People’s Choice Creation Grant Award | FY2024 Guidelines

The People’s Choice Creation Grant Award is a unique opportunity for artists—and the broader Vermont community—to participate in the highly competitive Creation Grant program, discover new artists across a wide range of artistic disciplines, and vote on which amazing proposal to fund (it will be a challenge)!

Creation Grant applicants choose on their application whether they would like their proposal to also be considered for the People’s Choice. It’s not mandatory! But by choosing to participate in the People’s Choice, you might:

• Increase your chances of receiving Creation Grant award funding
• Receive additional exposure of your work
• Increase your potential for additional support by listing your social payment service or crowdfunding platform (Venmo, PayPal, Kickstarter, GoFundMe, etc.) for direct donations from the broader community

How It Works (view the timeline flow chart)

• Indicate on your Creation Grant application whether you would like your proposal to be considered for a People’s Choice Award, in addition to the independent panel review.
• After the independent panel review has concluded, proposals that have been selected to receive a Creation Grant award, along with proposals that have self-selected not to participate in the People’s Choice Award, will be notified. These proposals will not be considered for a People’s Choice Award.
• If you elect to have your proposal considered for a People’s Choice Award, the information you provide in the special People’s Choice Award section of the application will be the only information featured in the Council’s online Spotlight Gallery for the public to view.
• Vermont residents, curators, artists, presenters, publishers, and other arts professionals will be invited to view participating proposals on our website and use some of the same grant criteria (see below) to cast one vote for their selection of the People’s Choice Award. Participants must be 18 years old or older and be a Vermont resident in order to vote.
• Once the deadline for voting has passed, votes will be tallied. The proposal with the most votes will receive the Creation Grant People’s Choice Award for the amount requested in the proposal budget (up to the maximum $5,000).
More on Voting

The public will only be able to view application materials designated by artists in the People’s Choice Award section of the application (learn more in application sample on our website), including:

- 1-3 media samples
- Abbreviated project description
- Short artist bio
- Website and/or social media addresses
- Crowdfunding or social payment service links

Voters will be asked to use some of the same grant criteria used by the independent review panel, to make their selection in casting their vote, including:

- Strong technical skill and craft in the execution of the relevant work is demonstrated
- 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
- The creative work demonstrates integrity and ethical use of material with specific cultural origins and content
- 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
- There is strong potential for public presentation

Timeline (view the timeline flow chart)

- Creation Grant Application Deadline: April 3
- Award Notifications for Creation Grants: late August
- Voting begins for the People’s Choice Grant Awards: September 5
- Votes must be cast by: September 17
- People’s Choice Award notification: late September