North Carolina Arts Council Artist Support Grant Application Workshop

Region 5

Pitt, Wilson, Nash, Edgecombe, Greene, and Wayne Counties

North Carolina Arts Council
www.NCArts.org

North Carolina Arts Council's Artist Support Grant

The Artist Support Grant provides direct support to individual artists for professional and artistic development, either to enhance their skills and abilities to create work, or to improve their business operations and capacity to bring the work to audiences.

Disciplines

The Artist Support Grant is intended to support a broad range of talented visual, performing, literary, and interdisciplinary artists.

18 Regions Award
Artist Support Grants

Eligibility for application

Emerging and established artists

✓ Eligible candidates may be either emerging or established artists. Applicants should demonstrate a commitment to spending a significant portion of their time on their work as artists.

Individuals and groups

Individuals and Artist Collectives
Both individual artists and small, unincorporated groups of collaborating artists are eligible to apply.

All members of a collaborating team must be North Carolina residents, live in the region where they are applying, and meet the other eligibility requirements. Résumés documenting residence from all team members should be included with the application.

Residency

Artists should have lived in the region where they are applying continuously for at least one year prior to the consortium's application deadline. An applicant must be at least 18 years old and either a U.S. citizen or a lawful permanent resident. Proof of residence and status may be required by the consortium. Artists who live in more than one region should apply only where they spend the majority of the year.

Who are NOT eligible

- **Multiple awards**
  Artists who are sole proprietors of organizations that have already received funding for FY 2023-2024 from the N.C. Arts Council are ineligible to apply.

- **Conflict of interest**
  Current board and staff members of the participating partner organizations and their family members are not eligible to apply for the award.

Evaluation criteria

Artistic merit

- Demonstrated talent in an art form and overall excellence of the artist's work

- Clear commitment to a career as a practicing professional artist

Project Merit

- Benefit of the proposed project to the artist's professional growth

- Feasibility of the proposed project

Scope of funding

What the grant will fund

Completion or presentation of a new work

Cost of resources necessary to complete or present a significant new work.

Examples include:

- Purchasing art supplies
- Equipment
- Space rental

Career promotion

Projects aimed at advertising artists' work and/or demonstrating their skill level.

Examples include:

- Websites
- Portfolios
- Audio-visual documentation
- Online presentation

Training

Costs to attend a class or workshop (in-person or virtual) aimed at either enhancing the artists' skill level or professional development.

- Such as attending a master class or workshop taught by acknowledged authorities in their medium.

Travel

Costs of transportation, lodging, and food for training, professional conferences, or research.

Artists fees

Up to **50%** of grant amount may be used towards artist fees!

What the grant will NOT fund

- Scholarships for undergraduate- or graduate-level education
- Projects that support or oppose a particular candidate for public office
- Projects that are exclusive to members of a particular religious faith group
- Non-profit initiatives
- Projects that do not have a direct effect on the applicant's growth as an artist
  - e.g., the promotion of other artists' work

The Application

Project Narrative

Your Project Narrative should explain your proposed project and how it will have an impact on your career as an artist. Include an artist statement and project description:

- Describe your project and the proposed use of funds.

- Explain what this project will enable you to do that you are unable to do now.

- Summarize how this project will advance your career or development as an artist.

Project Narrative

Your proposal *is* competitive. Make sure it also:

- Feasible

  Don't propose a project that seems beyond your capacity either in terms of cost, access, or other factors.

- A logical step for you

  It should make sense why the workshop tuition, computer, brochure, or new studio you want would be relevant and helpful to you at this point in your career.

Project Narrative

- Use simple, declarative sentences, active voice—and get to the point. Observe the space or page limits. Say what you need to say as efficiently as possible.

- The narrative is not an artist statement.
  Keep your answers focused on the practical needs and outcomes of your project.

- Who, what, when, where, why, and how.
  If you find, after you've answered the application queries, that you haven't addressed one or more of the questions, you might want to revisit your responses.

Budget

Expenses:

Provide your project expenses, describing what will be paid for using your grant award, and what will be paid for with supplemental funding*. Grant expenses must be cash, but matching funds may include in-kind costs.

Description	Total	Grant	Supplemental Funds
Total Expenses:			

Budget

Income:

Provide any project income including personal funds, additional grant funds, or other sources that contribute towards your match amount. List different sources separately. The **Total Income** amount should equal the **Total Expenses** amount listed above. Identify in-kind support, as appropriate.

Description	Total	Grant	Match
Total Income:			

Budget

Provide supporting documentation.

