

Grants for Arts Projects

[Discipline specific sections, to be merged with Universal Instructions, are below.]

Arts Education

The NEA envisions a nation where every student is engaged and inspired by high-quality arts education, which is essential for developing America's next generation of creative and innovative thinkers. We support projects for pre-K-12 students (Direct Learning), and the educators and teaching artists who support them in schools and communities. (Professional Development). Projects submitted to Arts Education may include activities in any artistic discipline. Learning may take place in school, after school, and out of school in rural, urban, suburban, and tribal communities.

Projects should engage participants over an extended period of time to deepen their learning in the arts, and incorporate robust measures to assess student and/or teacher learning. Projects for short-term arts exposure, arts appreciation, or intergenerational activity should not be submitted under Arts Education; they should be submitted to one of the other program areas.

Direct Learning

Projects support arts instruction for students, generally pre-K through 12th grade, that result in increased knowledge and skills in the arts. Activities may be offered during or outside the regular school day schedule by school districts, arts organizations, or non-arts organizations or agencies in partnership with artists and/or arts groups, and may take place in locations such as schools, arts organizations, or other settings.

Direct Learning projects should address each of the following elements:

- **Experience:** Participants experience exemplary works of art to increase knowledge and skills in the art form;
- **Create:** Informed by their experience in an art form, participants will create or perform art; and
- **Assess:** Student learning is assessed in alignment with specific [national core arts standards](#) or state arts education standards. Describe how you plan to measure increased knowledge and skills in the arts. Where appropriate, describe how you use the arts to address other student outcomes, such as creative youth development, college and career readiness, student health and well-being, or other outcomes that affect change in school or community culture.

Professional Development

Projects equip classroom teachers, arts specialists, teaching artists, school/district administrators, arts administrators, and community leaders with the knowledge and skills to effectively engage students in high quality, curriculum-based arts learning. Professional

development projects improve instructional practice, foster pathways into the arts education field, and/or support educator recruitment and retention strategies.

Professional Development projects should include each of the following elements:

- **Experience:** Participants have an experience in or through the arts;
- **Study:** Participants are engaged in a sustained, in-depth course of study; and
- **Evaluate:** Participant learning is evaluated and the impact of the professional development on practice is measured.

Part 2 Grant Application Form

Project Details Tab

Subtab: Project Activity

DISCIPLINE SUB-CATEGORY*

Select the artistic discipline that best fits this project:

- | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Dance | • Music | • Visual & Media Arts |
| • Design & Our Town | • Opera | • Not applicable |
| • Folk & Traditional Arts | • Presenting & | |
| • Literary Arts | Multidisciplinary Works | |
| • Museums | • Theater & Musical Theater | |

Subtab: Additional Project Details

PROJECT GOALS AND MONITORING*

- **For Direct Learning Projects**, also describe plans to assess student learning, in alignment with specific national or state arts education standards.
- **For Professional Development Projects**, also describe how participant learning is evaluated and the impact of the professional development on practice is measured.

Additional Items Tab

In the first text box, enter the Arts Education project type:

- Direct Learning
- Professional Development

Enter N/A in the remaining two fields on this page. Extraneous information may be removed.

Items to Upload Tab

Work Samples

[PLACEHOLDER, SEE UNIVERSAL INSTRUCTIONS]

Work Sample Types & Limits

Applicants should submit *no more than four work samples total*.

- Samples should reflect the project type you have chosen: Direct Learning, or Professional Development. They should concisely communicate the exemplary quality of your project.
- We strongly encourage video work samples to effectively convey the artistic excellence and merit of the project.
- Samples should not be more than three years old.

Work samples may include:

- **Student work.** Where applicable, work samples should show student work and convey the actions or reactions of the youth to the arts learning engagement. It is important to demonstrate the process of learning as well as the finished product. Identify the age or grade of the youth; whether they are beginning, intermediate, or advanced students, or a combination thereof; and the context for the work including the chronological point in the project that is represented (e.g., start-of-year class, mid-session workshop, year-end program).
- **Artist/teaching artist work.** Wherever possible, work samples should demonstrate the experience and skills of the proposed artists/teachers who will be working with the participants. Submit work samples that demonstrate the quality of instruction.
- **Curriculum units or lesson plans.** Include an explanation of their relevance to the project and to the other work samples submitted. Where possible, curriculum units or lessons should demonstrate alignment to specific national or state arts education standards.
- **Assessment/evaluation documentation.** Include any assessment tools you may use in the project, e.g., rubrics, surveys, evaluation forms, student journal samples, final evaluation reports, or other relevant documentation.
- **Other work** that is relevant to the project.

