

Artist Relief Grant

Region 2 Arts Council

INTRODUCTION

2020-2021 Artist Relief Grant

Award: \$500

Round 1 Opens: July 31, 2020

Round 1 Closes: When all funds have been awarded or on August 15, 2020 at 11:45 p.m. (whichever comes first)

Round 2 Opens: August 31, 2020

Round 2 Closes: When all funds have been awarded or on September 15, 2020 at 11:45 p.m. (whichever comes first)

Background

Since March 2020, income generating activity for artists has been cut off or greatly altered due to COVID-19. Our Region 2 Artist Relief Grant, made possible with funding from the McKnight Foundation, is meant to offer some relief for artists whose anticipated income from March onward has been cut short.



MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION

Summary of Eligibility

This grant is for working artists who have/ have had a marketable presence as an artist. Eligible artists must be Minnesota residents who are 18 years or older and live in our five-county region comprised of Beltrami, Clearwater, Lake of the Woods, Mahnommen, and Hubbard Counties. For this relief grant, we are also inviting Minnesota residents who are enrolled tribal members and descendants living in Itasca, Roseau, Cass, and Becker Counties (our additional Anishinaabe Arts Initiative counties). All eligible artists must be in good standing with Region 2 Arts Council, rely on the creation of art for a portion of their income, and must have lost/will lose income due to COVID-19 impacts. Artists who are not in good standing with Region 2 Arts Council, that is, those who have overdue final grant reports, are not eligible in round one, but may complete their final reports and become eligible for the 2nd round of Relief Grant funding.

Online Form Instructions

- Items marked with an asterisk (*) are **required** and must be answered by all applicants before submitting. To allow for flexibility some items NOT marked with an asterisk are still required. **Read all instructions carefully.**
- When uploading a file, make sure it is in one of the accepted formats listed (pdf, jpg, xlsx) and that it does not exceed the file size (1 MB) specified.
- You may save and return to your application as many times as you like before the deadline. The system automatically saves your work. Please note, the system will log you out due to inactivity. If this happens simply log back in and your answers will be waiting for you.
- Do not press "SUBMIT APPLICATION" unless you are sure your application is complete. (If you submit your application in error, please contact R2AC staff. We can revert your application status to draft so you can access it and make changes).
- These grant rounds will close early if all funds have been awarded prior to the close-dates listed.
- If this grant is still open on the close-date, we suggest submitting your application by 11:30 p.m. just to be safe, since the system does not provide a warning that the application will be made inaccessible to submissions at 11:45 p.m.

We suggest that you also click on all links to policies and guidelines to get more clarification on what is expected in your grant application. We also suggest clicking on the gray arrows at the beginning of each section to collapse or expand that section. This helps you more easily navigate to the section of the application you need to work on.

If you have any questions or problems in filling out the application, please feel free to contact the R2AC staff. To request a thorough review of your application prior to submission, contact staff and we will provide feedback (9 am - 5 pm, Mon.-Fri.) as time allows.

The Artist Relief Grants will be competitive. The time and date of submission of your application determines its place in the review cycle. Region 2 Arts Council Staff will not be held responsible for an applicant's submission date or for the lateness of any submission.

PROCEDURES FOR PAPER AND ONLINE GRANT APPLICATIONS

- Applications may be completed and submitted via login at r2arts.org
- Applications may be completed and submitted in paper format
- Paper grant applications you can print are available for download at r2arts.org or applicants may request a paper application to be sent in the mail
- Submitted applications will be reviewed for completion and eligibility
- Staff will reach out to applicants if further clarification or additional information is needed on submitted grant applications.

- Applications that are eligible and complete upon submission will be ordered by the submission date of each application
- For eligible and complete mailed-in applications, the postmark date will determine an application's place in the submission line-up.
- Applications needing clarification will be placed in order based on the date when questions have been clarified and the application is complete and correct.
- Mailing in paper grant applications (rather than dropping them off) is highly recommended. Region 2 Arts Council will receive in-person drop-offs of applications only if our Region 2 Arts Council office is open. Due to COVID-19 mitigation, we are still working primarily from home. (**Note:** Region 2 Arts Council is located in the Watermark Art Center in Bemidji. **Do not drop off applications with WAC staff at their front desk.** If the Region 2 office is closed, any applications slid under the Region 2 Arts Council office door will end up at the bottom of the stack in the submission line-up)
- Eligible grants will be reviewed on a weekly basis by a Region 2 Arts Council committee of staff and board members in the order of submission.
- Funding for Round 1 will be awarded until funding has run out or once the close date of the grant round has been reached.
- Any remaining funds from Round 1 will be put into Round 2.
- Funding for Round 2 will be awarded until funding has run out or once the end date of the grant round has been reached.
- Relief grant rounds will close if funds run out prior to the last day of the round.
- Any remaining eligible applications from Round 1 that were submitted prior to the closing of the round but which were not awarded, will be automatically placed into Round 2.
- For Round 1, any paper grant applications that are postmarked by the last day of the grant round will be moved to Round 2 if Round 1 funds have run out.
- The online submission window for Round 2 will open on August 31.

ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATION

Read through the following. You are eligible for a relief grant if the following is true for you:

1. You are an artist who is 18 years of age or older who *has experienced or will experience* lost income due to COVID-19 such as

- anticipated sales in shops and galleries that had to temporarily or permanently close,
 - anticipated sales/participation/performances at summer or fall art shows that have been canceled or postponed
 - anticipated sales/participation/performances at powwows that have been canceled or postponed,
 - canceled or postponed music/theater/literary performances, presentations, productions, and tours
 - canceled or postponed arts teaching opportunities, including classes, camps, and workshops
 - canceled or postponed artist-in-residencies
 - inability to attend an income generating event/performance/art show/etc. because of personal actual or potential COVID-19 impacts
 - lost income generating artistic opportunities not listed above
2. You are a Minnesota resident who has been living for the past six months within the five counties of the Region 2 Arts Council (Beltrami, Lake of the Woods, Mahnomen, Clearwater, Hubbard)

Note: This grant is also open to our Anishinaabe Arts Initiative additional counties of Roseau, Cass, Becker, and Itasca for enrolled tribal members and descendants who have been living for the past six months within one of those counties. These applicants must submit verification of this status, including a tribal ID or verification of descendency in accordance with the Indian Arts & Crafts Act of 1990.

3. You have evidence of your marketable presence as an artist. This could include one or more of the following:
- Website link (yours or another where your work appears)
 - Social media presence
 - Etsy page or another marketing platform
 - Names of 1-3 income generating events you have attended within the last 2 years and visual/audio evidence of your work as an artist.
4. You do not have an overdue final report with Region 2 Arts Council.
5. You are not the immediate family member of a Region 2 Arts Council Staff, Board, or Anishinaabe Arts Initiative Council member. (Immediate family is defined as: spouse,

domestic partner, parent, child, child's spouse, brother, brother's spouse, sister, or sister's spouse)

Type in your name as an electronic signature. Note that the typed name constitutes a legal signature and signifies that you are in compliance with all the eligibility criteria stated above and are in agreement with the following statement:

"I am responsible for complying with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances in relation to the use of these funds and I certify that all the information provided in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge."

Signature*

Character Limit: 250

If you have any questions regarding your eligibility, please email or call the R2AC office (218-751-5447 or 1-800-275-5447). It may be possible that a different grant would better suit your needs.

QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES

Please respond to each of the following questions or prompts.

Artistic Practice*

Describe your artistic practice. What do you create, where do you create it, how or where do you share it? How do you typically generate income from your art?

Character Limit: 1000

Financial loss due to COVID-19*

List 1-3 specific income generating events/shows/opportunities/gigs you were planning on participating in as an artist that have been or will be canceled due to COVID-19.

Character Limit: 1000

Use of Funds*

What immediate needs will you use this funding for? If you select "other" please explain in the textbox provided.

Choices

Rent/mortgage support
Utilities
Food
Transportation

Medicine
 Other monthly bills
 Family member care
 Other

Description of other financial needs not listed above.

Character Limit: 500

IMPORTANT: This funding MAY NOT be used to pay student loans or fees, or for past or future classes for academic credit.

Online Marketable Presence as an Artist*

Do you have a marketable *online* presence as an artist such as a website, etsy storefront, blog, YouTube Channel, Soundcloud page, or other online venue to share your work?

Choices

Yes
 No

Please Note: Your response to the above question will give you different options for sharing your work samples. If you click **Yes** you will be provided with prompts to type in URLs or links to your website, your Etsy storefront, your SoundCloud page, your YouTube Channel, your blog, or social media marketing pages. If you click **No** you will be provided with prompts to upload 5 images (jpg) or 5 pages of writing (pdf) as work samples. One prompt for a link is also provided for performing artists without an online presence, so you can upload one performance to YouTube/Vimeo/SoundCloud to share with us. Visual artists with preferred photo file sizes over 1MB, such as photographers, may also link to a curated group of images through a file-sharing site such as DropBox.

