expended by December 31, 2020.

FURTHER QUESTIONS?

Contact Haowen Wang, Program Officer, Performing Arts at haowen@midatlanticarts.org.