Type	Arts Education Work Samples
AUDIO & VIDEO SAMPLES Up to 4 audio samples; Up to 4 video samples. Up to 6 minutes of audio; Up to 6 minutes of video.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit one video sample, no longer than six minutes in length, OR a collection of videos with a combined viewing time of no more than six minutes. • Submit one audio sample, no longer than six minutes in length, OR a collection of audio samples with a combined time of no more than six minutes.
WEBSITES Up to 3 websites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only submit websites that are relevant to your project, do not submit your organization's general website. • Do not use this work sample type to submit additional audio clips, video clips, images, or documents in excess of the stated limits.

Type	Arts Education Work Samples
DIGITAL IMAGES Up to 12 Images	Each image counts toward the 12 image maximum, regardless of how many images are included per page.
DOCUMENTS Up to 4 documents Up to 12 pages each	Examples of documents or excerpts of documents may include sample lesson plans, teachers' guides, sample curricula, syllabi, program evaluation or student assessment methods, or documentation of past evaluation or assessment efforts, and publications.

Local Education Agency Documentation

This applies *solely to single schools that are operating as a Local Education Agency (school district)*, as is the case with some charter schools.

Submit a PDF file with documentation that supports the legal status as a local education agency. This will not count against document limits.

NOTE: We do not make awards directly to individual elementary or secondary schools -- charter, private, or public. Local education agencies and school districts are eligible.

Challenge America

Challenge America supports arts projects from small organizations that extend the reach of the arts to underserved groups/communities. The term “underserved,” as defined by the NEA’s legislation and agency policy, refers to those whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited relative to **geography, ethnicity, economic status, or disability**. Applicants must identify one of these groups/communities as being served by the proposed project. Projects that serve other groups such as veterans, or age-specific groups (e.g., youth, seniors) **must also** include one of the four underserved categories listed above. Challenge America awards are limited to \$10,000 (applications submitted to Challenge America for an amount higher than \$10,000 will be marked ineligible).

Challenge America is restricted to applications that meet *all three* of the following criteria*:

- The applicant organization had an operating budget less than \$250,000 in the most recently completed fiscal year, *and*
- The proposed project is specifically focused on activities for underserved groups/communities, *and*
- The requested award amount is \$10,000.

Organizations that meet the three criteria above are **not required** to choose Challenge America. They may choose one of the other GAP disciplines if that is their preference. Organizations that *do not* meet the criteria above should apply to one of the other GAP disciplines.

*Exceptions:

- Local arts agencies (units of city, county, or federally recognized tribal government; non-arts departments of local government; and designated special districts), should apply through the Local Arts Agencies discipline, regardless of organization size or project focus.
- Arts learning projects that engage participants over an extended period of time, and incorporate robust measures to assess student and/or teacher learning should be submitted to the Arts Education discipline, regardless of organization size or project focus.

Project activities in Challenge America may include, but are not limited to:

- Arts programming, including commissioning, presentation, or exhibition of artists or artwork;
- Audience and community engagement;
- Arts learning activities for short-term arts exposure, arts appreciation, or intergenerational activity; and
- Organizational planning.

Projects may consist of one or more specific events or activities but cannot cover all of an organization’s seasonal programming. The NEA does not fund general operating support or support for an entire season of programming.

Part 2 Grant Application Form

Project Details Tab

Subtab: Project Activity

DISCIPLINE SUB-CATEGORY*

Select the artistic discipline that best fits this project:

- Dance
- Design & Our Town
- Folk & Traditional Arts
- Literary Arts
- Museums
- Music
- Opera
- Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works
- Theater & Musical Theater
- Visual & Media Arts

UNDERSERVED GROUPS/COMMUNITIES*

Identify the primary underserved group/community your project will reach. Choose only one, even if your project may serve multiple groups/communities:

- Geography
- Ethnicity
- Economic Status
- Disability

ENGAGEMENT WITH INTENDED COMMUNITY, PARTICIPANTS & AUDIENCE *

2,000-character limit, including spaces

The Challenge America discipline's focus is to support projects that extend the reach of the arts to underserved populations. Describe how this project will engage with the underserved group/community you identified in the Project Activity subtab, and how they will benefit.

Additional Items Tab

Challenge America does not accept additional items. **Enter N/A in each field.**

Items to Upload Tab

Work Samples

[PLACEHOLDER, SEE UNIVERSAL INSTRUCTIONS]

Work Sample Types & Limits

At least one (1) work sample is required and no more than three (3) may be submitted. Items such as promotional materials, letters of support (including letters from members of Congress) or other documents that are not direct work samples of the artists or representative of the applicant's programming should not be submitted.

We understand that a variety of reasons could prevent you from submitting work samples for specific artists. We suggest:

- If artists are yet to be selected for your project, include work samples for proposed artists, or artists that your organization has worked with in the past as an example of the caliber of excellence that you intend for your project. Clearly state the relevance of the selected work sample.
- If you are proposing a brand-new project, include samples from proposed artists that are representative of their body of past work.

