



Creation Grant | FY2022 Guidelines (deadline April 14, 2021)

Creation Grants support artists in creating new work. Grant funds may be used to compensate the artists for time spent creating new work, to purchase materials, or to rent equipment or space for the process.

The Council is interested in ensuring that this grant program supports artists at all career levels. While Creation Grant awards will still be made to established artists, special consideration will be given to emerging artists in this grant round. Generally, emerging artists are defined as those who are at an early stage in their career development. Age is not a factor in determining an emerging artist.

Emerging artists:

- must be “active” or “practicing” artists (i.e., creating work regularly, rather than a few times in a year).
- should not have received major grants, awards, or other significant recognition (such as a solo exhibition) at this stage in their career. With regard to the Vermont Arts Council’s grant programs for individual artists, only Creation Grants are considered “major grants.”

Who May Apply

Individual artists and artist groups may apply. Individual applicants must:

- be a resident of Vermont at the time the award is granted, and must have been a resident of Vermont for a minimum of one year prior to the application deadline
- be eighteen years of age or older at the time of application
- have submitted all required reports on any prior Council grants

Artist groups must have at least one member that meets all the above requirements who will serve as the lead applicant and project coordinator.

Who May Not Apply

- artists whose projects involve activities for which college credit is given
- artists or artist groups that have received a Creation Grant within the past five years (FY2017; September 1, 2016 or after).

Grant Amounts

The grant amount for this program is \$4,000 per award. The full award will be paid on receipt of a signed contract and after September 1, 2021. Grant amounts are dependent upon federal and state funding and subject to change.

Criteria for Selection

Successful applicants will address all of the criteria to the best of their abilities. Applications will be evaluated on the demonstration of:

artistic excellence (60%)

While excellence looks different to everybody and the quality of art is not an objective measure, the following are indicators of artistic excellence and artistic merit:

- A clear description of the art form and/or the artist's creative process is included.
- The proposed work will potentially reveal something about the world by communicating unique perspective(s) or by inviting the viewer, reader, or audience to question, discover, and/or explore new ideas.
- Strong technical skill and craft in the execution of the relevant work is demonstrated.
- Commitment to working in the chosen form is demonstrated.
- Artistic challenge or stretch is called for; there is risk involved.
- A combination of aesthetics, technical skill, and delivery is potentially engaging emotionally, intellectually, and/or spiritually.
- Personal voice, vision, and authenticity shows in the proposed work.
- There is strong potential for public presentation.

project management (30%)

- The project, plans, and timeline are clearly described.
- The budget is concise and reasonable.
- If collaborating, key individuals with the necessary expertise to complete the project are listed.

application quality (10%)

- Narrative descriptions and plans for creating the work are clear and the panel understands the proposal.
- The work samples provided are relevant, cohesive, and speak to the potential of the new work to be created.

Eligible Expenses

Creation Grant funds must be used only for the creation of new work. We encourage applicants to use the funding to pay for their time (and other artists' if applicable). Eligible expenses for this grant award are:

- The artist's time (and other artists' time, if applicable) creating new work. This might include research, ideation/development, planning, and creation.
- The cost of purchasing materials or equipment for the creation of the work. The grant award may not be used for more than \$1,000 towards the equipment expense.
- The cost of renting space outside of the artist's home to create the work.
- The cost of renting equipment necessary to create the work.
- The cost of accommodations and accessibility related to the creation of the work. This might include captioning, ASL or other interpreters, large print, audio description, assistive listening system rentals, etc.

Grant funds may not be applied to any aspect of the public presentation of the work once the creation is completed. For example, the creation of a book or framed artwork would be eligible for funding, but not the costs associated with a public book reading or exhibit. The creation of a screenplay or choreography would be eligible for funding, including rehearsals, but not the costs associated with the actual public performances.

Grantee Requirements and Expectations

Grantees will be expected to sign a contract agreeing to specific funding requirements. A final report will be due thirty days after the project is complete, and no later than September 30, 2022. Award recipients are responsible for paying applicable taxes, and will receive a 1099 form in January of the year following the award.

See [Applicant and Grantee Information](#) for more information regarding requirements.

Deadline and Notification

The deadline is 11:59 p.m. on **April 14, 2021** and the [application is available online](#). Activities outlined in the project must take place between September 1, 2021 and August 31, 2022. Applicants will be notified of their funding status by early September 2021 (revised May 2021)

The Council welcomes conversations well in advance of your application. Our role is to help you prepare the strongest application possible and support your process.

Access and Nondiscrimination Policy

The Vermont Arts Council is committed to supporting entities that maintain an environment free from discrimination on the basis of race, religion, color, creed, national origin, age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, genetic bias, disability, citizenship, veteran status, or any other category protected by applicable state or federal law. Arts Council grant recipients who receive federal or state funds must be in compliance with the requirements of Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (504), the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), and the ADA Amendment Act of 2008 (P.L. 110-325) which became effective on January 1, 2009.

If the public is engaged in the creation of the artwork during the grant period, reasonable accommodations must be made to participants with disabilities (e.g., physically accessible location with consideration for parking, path of travel, ramps, and bathrooms; materials in large print or braille; qualified sign language interpreters; assistive listening devices; flexible times for participation, etc.).

Questions?

Inquiries about the Creation Grant program should be made by [sending an email to Dominique Gustin](#) or by calling 802.402.4602 (voice and relay calls welcome).

For technical issues relating to the online grant application, [send an email to Meredith Bell](#) or call 802.402.4478 (voice and relay calls welcome).