Work Samples for paper grant applications

Please contact our office staff@r2arts.org or call 218 751-5447. Work samples can be sent via email, via text, or via postal delivery. Please contact our office for details.

Online Marketable Presence as an Artist

Include links to your website or any other website that features your work, your Etsy storefront, your SoundCloud page, your YouTube Channel, your blog, any social media marketing pages for your work or any other online marketing platform. All links must be able to be viewed by any browser without use of a subscription, special software, or plug-ins. Please do not include links to your personal facebook page or any other personal social media pages if possible. If Facebook is your main way of marketing yourself and your page is not open to the public, please friend us, Staff Regiontwoarts, on facebook so we can access your page or contact the R2AC staff (218-751-5447) for help.

Link 1

Character Limit: 2000

Link 2

Character Limit: 2000

Link 3

Character Limit: 2000

Link 4

Character Limit: 2000

Link 5

Character Limit: 2000

Off-line Marketable Presence as an Artist

Income Generating Events*

List 1-3 income generating events you have participated in within the last two years such as art markets, craft fairs, pow-wows, pop-up shows, etc.

Character Limit: 1000

Work Samples

Upload 5 photos of your work (jpg) for visual artists or 5 pages of writing (pdf) for literary artists. If you are having trouble re-sizing your jpgs or pdfs to fit the 1MB size requirements, please contact the R2AC staff (218-751-5447) for help.

Sample 1

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Sample 2

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Sample 3

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Sample 4

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Sample 5

File Size Limit: 1 MB

Link to Sample(s)

You can use this link to provide a music or video work sample via YouTube/Vimeo/SoundCloud to share with us. You can also use it to share visual art samples via Dropbox if you find our file size requirements too small for your purposes, however the photos must appear as a curated set of 5 images. All links must be able to be viewed by any browser without use of a subscription, special software, or plug-ins.

Character Limit: 2000

DATA COLLECTION

RAC Grant Data Collection*

The information you provide for these data points will be used by Region 2 Arts Council for the post-granting purpose of analyzing application trends as we strive for more equitable granting practices. Additionally, Region 2 Arts Council is securing six relief-fund grants for distribution to our Region's POCI (people of color and indigenous) Artists. Completing these data points will support this particular racial equity initiative.

Regional Arts Council grant data is requested and maintained by the Minnesota State Arts Board in cooperation with the Minnesota Regional Arts Councils (RACs), and may be distributed to others, including our funder the McKnight Foundation, in accordance with the Minnesota Data Practices Act.

Please indicate that you have read and understand.

Choices

I understand

County*

Choose the county in which you reside based on the address used for voting and the payment of taxes.

Choices

Clearwater
 Beltrami
 Hubbard
 Lake of the Woods
 Mahnomon
 Cass
 Becker
 Itasca
 Roseau

Race/Ethnicity*

Please select up to two options regarding your racial/ethnic characteristics.

Choices

American Indian/Alaska Native
Asian
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
Black/African American
Hispanic/Latino
Middle Eastern/North African
White
Other
Decline to state

If you chose "Other" and would like to provide a short description, type it below:

Character Limit: 100

Tribal Member or Descendant

Are you an enrolled tribal member or descendant living in the additional Region 2 Anishinaabe Arts Initiative Counties of **Cass, Becker, Itasca, or Roseau?**

Choices

Yes
No

Special Characteristics*

Select any combination that applies to you.

Choices

Disability
Older Adult - 60+
Veteran
None

Age (optional)

Choices

18-29
30-39
40-49
50-59
60+

Gender (optional)

Choices

Female
Male
Transgender
Gender Non-conforming/Non-Binary/Gender Queer

Orientation (optional)

Choices

Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Queer
Heterosexual
Decline to state

Artist Experience Level*

Based on your experience as an artist, where do you perceive yourself on a continuum of your artistic development?

Choices

Early Stage
Mid-Stage
Advanced Stage

Possible Barriers to Artistic Development*

Do you perceive any of the following as obstacles to your artistic practice or development?
Select all that apply.

Choices

Geographic location
Economic status
Age
Ability/Disability
Race
Culture
Religion
Sexual Orientation
Gender
Transgender
None

Additional Information

Character Limit: 500

Tribal Identification Materials

Tribal enrollment information for applicants outside our 5-county service area*

If you are applying from Cass, Becker, Itasca, or Roseau county, please upload/include a copy (pdf/jpg) of your tribal enrollment card or proof that you are a descendant of a federally recognized tribe and include a brief explanation of this documentation. This documentation is used for eligibility purposes and will only be viewed by staff. (Limit of 500 typed characters, including spaces)

Character Limit: 500 | File Size Limit: 2 MB