Select work samples in a format relevant to the artistic discipline of your project. For example:

- For performing arts projects, submit audio or video samples.
- For media projects, submit audio or video samples.
- For design/museum/visual arts projects, submit digital images.
- For literary projects, submit documents.
- For multidisciplinary projects, submit samples in at least two art forms.

Type	Challenge America Work Samples
AUDIO & VIDEO SAMPLES Up to 3 audio samples; Up to 3 video samples. Up to 3 minutes per sample.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid submitting work samples that are hard to hear or see. Select work samples of the highest technical quality available to you. • Select a video that identifies the artists and provides a sample of their work. Promotional videos may not give a sense of the artists involved.
WEBSITES Up to 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only submit a website that is an essential part of the project. Do not submit your organization's general website unless the link highlights key components of the proposed project. • Do not use this section to submit additional audio clips, video clips, images, or documents in excess of the stated limits.
DIGITAL IMAGES Up to 10 Images	Each image counts toward the 10 image maximum, regardless of how many images are included per page.
DOCUMENTS Up to 3 documents, 12 pages each	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examples of documents or excerpts of documents may include literary samples, publications, periodicals, catalogues, architectural schematics, marketing materials. • Leave a margin of at least one inch at the top, bottom, and sides of all pages. Use only 8.5 x 11-inch size pages. Do not reduce type below 12-point font size. Within each PDF, number pages sequentially; place numbers on the bottom right-hand corner of each page.

Dance

Our grants support a wide range of dance genres and organizations including companies, presenters, service organizations, educators, festivals, and more. Dance companies may be artist-led, collaborative, disability-led, physically-integrated, and/or repertory-based. We encourage dance projects of all sizes that are working to cultivate dance in their communities or throughout the country.

Support is available for:

- Creation and development of new dance works, through commissioning, collaborative work, and artist residencies dedicated to providing support for artists to create and develop their work
- Restaging of existing dance works, including innovative reimagination of the original work; and presentation and touring of dance
- Disability-led projects or projects that engage disabled artists and/or students in pursuit of artistic goals
- Dance learning and exposure projects for people of all ages
- Professional artist development and services to the field including convenings, arts leadership training, and mentorship programs; digital capacity building for organizations to increase accessibility; and preservation, documentation, and archiving of choreography, performances, and other aspects of dance history.

Applications must be for projects only. A project may consist of one or more specific events or activities and should not cover an entire season of programming. We do not fund seasonal or general operating support.

Part 2 Grant Application Form

Additional Items Tab

Enter N/A in each field. Dance does not accept additional items.

Items to Upload Tab

Work Samples

[PLACEHOLDER, SEE UNIVERSAL INSTRUCTIONS]

Work Sample Types & Limits

Curate your work samples to reflect the project you are proposing (e.g. a dance company applying for the creation of new work for the company should include recent samples of the ensemble, as well as samples from the proposed choreographer.) For services to the field, the work samples should demonstrate the quality of the services being provided. If your project involves dance instruction, submit a sample curriculum.

Do NOT Include (*unallowable items will be removed from your application*).

- Statements/letters of support.
- Press materials or reviews.
- Support materials that do not relate to your proposed project.

Type	Guidance
AUDIO & VIDEO SAMPLES Up to 2 audio samples; Up to 4 video samples. Up to 5 minutes each	We recommend you submit no more than 4 high-quality video samples. Do not submit: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dark work samples or samples with poor visibility.• A promotional reel or trailer as your only video work sample.
WEBSITES Up to 3 links	Only submit websites that are relevant to your project, do not submit your organization's general website. Do not use this work sample type to submit additional audio clips, video clips, images, or documents in excess of the stated limits.
DIGITAL IMAGES Up to 5 Images	Each image counts toward the 5 image maximum, regardless of how many images are included per page.
DOCUMENTS Up to 3 documents, 12 pages each	Documents you may want to upload include: curriculum, study guides, feedback/surveys, class or festival schedule, etc. Only upload documents that are relevant to your project.

Design & Our Town

The Design and Our Town disciplines have been combined under one umbrella. Applicants should choose the sub-category that best suits their project activities. Applicants should be aware that we do **not** fund capital campaigns, construction costs, renovation, or the purchase or leasing of sites or structures.

Design

Grants support design projects that have a public benefit and advance the field of design. Funding may support architecture, communications and graphic design, fashion design, historic preservation, industrial and product design, interior design, landscape architecture, rural design, social impact design, and urban design. Support is available for:

- Commissions and production of new work, including workshops or residencies for designers;
- Exhibitions, publications, or websites that provide insights about specific designed objects, places, designers, or design history or movements;
- Design learning, exposure, mentorship, and apprenticeship projects;
- Historic and community preservation projects that promote awareness of cultural and historic assets, or adaptive reuse of historic properties for cultural and arts uses; and
- Projects that advance or sustain the creative work and/or careers of aspiring designers through employment, industry training, technical assistance, organization capacity building, conferences, symposia, workshops, residencies, and other professional development.

