

Grant Guidelines

The **Racial Equity Grants for Individual Artists** grant program strives to provide more racially equitable grant funding to increase arts and culture produced by diverse artists who are reflective of our community. Each round of grants since 2021 has focused on a designated identity group: Black or African American (2021); Hispanic/Latino(a)(x) (2022); Asian, Pacific Islander, and/or Native American (2023); and BIPOC Female (2024). Each year a new group is prioritized for grant funding.

Currently, funding is available to BIPOC female artists (BIPOC: Black, Indigenous, People of Color). Grant funding will be available in three funding categories: Artist Works, Equipment, and Professional Development. Disciplines considered include visual, fine craft, media, performance, and literary (each defined on page 2 of this document).

Funding for this grant program is provided by Benwood Foundation and Lyndhurst Foundation + individual donors.

For grant questions, information and consultation, contact: **Melissa Astin, Manager of Grants & Community Engagement. (423) 777-4214 / Melissa@ArtsBuild.com.**

Application Deadline

Grant applications will be accepted between **August 18, 2022-October 5, 2023**. Requests for application draft reviews are accepted until 5PM September 28, 2023. Please email Melissa Astin if you would like a draft review (Melissa@ArtsBuild.com).

General Grant Description

The goals of the program are to:

- Make arts funding more equitable in our community by creating access to resources for artists of color in Hamilton County.
- Provide support to established and emerging racially diverse artists.
- Broaden the types of artists supported by the community.
- Ensure the distribution of financial and capacity-building resources for minority artists.

Grant funds will be awarded within the following three funding categories:

- Artists Work (funding to develop new artworks, exhibitions, or performances).
- Equipment (funding to support the purchase of supplies, tools, and other major equipment for new projects).
- Professional Development (funding to support professional development activities such as attending workshops, conferences, residences, courses, etc.).

Grants will be funded up to \$10,000. The granting period will be from January 15 – December 15, 2024.

Grant Eligibility & Requirements

Who is eligible to apply?

- Emerging BIPOC female artists, age 18 or older, in Hamilton County, Tennessee.
 - Artists who are beginning their career.
- Established or mid-career BIPOC female artists, age 18 or older, in Hamilton County, Tennessee.

- Artists whose primary income is based on their artwork.

Who is *not* eligible to apply?

- Organizations and groups.
- Artists living and working outside of Hamilton County, Tennessee.
- Artists under the age of 18.
- Artists who have already received REGIA funding.

What types of artistic disciplines are eligible?

- **Visual Art:** 2D, 3D, Projection, Installation.
- **Fine Craft:** Excellence working with a particular traditional material or medium.
- **Media:** Film or Photography.
- **Performance:** Dance, Music/Instrumental, Theatre or Vocal.
- **Literary Arts:** Fiction, Children's/Young Adult Literature, or Poetry.

What types of grant expenses are eligible?

Grant expenses should fit within the three funding categories: Artists Work, Equipment, and Professional Development.

Examples of Funding Options:

- Artists fees
- Supplies
- Major equipment
- Rental fees
- Marketing
- Production-related costs
- Documentation
- Assessment tools
- Workshop/conference/residency/course fees
- Transportation
- Lodging

What types of grant expenses are *not* eligible?

- Capital improvements (buildings or construction).
- "Seed money" for starting new organizations.
- Fundraisers.

Additional Project Information

- Grant activities and outcomes must be stated, assessed, and documented.
- Artists must have a Federal Tax ID or Social Security number.
- Artists must be based in Hamilton County with proof of residency.

Application Information and Tips

We encourage you to:

- Read the guidelines thoroughly, check your eligibility, and carefully complete your application.
- Explore the online application early to give yourself ample time to complete.

- Communicate with ArtsBuild staff about any questions or to request a review of your draft application.
- Be clear and concise in your application.
- Double-check your budget to make sure expenses match the narrative.

Resources

- [ArtsBuild Programming Mapping Project](#)
- [Mapping Project Zoom Presentation](#) (minute 44:50)
- [Chattanooga Music Census](#)
- [One Chattanooga Plan](#)
- [Arts and Social Impact Explorer](#)
- [Arts and Economic Prosperity Study 6](#)
- [Artists at Work Thrive Region Report](#)

Grant Evaluation Criteria

Grants will be reviewed and evaluated by a panel based on the following criteria:

1. Strength & quality of the grant proposal (30 points)
2. Clearly stated and attainable project outcomes (25 points)
3. Realistic timeline to implement grant outcomes (15 points)
4. Reasonable budget to implement grant outcomes (20 points)
5. Adequately addressed plans for documentation and assessment (10 points)

ArtsBuild warrants and assures that no person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in the programs and services or in the employment practices on the grounds of disability, age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or any other classification protected by Federal, Tennessee State constitutional or statutory law.