Creative Futures Grant Program
July 15, 2022

Creative Futures Page:
https://www.vermontartscouncil.org/grants/creative-futures-grant-program
Disclaimer

Program plan is pending approval from the Agency of Administration; some program details may change based on their input.
"The amount of $9,000,000.00 is appropriated to the Vermont Arts Council to provide grants for monthly operating costs, including rent, mortgage, utilities, and insurance, to creative economy businesses and nonprofits that have sustained substantial losses due to the pandemic."
Eligibility

"creative economy businesses and nonprofits that have sustained substantial losses due to the pandemic."

• For profit and nonprofit, including sole proprietorships
• Located in VT
• Can identify economic harm due to the pandemic
• Will require disclosure of all past, pending, and planned pandemic relief (PPP, Shuttered Venues, VEDA Forgivable Loan, VAC/VH Cultural Recovery, etc.)
Award Size and Use of Funds

"grants for monthly operating costs, including rent, mortgage, utilities, and insurance."

• For most businesses and nonprofits, grant amounts will be based on 2019 (pre-pandemic) operating revenue.
  o Based on a tiered system; awards will be approx. 10%
  o Maximum grant $200,000
• Sole Proprietor grant awards will be $4,000
• Capital expenditures will not be allowed
Criteria

- **Severity of Pandemic Harm** (as identified in the Final Rule from Treasury: Financial insecurity, Decreased revenue, Increased cost, Challenges meeting payroll and other operating costs)

- **Community and Cultural Impact** (mission, cultural significance, and communities served)

- **Economic Impact** (role in local economic recovery, ability to retain or rehire jobs, provider of unique products or services, likelihood of post-pandemic resilience)
Equity

- Special consideration for entities that were led by or directly served BIPOC Vermonters or other historically marginalized communities.

- Multiple rounds to allow for outreach and assistance to a diverse range of applicants—including sole proprietors and smaller organizations
Proposed Timeline

• **Round 1**: open September 15 – November 1; notifications by mid-December

• **Round 2**: open January 3 - Feb. 28, 2023; notifications by mid-April

• **Round 3**: open May 1 - June 30, 2023; notifications by mid-August
Getting Ready

- Register in our grant portal: [https://vac.spectrumportal.net/accounts/register](https://vac.spectrumportal.net/accounts/register)
- Get your UEI: [https://www.vermontartscouncil.org/grants/applicant-and-grantee-information/get-your-uei](https://www.vermontartscouncil.org/grants/applicant-and-grantee-information/get-your-uei)
- Sign up for our email list: [https://www.vermontartscouncil.org/subscribe](https://www.vermontartscouncil.org/subscribe)
- Share your input and questions: [https://forms.gle/HvifyZuU5iLvm8TAA](https://forms.gle/HvifyZuU5iLvm8TAA)
Disclaimer (one more time...)

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Two other programs to watch for...

- Community Recovery and Revitalization Grant Program from the Vermont Department of Economic Development
  - Sign up for Dept. of Economic Development newsletters: [https://us3.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=ff50346b45ae607c4e55c01ec&id=840f5c78bd](https://us3.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=ff50346b45ae607c4e55c01ec&id=840f5c78bd)

- Public Library capital investment grants from the Vermont Department of Libraries
  - Sign up for VT Dept. of Libraries newsletters: [https://us3.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=ff50346b45ae607c4e55c01ec&id=840f5c78bd](https://us3.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=ff50346b45ae607c4e55c01ec&id=840f5c78bd)