Our Town

Our Town grants support creative placemaking projects that integrate arts, culture, and design in efforts to advance local economic, physical, and other community-desired outcomes, such as supporting local artistic and cultural resources, improving a neighborhood's design, and/or strengthening local economies to promote investment and job creation.

Projects must be place-specific (e.g., a community, a neighborhood, a cultural district, etc.) and should focus on community priorities. Projects should demonstrate a specific role for arts, culture, and design to strengthen the local community, support changes at the local level, and lay the groundwork for long-term impact. Artistic work produced as part of an Our Town project should help achieve a broader community-identified goal described in the application.

Our Town projects should engage with a variety of local cross-sector partners to undertake the work. We strongly encourage – but do not require -- applications that establish new or deepen existing cross-sector partnerships between nonprofit organizations, local governmental or quasi-governmental entities, and the relevant arts, culture, and design expertise necessary to carry out the project.

Applications must be for projects only. We support project activities such as:

- Planning activities, including artist/designer-facilitated community planning, cultural planning, cultural district planning, mapping creative assets, or public art planning, that incorporate artists as key project leads.
- Community design processes, including design of artist spaces, design of cultural facilities, charrettes, or public space design.
- Strengthening the creative economy to include artists working in non-arts settings, professional development for artists/designers, arts instruction, and other supports for creative industries.
- Opportunities to highlight a community's artistic and cultural resources through artistic excellence in arts festivals, performances, workshops, and public art.

Part 2 Grant Application Form

Project Details Tab

Subtab: Project Activity

DISCIPLINE SUB-CATEGORY*:

Select the sub-category that best fits your project activities:

- Design
- Our Town

Additional Items Tab

Design Additional Items

Design does not request additional items. Enter N/A in the each field.

Our Town Additional Items

Project Goal Statement (up to 3,000 characters): Identify the community need, challenge, or opportunity the project will address. Provide local context relevant to the project, including broader information on the unique characteristics of the community where the project will take place.

Partnership Statement (up to 1,500 characters): Describe the relationship between project partners, and how the partnerships will strengthen the effectiveness and impact of the project.

Items to Upload Tab

Upload your work samples and letters of commitment/support here. All applicants must have at least one work sample to be considered complete.

ALL PROJECTS: PDF Statements of Support (optional)

Applicants are invited to submit up to three optional one-page statements of support that directly relate to the proposed project and demonstrate support from the community and local leadership. **Do not provide general statements of support for your organization.**

- A statement of support should demonstrate commitment from any combination of key designers, organizations, or community members that you wish to highlight. Statements of support are used by reviewers to assess the level of commitment of project participants and the anticipated impact of project activities.
- Our Town applicants: Submit a letter of commitment from a project partner reflecting the partner's specific support for and role in the project.
- Letters from local leaders, community-based organizations, and members of the community that are involved in your project are encouraged
- Each statement should be signed by its author. Include the name, affiliation, phone number, and e-mail address of the individual who provided it.
- Statements may be on letterhead, if applicable.
- Submit all statements of support together as a single PDF file. This will not count against the document limit listed below.

Work Samples

[PLACEHOLDER, SEE UNIVERSAL INSTRUCTIONS]

Work Samples Types & Limits

It is up to you to determine the work samples that are most relevant to and best support your proposed project. The work can be from any individual or partner involved in the project. For example, submit samples that show previous work from participating artists or designers', proposed sites, existing conditions, past exhibitions by the organization, examples or case studies of similar projects, a sampling of items to be included in the exhibition, or imagery that otherwise demonstrate the artistic excellence and intentions of the project.

Select the format most appropriate to the artistic medium or discipline represented in your project. Audio and video clips are intended to accommodate theater, dance, music, film, performances, cultural heritage practices, and new media (not slide shows of still images). We highly recommend limiting your selections to **three to four substantive work samples** relevant to the project.

Type	Guidance
AUDIO & VIDEO SAMPLES	Up to 3 audio and/or video samples, of up to 3 minutes per sample.

Type	Guidance
DIGITAL IMAGES Up to 20 Images	Each image counts toward the 20 image maximum, regardless of how many images are included per page.
WEBSITES Up to 3 links	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Only submit websites that are relevant to your project, do not submit your organization's general website.• Do not use this work sample type to submit additional audio clips, video clips, images, or documents in excess of the stated limits.
DOCUMENTS Up to 2 documents, or excerpts of documents, not to exceed ten (10) total pages of material.	Types of documents may include: Planning documents, Publications, Periodicals, Catalogues, Monographs, Commissioned Essays. Excess pages will be removed and not be reviewed.

