National Endowment for the Arts

Grants Presentation
March 12, 2024
National Endowment for the Arts
Grant Opportunities

We are committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility, and fostering mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all individuals and groups.

Direct grants to:
• Arts organizations
• Local arts agencies
• Arts service organizations
• Local education agencies (school districts)
• Other organizations that can help advance the NEA’s goals
Applicant Eligibility

Eligible

• US Organizations:
  ▪ 501(c)(3) Non-profit organizations
  ▪ Units of State/Local Government
  ▪ Federally recognized Tribes or Tribal Communities

• Must have a 3 year history of arts programming

Not Eligible

• Individuals
• Fiscal Sponsors
• Commercial/for profit enterprises
We Do Not Fund

- General operating or seasonal support
- Creation of new organizations
- Subgranting or regranting (except for eligible Local Arts Agencies)
- Facility construction, purchase, or renovation
- Social activities such as receptions, parties, galas, community dinners, picnics, and potlucks

Full list: Unallowable Activities/Costs link on the website
Project-Based Support

Activities may include:

- Creation/development of new works
- Public engagement with, and access to, the arts
- Learning in the arts at all stages of life
- Services to the field

We support:

- Small, medium, and large projects
- Existing and new projects
- Projects in communities of any size that take place in any part of the 50 states and U.S. jurisdictions
- Projects may be for a one or two-year period of support
Challenge America

- Multi-disciplinary
- Grants are all $10,000
- Abbreviated Application
- Robust technical assistance
- Deadline is **April 30, 2024**
Challenge America Focus

**Underserved Audience**

- All projects must reach an underserved group/community.
- The term “underserved,” as defined by our legislation and agency policy, refers to those whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited relative to: **geography**, **ethnicity**, **economics**, or **disability**. At least one of these characteristics must be evident in the proposed project.

**Primarily Small Organizations**

- Small organizations are not defined by specific budget or staff size.
- Organizations self-identify as small

**Entry point for NEA funding**

- Eligibility limits who can apply if you have received previous NEA funding.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge America Projects may include…</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An artist residency program featuring the presentation of Pakistani Music.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The creation of a public mural that involves the community in the process.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts programming for pediatric patients receiving cancer care at a hospital.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mentorship program for BIPOC filmmakers.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What makes a competitive application?

- Clear definition of who your underserved audience/community is for the project.
- Describing what you are doing to intentionally engage with that audience.
- Providing thorough logistics for the project.
- Reviewing and following all the staff tips in the application instructions document.
Grants for Arts Projects

• Grants are generally between $10,000 - $100,000

• Submit to one of 15 artistic disciplines

• Two application deadlines: February 15th & July 11th
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Artistic Disciplines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Artist Communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Folk &amp; Traditional Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literary Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Arts Agencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media Arts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Museums</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Musical Theater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presenting &amp; Multidisciplinary Works</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual Arts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
An organization may apply once per calendar year to either GAP or Challenge America.

Independent Component (IC):
Independent unit of a larger (parent) organization

Additional application: **Our Town** or **Research** grant categories

No overlapping costs/activities

More details: **Eligibility** section -> **Application Limits**
Our Town

• Creative Placemaking
• Grants range from $25,000 - $150,000
• Required Partnership
• Outcomes Orientation
• Opt-In Technical Assistance
• Deadline in early August
Our Town Key Distinctions

- Required Partnership
  - 501c3 nonprofit
  - Local Government or Quasi-Gov

- Outcomes Orientation
  - Social, Economic, and/or Physical
  - Systems Change Aims

- Artists, Designers, & Culture Bearers

- Competitive Projects
Our Town Projects may include…

**Arts engagement** through artist residencies; arts festivals; community co-creation of art; performances; and public art.

**Cultural planning** either directly or in terms of cultural district planning; creative asset mapping; and public art planning.

**Design activities**, as in artist/designer-facilitated community planning; design of artist spaces; design of cultural facilities; and public space design.

**Artist / Creative industry support** such as creative business development and professional artist development.
Application Review: Criteria

Artistic Excellence  Artistic Merit
How to Apply: Two Part Process

Grants.gov

• Fill out your SF424 form

NEA Applicant Portal

• Project narrative & budget
• Background organization info
• Work samples-supplementary materials
Review and Funding Process

1. Completeness & Eligibility
2. Application Review
3. Staff consideration
4. Chair
5. Notifications & Required Update
6. Staff Review & Official Award Notice
7. Payment Requests
8. Final Reports
Financial need is not part of the review criteria.

A good plan > good idea

Applications are awarded on a competitive basis.

Reach out to staff before the deadline

Volunteer to be a panelist -> www.arts.gov/grants

Start early!
FAQs & Applicant Resources

GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS: Program Description

“The Arts . . . belong to all the people of the United States.”*

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is proud to support the nation’s arts sector with grant opportunities so that together we can help everyone live more artful lives. The arts contribute to our individual well-being, the well-being of our communities, and to our local economies. The arts are also crucial to helping us make sense of our circumstances from different perspectives as we emerge from the pandemic and plan for the future.

Grants for Arts Projects

Grants for Arts Projects is our largest grants program for organizations, providing comprehensive and expansive funding opportunities for project-related expenses.
Upcoming Sessions

Register online: arts.gov/news/events
or on the Applicant Resources page

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge America Applicant Q&amp;A</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 13, 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 11, 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 13, 2024</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization-Specific Webinars and Office Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tribes and Native-serving Organizations Office Hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thank you!

NEA Staff Contacts

Challenge America Team: challengeamerica@arts.gov

Grants for Arts Projects: www.arts.gov/grants/grants-for-arts-projects/contacts

Our Town Team: ot@arts.gov