- For most equipment, airfares, and materials, prices can be found online. For professional services, request an estimate.

- Always provide documentation for class, workshop, or conference registration costs.

- If studying with a specific teacher is part of your proposal, explain why it is important to your growth and provide documentation of the teacher's credentials.

Budget

You are not required to spend your own money!

- If applicable, show other sources of income.

- If you are pursuing or have secured donations from others, especially for more ambitious projects, include that information, as well.

- Leave enough room on the expected income side of your budget to make it clear that you do need the grant.

Budget

Provide as much detail as possible.

You can see the difference in the detailed budget on the right:

Example 1
Travel: $600

Example 2
Mileage (200 mi. @ .535):	$107
Lodging (4 nights @ $85):	340
Meals (5 days @ $35):	175
Total:	**$622**

Work sample descriptions and labeling

- An inventory list should accompany the work samples provided.

- Work samples should be recent -three years or less.

- The basic information is specific to each discipline. This will be explained in further detail on the next slides.

Visual art and craft work samples

Up to 10 images of your work.

- Images must be high quality – not blurry or pixelated.

Description
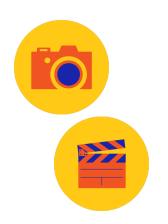Title, date of completion, medium, and dimensions.

Music work samples

Documentation of up to three recorded performances. Audio or video uploaded may not exceed a total time of ten minutes.

Description
Include date and location of performance, title of piece, names and roles of key people, including conductors, choreographers, lead performers/actors, etc. A short summary may also be included.

Composers and songwriters should also submit scores, lyrics, and/or lead sheets, as appropriate.

Film work samples

Documentation of one or more completed films.

- Video clips not to exceed five minutes.

Description
include date and location of performance, title of piece, names and roles of key people, including directors, choreographers, lead performers/actors, etc. A short summary may also be included.
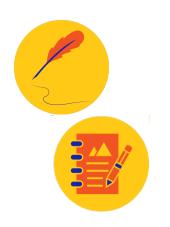
Dance and performing arts work samples

Documentation of up to three recorded performances. Videos uploaded may not exceed a total time of ten minutes.

Description
Include date and location of performance, title of piece, names and roles of key people, including directors, choreographers, lead performers/actors, etc. A short summary may also be included.

Writing work samples

- Fiction, creative nonfiction, and playwrights may submit no more than 12 pages each of one to two manuscripts.

  - Poets may submit five to seven poems.

  - Playwrights may also submit documentation of a recorded performance or staged reading of their plays (videos, clip not to exceed five minutes.)

Support materials – résumés or bios (1/2)

As a rule, they should be:

Artist résumés
Focus on your activities as an artist, including exhibitions, performances, readings, screenings, commissions, collections that have acquired your work, publishing history, residencies, articles and reviews of your work, workshops taught or taken, lectures, panels, education, employment, awards, etc.

Abbreviated
A suggested length is two-to-four pages.

Support materials – résumés or bios (2/2)

If you have limited experience as an artist, foreground your existing artistic achievements in your resume and condense your other work and experience into broad background information.

Use this situation to make the case that the grant is especially important towards taking a meaningful step forward in your artistic career.

Letters of Recommendation

- Letters of recommendation are sometimes required, sometimes optional, but they should always be the least important part of your proposal.
- Have qualified references who can speak specifically and enthusiastically about your abilities as an artist.
- Consider the following as you choose your references:
  - First-hand knowledge of your work as an artist
  - Professional credentials (this is not a personal recommendation)
  - How recent is the reference's encounter with your work?

Review

Application checklist

Application checklist (1/2)

- ❑ **Application profile**

- ❑ **Narrative**

- ❑ **Artist statement**
  Attach an artist statement that describes your work and the key ideas and goals that drive you to create. (one typed page)

- ❑ **Artist résumé**
  Attach an artist résumé that includes education, employment, public presentations of your work, publications, commissions, honors, grant or fellowship awards, and relevant experience. (four pages maximum)

Application checklist (2/2)

❏ **Budget support**
Provide support information for your budget,
i.e. cost of materials, price quote on services, etc.

❏ **Support materials**
You may submit reviews, programs, catalogs, and
other support materials relevant to the project.

❏ **Work samples and inventory list**

If you receive a grant

- You will enter into a contractual agreement with Pitt County Arts Council at Emerge

- Any promotional and marketing materials for the proposed project must demonstrate use of N.C. Arts Council logo and credit line.

- Funds must be spent by **June 30, 2024.**

- Projects must be completed before **December 31, 2024.**

Questions?
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