Folk & Traditional Arts

Rooted in and reflective of the cultural life of a community, folk and traditional arts are constantly evolving, shaped by values and standards of excellence passed from generation to generation, most often within family and community, through demonstration, conversation, and practice. Project activities are represented by a wide range of genres including music, dance, crafts, foodways, regalia/adornment, occupation, ceremony, and oral expression, such as stories, poetry, and language. We encourage projects focusing on cultural sustainability, as well as the stewardship and awareness of living cultural traditions.

Support is available for:

- Exhibits, performances, festivals, powwows, hands-on artist demonstrations, media projects, and other community programs that celebrate folklife and cultural heritage.
- Training, mentorship, and apprenticeship programs for folk and traditional artists.
- Artist residencies dedicated to providing support for artists to create and develop their work.
- Folk arts learning programs, workshops, and classes offering instruction in various folk and traditional arts for people of all ages.
- Ethnographic fieldwork and research to document, preserve, and/or revitalize folklife, lifeways, and cultural heritage and to identify traditional artists.
- Services to the field such as conferences, convenings, publications, archiving, preservation, documentation projects, and professional development activities.

Part 2 Grant Application Form

Additional Items Tab

Statement of Support: Up to 1 statement
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A statement from an external individual who is a key project partner, artist, participant, or member of a benefiting community specifically addressing their role in the project, and/or the potential impact this project will have on their community, organizational mission, or artistic practice.• If participants or partners are yet to be selected, a statement from previous beneficiaries may be included.• Include the name and title of the person who authored each statement.

Items to Upload Tab

Work Samples

[PLACEHOLDER, SEE UNIVERSAL INSTRUCTIONS]

Work Sample Types & Limits

You may submit relevant samples of previous work completed if participating artists or other key components of your project are not yet determined. Promotional materials should only be submitted if they clearly demonstrate the artistic excellence and artistic merit of your project.

For example, if you are proposing:

- **A festival, performance, or tour**, submit representative samples of the proposed artists and/or relevant samples of previous work completed by the applicant or partner organization.
- **An exhibition**, submit an exhibition plan and visual documentation that provides a representative sampling of the works to be shown.
- **An educational or apprenticeship program**, submit a sample that demonstrates the experience and skills of the proposed artists/teachers who will be involved.
- **A media project**, submit a sample of previous work by the individual(s) with primary artistic control and a sample of the subject to be portrayed. If the request is to complete a work, submit a sample of the work in progress.
- **Services for artists and/or arts organizations**, submit brief selections from publications, training material, or other documentation that demonstrates your organization's expertise and ability to carry out the project.

Type	Guidance
AUDIO & VIDEO SAMPLES Up to 3 audio samples; Up to 3 video samples Up to 3 minutes per sample	If the sample exceeds three minutes, indicate which three-minute segment you would like to be reviewed. If not indicated, panelists will be directed to review the first three minutes of the selection.
WEBSITES Up to 3 links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only submit websites that are relevant to your project, do not submit your organization's general website. • Do not use this work sample type to submit additional audio clips, video clips, images, or documents in excess of the stated limits.
DIGITAL IMAGES Up to 10 Images	Each image counts toward the 10 image maximum, regardless of how many images are included per page.
DOCUMENTS Up to 3 documents, 5 pages each. Excess pages will be removed and not be reviewed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examples of documents may include exhibition plans, study guides, professional development resources, event programs, excerpts from apprentice/mentorship applications, publications, journals, or catalogues, among others • Do not submit bios, resumes, or board lists.

Literary Arts

Literary Arts supports projects in two areas: **Literary Publishing** and **Public Engagement/Professional Development**. In previous years, each project type was accepted at a specific deadline – applicants can now choose either deadline, based on the timing of their project. This opportunity is intended for organizations, not individuals.

Literary Publishing

This project type is specifically for literary journals and independent and university presses that seek to **publish, distribute, and/or promote literary content** by contemporary writers and translators in such genres as poetry, fiction, drama, and creative nonfiction. Content may be published in print, digitally, and/or in audio formats, and should be in English, or English and another language. In addition to one or all of the above activities, proposals may incorporate any of the following:

- Efforts to advance the field of literary publishing, including fresh approaches to the development of literary content;
- Capacity-building activities, such as leadership and professional development, transition planning, and emergency preparedness.

If publishing is not your organization's central function, do not apply for literary publishing. Your proposal will not be competitive.

Public Engagement/Professional Development

This project type is for literary arts centers, festivals, presenters, and other organizations that offer **literary arts programming and services** designed to promote and develop practitioners of, and audiences for, poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, and spoken word. Proposals may include but are not limited to:

- Reading series, festivals, podcasts and other activities that engage the public with contemporary writers and writing;
- Conferences, residencies, workshops, and other professional development activities for working creative writers, as well as literary arts learning and exposure projects for people of all ages;
- Services to the literary arts field, such as peer-to-peer learning, technical and business assistance, field-wide information gathering; and capacity-building activities, such as leadership and professional development, transition planning, and emergency preparedness.

