Vermont Arts Council

Arts Impact Grant Seeker Workshop
May 6, 2021

Thank you for joining us today.
The meeting will begin soon.

• Please keep your microphones muted throughout the presentation.

• The session is being recorded, and will be available on our website in a few days.

• Please use the chat function to submit your questions. We’ll have a Q&A at the end of the presentation.
Arts Impact Grant

Arts Impact Grants support nonprofit organizations, municipalities, and schools in their efforts to add vibrancy to Vermont communities by providing equal and abundant access to the arts.

Summit School of Traditional Music and Culture
FY19 Grantee
Mike and Ruthy perform at Spice on Snow Festival
Photo: Karen Hanron
Updates this Round

Exciting Changes!

- Expanded to include small operating grants to arts organizations

- Eligible applicants may only apply for one grant—either a project grant or an operating grant

- Award amounts increased to $1,000 - $4,000

- 1:1 match is no longer required

Vermont Vaudeville FY20 Grantee
Brent McCoy performing a physically distant mini fire show.
Photo: Beana Bern
Eligibility and Fiscal Agents

• Arts organizations are eligible to apply for either a project grant or operating grant (not both)

• Other nonprofits, municipalities, and schools may only apply for project grants

• Groups without tax-exempt status may apply using a fiscal agent
Who May Not Apply

• Current FY21-23 Arts Partner grantee organizations

• Organizations with outstanding or incomplete reporting for any Arts Council grant

• Schools seeking funding for an artist residency during the school day
Program Priorities

- provide equal and abundant access to the arts
- expand access to the arts and cultural activities for all Vermonters
- creative placemaking projects

Leach Public Library
FY18 Grantee
Children in a ceramics workshop
Program Criteria

Project Grant

• artistic merit (70%)
• project management (30%)

Operating Grant

• artistic merit (60%)
• organizational capacity (40%)
Project Grant | Artistic Merit

- creative experience is well-planned, of high artistic quality, and involves qualified personnel

- provides a rewarding and/or positive art experience for the participants and/or community

- artists/creatives are appropriately compensated

- meaningful community partnerships exist that enhance the quality of the project

- the project positively impacts participants and/or the community, specifically underrepresented groups (e.g., low income, New American, at-risk youth, BIPOC, individuals with various disabilities, LGBTQ+, etc.)
Project Grant

Project Management

• clear and reasonable budget

• realistic timeline

• compliant with access and nondiscrimination policies and laws
Operating Grant | Artistic Merit

• high-quality artistic programs or services offered
• fair and appropriate compensation provided to artists
• meaningful community partnerships exist
• the organization positively impacts participants and/or the community, specifically underrepresented groups (e.g., low income, New American, at-risk youth, BIPOC, individuals with various disabilities, LGBTQ+, etc.)
Operating Grant

Organizational Capacity

• clear and reasonable operating budget

• qualified personnel on staff or as consultants

• compliant with access and nondiscrimination policies and laws
Panel Review Process

• Comprised of 6-10 external reviewers from different organizations, disciplines, and areas of the creative sector.

• Vermont Arts Council staff only facilitates the panel discussion. We do not make funding recommendations.

• After the deadline, panelists use the criteria to guide them as they evaluate and score proposals.

• They meet later this summer to discuss the proposals and make funding recommendations.
Important Dates

Application deadline: **June 11 by 5 pm**

Projects must occur between **September 1, 2021** and **August 31, 2022**

Notifications emailed by the end of August

Grant funds awarded after **September 1**

Scrag Mountain Music
FY19 Grantee
Mary Bonhag and Evan Premo perform *The Ugly Duckling* for children and their families
Preparing a Strong Application

- Read, research, and plan.
- Start the application well before the deadline.
- Don’t assume anything.
- Be clear and direct.
- Provide a concise, reasonable, and balanced budget.

These tips are available on our website.
Accessibility Considerations

All applicants funded by the Vermont Arts Council must comply with access policies and laws.

Programs and activities are more welcoming and inclusive when they engage a broad spectrum of people in integrated settings that provide equal, effective, and enjoyable arts experiences for all.
Support Materials

• Include up to five total files (images, audio/video clips, and/or PDFs)

• Use these materials to reinforce your proposal – what will strengthen your application?

• You may also include up to four URLs that will help the panel understand the proposed project or organization
Arts Impact Grants support nonprofit organizations, municipalities, and schools in their efforts to add vibrancy to Vermont communities by providing equal and abundant access to the arts. To further support our creative sector, the Arts Impact Grant program is also expanding this round to include small operating grants to arts organizations. Eligible applicants may only apply for one grant—either a project grant or an operating grant.

For project grants, examples of fundable projects include:

- performances, exhibits, screenings, readings, fairs, public art projects, and festivals that focus on including new audiences
- program improvements that enable people with disabilities to participate
- public art projects that commission an artist for the creation of new work where the community is engaged in the planning, presentation, and/or fabrication
- creative experiences that are designed to include a specific group of a certain age, income, gender, race, ability, or to encourage interaction among these groups

Read this list to see which organizations were awarded grants for FY2020. This program did not run in FY2021.

