2024 Arts & Culture Project Grants

SUMMARY:

RACC Arts & Culture Project Grants challenge arts and culture nonprofits to serve Reno's traditionally under-invested populations and youth programming and to seek innovative partnerships. The grant applications ask organizations to demonstrate social impact beyond a traditional audience experience as well as a plan to reach diverse and under-served populations.

Project Grants may NOT be used for the following: capital improvements or acquisition of equipment or property, projects which further the aims of religious organizations, fundraising, prizes, projects which involve touring outside of Reno, indirect costs, general operating costs, and scholarships or research stipends.

Arts Access Project

This category is open to arts and non-arts nonprofit organizations. Awards support projects that engage at least one of Reno's traditionally under-invested populations in unique, creative activities or artmaking. Under-invested populations may include one or more of the following: seniors, ALAANA (African, Latinx, Asian, Arab and Native American), differently-abled, new Americans, low-income, veterans and LGBTQ. Projects funded in this category will encourage participation in the visual arts, craft, media, music, theater, dance, folk, history or literary arts through events, performances, exhibits, classes/workshops and other arts programs. Expenses that qualify for funding include artist fees, public performance and exhibition costs, project-related promotion and marketing, arts consultants, guest teaching artist fees, materials, supplies, etc. Applicants can receive up to fifty percent of eligible program costs, not to exceed $7,000. Requires a 1:1 cash match.

Youth Arts Project

This category is open to arts and non-arts nonprofit organizations that provide programming for youth under the ages of 18 years old. Projects funded in this category will encourage participation in the visual arts, craft, media, music, theater, dance, folk, or literary arts though events, performances, exhibits, classes/workshops and other arts programs. Projects must be lead by an artist(s) who has experience working with youth and be guided by an approach or process for teaching and/or presenting art. Expenses that qualify funding include artist fees, public performance and exhibition costs, project-related promotion and marketing, arts consultants, guest teaching artist fees, materials, supplies, etc. Applicants can receive up to fifty percent of eligible program costs, not to exceed $7,000. Requires a 1:1 cash match.

A competitive application will demonstrate social impact beyond a traditional audience experience as well as a plan to reach diverse and underserved populations in the following ways:

- Engages participants through a variety of means

- Project times, locations, facilities, and technology are accessible to the public
- Understands the community it services (geographical, cultural, economic, racial, educational relevance, etc.)
- Utilizes partnerships to effectively serve specific communities
- Collects participant feedback and uses the results to improve community-focused programming
- Demonstrates social, educational, cultural, and/or economic relevance for the community
- Contributes to vibrant, creative neighborhoods

ELIGIBILITY:

- Non-profit organizations or public institutions under chapter 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code or qualified educational institutions. Grants will not be awarded to individuals.
- Applicants may apply for a City of Reno Event Grant as well but may only be considered for one depending on amount of funding requests. Event Grant programming must be different than a grant request for a Project Grant.
- Non-profit organizations or public institutions can only apply for one Project Grant.
- **1:1 cash match of requested funds.**

Project Grant applications will be evaluated based on the following:

1. **Organization Profile**: This section provides an overview of the nonprofit that includes its mission, background, recent accomplishments, program descriptions, governance, senior leadership, and financial history. This section asks questions about the organization's overall health as a nonprofit. Areas that influence the overall health of a nonprofit are the size and make-up of the governing board of directors, qualifications and abilities of staff, leadership demographics in relation to the population being served, regular organizational assessment, and short and long-term goal setting. Note: No scoring will be put on the organizational profile part of this grant however the questions are on this grant so organizations know what to expect for future grant processes.

2. **The Project**: All answers in this section address artistic and cultural merit. Components discussed here should include the artistic genres that will be used in programming, qualifications of the lead artist(s), how standards will be defined, and what artistic goals/outcomes the program will produce.

3. **The Community**: Questions in this section describe the organization's ability to engage the community effectively. Answers should include evidence that the organization understands the community it is trying to serve, program offerings are something that fills an artistic/cultural need, and the program has been developed with a focus on arts access.

4. **Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Access (IDEA)**: This section seeks to understand how your organization works to identify and address issues related to IDEA through your proposed event. Answers should demonstrate how your project demonstrates social,

education, cultural and/or economic relevance for the community, how you plan to identify and connect with underserved communities, what strategies you will put in place to overcome barriers to audience participation, and how you plan to meet physical and programmatic accessibility requirements.

5. **Budget:** This section will address the specific budget for the event or project. Show realistic numbers for costs related to the event or project and show that artists and personnel are being paid fair wages.

[Download our Grant Writing Tips](#).

[Download the Grant Review Guidelines.](#)

FUNDING: $7,000 maximum (1:1 cash match)

TIMELINE: Project grants must take place from January 1, 2024 and December 31, 2024.

DEADLINE: *APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED before midnight on Saturday, September 30, 2023.*

FINAL REPORTING: Grant funds will not be dispersed until final reporting is complete. Organizations must submit a final budget for the project to show total expenses and revenues and demonstrate that the match was met. They must also fill out a final report that includes whether the project/event met the anticipated goals, outline the total number of personnel that worked on the project/event, the total number of volunteers on the project/event, an example from the project/event that strengthens the case for increased funding in the arts, and three photographs from the project.

There is an audience survey component that is required. Forms will be supplied to organizations for audience survey. This survey gathers important data for the City to ensure equitable funding and assess and identify areas for improvement. If this component is not met, funding will not be released.

Please reach out to Anza Jarschke at jarschkea@reno.gov if you have any questions.

*If you would like assistance in Spanish, please contact staff at (775) 326-6333. *Si desea asistencia en español o para asistir a un taller de becas en español, comuníquese con el personal al (775) 326-6333.