Part 2 Grant Application Form

Project Details Tab

Subtab: Project Activity

DISCIPLINE SUB-CATEGORY*

Select the sub-category that best suits your project activities:

- Publishing
- Public Engagement/Professional Development

Additional Items Tab

Literary Publishing Projects

Magazines and Journals:

- Describe your policy for paying writers and/or translators.
- Print publication projects: provide your most recent print run information, as well as circulation figures, detailing paid and unpaid subscriptions and single-copy sales. Provide the name of your distributor or briefly describe your distribution plan.
- Online publication projects: provide readership figures.

Presses:

- For each proposed work, list author and/or translator payments, print runs, and expected sales (units sold).
- If your project involves publishing an anthology, provide a sample table of contents.
- Provide the name of your distributor or briefly describe your distribution plan.

Public Engagement/Professional Development

- Briefly outline your policy for compensating writers and artists who participate in your program.
- If your project includes a nationally-distributed publication with a field-wide focus (such as from a service organization), follow the instructions for the Literary Publishing deadline above.

Items to Upload Tab

Work Samples

[PLACEHOLDER, SEE UNIVERSAL INSTRUCTIONS]

Work Sample Types & Limits

Work that exists in published form (e.g., an excerpt from a published journal or book) may be provided in its published layout, provided that it is easily viewed on screen.

For work that has not been published, leave a margin of at least one inch at the top, bottom, and sides of all pages, and use double-spaced text. Use only 8.5 x 11-inch size pages. Do not reduce type below 12-point font size. Within each PDF, number pages sequentially; place numbers on the bottom right-hand corner of each page.

Literary Publishing Projects

For Presses: Required

- A five(5) page excerpt in English from each book that will be part of the project. If a proposed book will be selected through a contest and has not yet been chosen, provide a five-page excerpt from a past book selected through that contest.
 - Clearly label and combine excerpts into a single PDF file.
 - Book descriptions and author bios should be provided in the application narrative, not here.
- A PDF of your most recent catalogue or a PDF with a link to a backlist of recently published titles.

For Presses: Optional

- A PDF with up to five images demonstrating design and/or formatting of past publications.

For Journals: Required

- A cover image (if applicable) and five (5) page excerpt in English from up to three issues published within the last three years.
 - If your publication is an online journal that does not bundle content into issues, you may instead provide up to 15 pages of excerpts from pieces published in the last three years.
- Combine samples into a single PDF file.

All Publishing Applicants: Optional

- One (1) PDF, up to ten pages, with any combination of promotional and outreach material and press coverage. Do not include links.
- One (1) PDF, up to five (5) pages, with project-related performance results/data not provided elsewhere in the application. Do not include links.
- For projects that include audio or video components: A total of up to three (3) links to audio or video samples of no more than three (3) minutes each.

Public Engagement/Professional Development

We encourage you to provide only those items that enhance the information in your application. **Do not submit links, unless for Audio or Video samples.** Submit one or more of the following:

- One (1) PDF, up to ten pages, with any combination of promotional and outreach material and press coverage.
- One (1) PDF, up to five (5) pages, with project-related performance results/data not provided elsewhere in the application.
- One (1) PDF, up to five (5) pages, with sample curricular material.
- One (1) PDF, up to five (5) pages, with excerpts from a project-related publication
- Up to three links to audio or video samples of no more than three (3) minutes each. We do not recommend providing content that simply features speakers at a podium.

Local Arts Agencies

Local Arts Agencies (LAAs) provide a wide range of programs and services in nearly every county across the United States. LAAs may be a department of local government, a nonprofit organization, or a public-private partnership. They may present or produce arts programming, commission and manage public art, administer grant programs, provide technical assistance to artists and arts organizations, and guide cultural and disaster planning efforts. For the LAA discipline, we welcome applications for arts projects developed and managed by:

- **Arts agencies** that are units of city, county, or federally recognized tribal government; or nonprofits that operate as arts agencies on behalf of their local government
- **Non-arts departments of local government**, including but not limited to economic development, parks and recreation, or planning departments
- **Designated special districts**, such as creative, arts and entertainment, or cultural districts
- National or statewide **service organizations** that work primarily with a network of LAAs

For the purposes of these guidelines, local governments are defined as counties, parishes, cities, towns, villages, or federally recognized tribal governments.

Project types are divided into two sub-categories eligible for support: **Programming** and **Subgranting**. Applicants may propose a Programming project OR a Subgranting project, but should not combine the two.