GRANT CONTACT
Meredith Bell
802.402.4478
mbell@vermontartscouncil.org

APPLICATION AND DEADLINE
deadline June 11, 2021
application preview
apply online

GRANT GUIDELINES
FY22 Arts Impact Grant guidelines

GRANTSEEKER WORKSHOP
Thursday May 6, 2021, 1:30-2:30 p.m.
register
Navigating Online Grant Portal

We have a completely new and different online grant system. When you click apply online, it will automatically re-direct you to the new system.

APPLICATION AND DEADLINE

deadline June 11, 2021
application preview
apply online
Navigating Online Grant Portal

Sign In

Welcome!

If you have previously applied for a grant with us, you will still need to register to use this new system. New users will also need to register before signing in. Click on the register link below. If you run into issues with registration or signing in, please send an email to Meredith Bell.

User ID (Email address)  Email Address
Password  Password
Keep me signed in  

Sign In

Register / Send password hint / Reset password
Navigating Online Grant Portal

Enter your first and last name, work email address, and create a password.

Account Information

- **First Name**: [First Name]
- **Last Name**: [Last Name]
- **Nickname**: [Nickname]
- **Email Address**: [Email Address]
- **Password**: [Password]

Please choose a password at least 8 characters in length, with a mix of upper and lower case letters, and at least one digit or special character.

- **Confirm Password**: [Confirm password]
- **Password Hint**: [Password Hint]

**Portal Access**

- [ ] Individual Artist: Apply for grants for individual artists. (Artist Development, Art in State Buildings, and Creation)
- [x] Organization Applicant: Apply for grants on behalf of an organization, government entity, school or tribal community. (Animating Infrastructure, Arts Impact, Artists in Schools, Arts Partnership, Cultural Facilities, and Head Start)
Navigating Online Grant Portal

**Organization Information**

- **Organization**: Search for Organizations
- **Create New Organization**:

**Select an Organization**

**Search Tips**
- Search by the organization's legal name
- The best way to get a match is to use a short, but uncommon, part of the organization name
- Don't use extraneous words like "the" or "a"
- Check your spelling
- Try using different spellings and/or abbreviations

**Selected organization:**

- Vermont Arts Council
- Vermont Arts Council

- **Clear selection**
Navigating Online Grant Portal

### Organization Information
- **Organization**: Vermont Arts Council
- **Create New Organization**

### Contact Information
- **Copy From Organization**
- **Address Block (line 1)**: Line 1 of address
- **Address Block (line 2)**: Line 2 of address
- **City**: City
- **State**: [Dropdown]
- **Zip**: Zip
- **Primary Phone #**: Primary Phone # [Dropdown]
- **Secondary Phone #**: Secondary Phone # [Dropdown]

**Register**
Navigating Online Grant Portal

Organization Information

Organization

Search Organizations

Create New Organization

Organization Information

Organization Name

Tax ID

Line 1 of address

Line 2 of address

City

State

Zip

Primary Phone #

Website

NOTE: New organizations must be approved before you can use them.
Navigating Online Grant Portal

Welcome to the Vermont Arts Council Grant Portal!

Thank you for taking the time to register with us. Some web portal roles require approval before you can use those features. If you registered with an organization, then your permissions will be set by Arts Council staff. You will receive an email once your access has been approved.
Navigating Online Grant Portal
Navigating Online Grant Portal

Welcome Organization Applicant

Grants that are currently open are listed under Available Grants and your saved or submitted applications will appear under Alerts.

Featured Applications

View All Available Grants

Cultural Facilities Grant | FY2022 Application
Cultural Facilities Grants help Vermont nonprofit organizations and municipalities enhance, create, or expand the capacity of an existing building to provide cultural activities for the public.

See More
Navigating Online Grant Portal

Organization Grant Application
Cultural Facilities Grant | FY2022 Application

Be sure to thoroughly read the guidelines before starting your application. To navigate through the application, you can either click on the tabs (i.e., Guidelines, Organization Information, Project Budget, etc.) or click on the Next button at the bottom. You can click through the application tabs without answering all of the questions. However, before you can submit your application, required fields will need to be filled out.

The application will automatically save, but we also recommend saving your work often.

IMPORTANT: Additional information may be required on certain questions. Click on the blue question mark to access that information.

* Indicates a required field

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15. Are you applying for a Cultural Facilities Grant to make upgrades to accessibility features in your facility? This includes upgrades to sound systems. If yes, you will need to answer the questions under the Accessibility Projects tab.

Previous Next Save Submit
Navigating Online Grant Portal

Which type of grant are you applying for?
- operating grant
- project grant

If your organization is seeking funding for a specific project that will occur between September 1, 2021 and August 31, 2022, apply for a project grant.

If you are an arts organization not seeking funding for a specific project, apply for an operating grant.

If you are unsure, send an email to Meredith Bell to discuss which grant type would best fit your needs.
Navigating Online Grant Portal

It is important to demonstrate your organizational commitment to cultural activities. You should describe your organization's vision/plan for using the facility for cultural activities in the future. How often do you currently provide cultural activities to the public?
Open Office Hours

Starting next week, I’ll be available every Thursday for 30-minute phone calls. If you have questions about your application, book a time with me. I’m also available by email for questions.

Email: mbell@vermontartscouncil.org

Phone: 802.402.4478
Questions?
I hopefully have answers!