Programming Projects

Grants for Programming projects range from \$10,000 to \$100,000, and require a minimum cost share equal to the grant amount. Programming Project applications support activities undertaken by the applicant organization. Examples include:

- The presentation of artists, artworks, arts programming, and artist residency projects
- The commissioning of artists for the creation of new work
- Projects related to public art, such as creation, installation, and preservation
- Coordinated arts services, such as the management of cultural facilities, community-wide marketing campaigns, or cultural and/or disaster planning efforts
- Services to advance the professional skills of artists and arts organizations, such as convenings, technical assistance, and professional development opportunities
- Arts learning and exposure projects for people of all ages

Subgranting Projects

Designated local arts agencies eligible to subgrant NEA funds (see “subgranting eligibility” below) may request \$30,000 to \$150,000 for Subgranting projects, with a minimum cost share equal to the grant amount. LAAs may apply to subgrant NEA funds in support of arts programming of the type described under “Programming Projects” and undertaken by eligible organizations other than the applicant. **LAAs may not subgrant to individuals.**

An LAA that subgrants federal funds is considered a “pass-through” entity. A subgrant relationship exists when NEA grant funds are regranted to subrecipients for activities conducted independently of the LAA issuing the awards. An LAA may not subgrant NEA funds to ineligible organizations or individuals through a fiscal sponsor.

Before applying, all applicants for Subgranting projects should thoroughly review the [Subgranting Terms and Conditions](#). This document includes:

- Additional information on the definition of subgranting
- Requirements for subrecipient eligibility
- Specific requirements related to subgranting federal funds, including guidance for review criteria and other compliance issues

Subgranting Eligibility, Documentation & Reporting Requirements

The following additional **eligibility, documentation, and reporting** requirements apply to the Subgranting project type ONLY.

Subgranting Eligibility

In addition to the GAP applicant eligibility requirements (*GAP Grant Program Details*, pg. XX), to be eligible to subgrant NEA funds, a Local Arts Agency must:

1. Be an arts agency that is a unit of local government, or officially designated to operate as an arts agency on behalf of its local government. For the purposes of these guidelines, local governments are defined as counties, parishes, cities, towns, villages, or federally recognized tribal governments. This designation must be demonstrated by uploading appropriate documentation.
2. Have a history of grantmaking that occurred anytime within the ten-year period immediately preceding this program’s application deadline (i.e., February XX, 2016 if you are applying to the February 2026 deadline, or July XX, 2016 if you are applying to the July 2026 deadline).

Subgranting Documentation

Subgranting applicants must [submit documentation](#) demonstrating their eligibility to subgrant NEA funds.

Subgranting Reporting

Subgranting projects have additional reporting requirements, including but not limited to, the following:

- Require their subaward recipients to provide a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) before an award can be made.
- Report individual subawards of \$30,000 or more in federal funds to the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act Subaward Reporting System (FSRS).

- Ensure all subawards made with federal or cost share/matching funds are in compliance with the [General Terms and Conditions](#) for an NEA award, including the requirements for pass-through entities as provided for under 2 CFR 200.331 and the NHPA/NEPA and ADA/Section 504 requirements described in the GAP Grant Program Guidelines (pg. XX).

Part 2 Grant Application Form

Project Details Tab

Subtab: Project Activity

DISCIPLINE SUB-CATEGORY*:

Select the sub-category that best suits your project activities:

- Programming
- Subgranting

Additional Items Tab

Local Arts Agencies do not use these fields, enter N/A in each field. Do not use this section to add more information for other areas of the application.

Items to Upload Tab

Upload subgranting documentation and work samples here. Local Arts Agencies does not require statements of support.

Subgranting Documentation (Required for Subgranting Applicants Only)

Applicants to the Subgranting project type are required to submit two (2) separate PDFs (do not combine the PDFs):

1. **PDF One: Designation documentation** demonstrating an existing relationship between the LAA and local government. Applicants with questions about designation documentation should contact Locals@arts.gov for more information.
 - Submit a copy of the **city/county ordinance, resolution, charter, or contract** that assigns your organization the authority to operate on your local government's behalf. This document should demonstrate your eligibility to subgrant as a designated local arts agency. For organizations with a multi-city or multi-county service area, designation documentation does not need to be provided for every governmental entity in your service area.

We recognize that local governments may formalize this designation through a variety of formats and with various timelines. We reserve the right to request additional information to verify eligibility. While we strongly encourage you to include this documentation with your application, requests for documentation to be submitted after the application deadline may be made to Locals@arts.gov:

- February 2026 applicants may submit designation documentation by July 31, 2026.
- July 2026 applicants may submit designation documentation by December 31, 2026.

2. PDF Two: A one-page History of Grantmaking

To be eligible, applicants must have a history of grantmaking that took place anytime over the course of the past ten years preceding the application deadlines (February or July 2016 to present). The grantmaking history is not required to have been supported by the NEA.

Submit a one-page PDF file with the following:

- **Paragraph 1:** Describe your organization's grantmaking history, including dates for the grantmaking activities. This information should demonstrate the history of grantmaking eligibility requirement.
- **Paragraph 2:** Describe the selection process for your most recent grantmaking activities, including review criteria definitions, review process and panelist selection, and grant program priorities.
- **Paragraph 3:** Describe the applicant pool for your most recent grantmaking activities, including number of applicants, the artistic disciplines and/or communities represented, and the range of organizational budget sizes.
- **Paragraph 4:** Describe the grantees awarded during your most recent grantmaking activities, including number of grantees, the artistic disciplines and/or communities represented, the range of organizational budget sizes, and award amounts.

Work Samples

[PLACEHOLDER, SEE UNIVERSAL INSTRUCTIONS]

Work Sample Types & Limits

Work samples are required for all project types. For example, if you are proposing:

- **Services for artists and/or arts organizations**, submit brief selections from publications, training material, or other documentation that demonstrates your organization's expertise.
- **To create a work**, submit an example of work by the proposed artist(s).
- **To complete a work**, submit a sample of the work in progress.
- **To perform or present a work**, submit a sampling of performances that are typical of your organization's recent work and relevant to the project. Do not submit promotional material.
- **To tour a work**, submit a sample of touring activities.
- **A residency project**, submit a sample of selected artists' recent work and documentation of the facilities they will use. If the artists are not yet selected, submit samples of work by artists who recently have been in residence.
- **An educational or outreach activity**, submit a sample that demonstrates the experience and skills of the proposed artists/teachers who will be working with the participants.

- **An exhibition**, submit images that provide a sampling of the works to be shown.
- **To preserve or conserve** an object, site, or structure, submit appropriate visual documentation, including a condition report and a treatment proposal.
- **A catalogue or other publication**, submit sample text as well as brief selections from examples of similar publications recently issued by your organization. (Do not submit entire publications.)

Type	Guidance
AUDIO & VIDEO SAMPLES	You may submit links to up to 5 audio samples and up to 5 video samples. Each sample may be up to 3 minutes in length.
WEBSITES Up to 5 links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only submit websites that are relevant to your project; do not submit your organization's general website. • Do not use this work sample type to submit additional audio clips, video clips, images, or documents in excess of the stated limits.
DIGITAL IMAGES Up to 15 Images	Each image counts toward the 15 image maximum, regardless of how many images are included per page.
DOCUMENTS Up to 3 documents, up to 12 pages each. Excess pages will be removed and not be reviewed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leave a margin of at least one inch at the top, bottom, and sides of all pages. • Use only 8.5 x 11-inch size pages. • Do not reduce type below 12-point font size. • Within each PDF, number pages sequentially; place numbers on the bottom right-hand corner of each page.

Museums

The nation's museums are generally nonprofit organizations that collect, steward, interpret, and exhibit art, artifacts, and cultural heritage with and for the public. We support museum projects featuring work by artists in all mediums, representing contemporary and historic genres, styles, eras, and cultures.

Support is available for:

- Special exhibitions, collection exhibitions or reinstallations, presentation of new acquisitions, and related activities
- Arts learning and exposure projects for people of all ages
- Commissions and public art
- Artist residencies dedicated to providing support for artists to create and develop their work
- Collections management projects, provenance research, conservation, preservation, and restoration of artwork and objects
- Periodicals, publications, catalogues, and scholarly initiatives
- Activities that strengthen the museum field, such as professional development, mentorships, conferences, and cross-sector partnerships that integrate museums into the realm of other fields (e.g. healthcare, technology)

Part 2 Grant Application Form

Additional Items Tab

Additional Items
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Publications: as applicable, information regarding sales figures, print runs and circulation; a description of proposed content; and a list of committed writers.• Commissions and public art: a statement regarding permission to use the site.

Items to Upload Tab

Work Samples

[PLACEHOLDER, SEE UNIVERSAL INSTRUCTIONS]

Work Sample Types & Limits

Work samples are a **required** part of all Museums applications. **For your application to be considered complete, you must submit digital images (up to 20) in one PDF.** Competitive projects will include work samples by selected artists. Do not submit letters/statements of support. They will not be reviewed. **If recommended for funding, images and bios of selected artists may be required.**

- **Exhibitions:** submit work samples by selected or proposed artists *and* a working checklist with an indication of lenders' commitment if possible.
- **Residencies:** submit work samples by the proposed artist(s). If the artist(s) is not yet selected, submit representative samples of work by previous participants.
- **Publications:** submit short writing samples by prospective contributors and sample images of works to be included.
- **Commissions and public art:** submit work samples by artist(s) under consideration and images of the proposed site.
- **Conservation:** submit image, condition report, and treatment proposal for each work to be conserved. If applicable, submit images of previously conserved work by project personnel.
- **Collection care:** submit images that support the project.
- **Public programs:** submit images of project participants' work.

Type	Guidance
DIGITAL IMAGES <i>Required</i> Up to 20 Images	Submit a single image on each page of your PDF; do not submit 20 separate PDFs.
VIDEO SAMPLES Up to 2 video samples; Up to 2 minutes each	You may submit video samples if your proposed project would be best represented by a video work sample (as opposed to or in addition to still images). Do not submit images of video stills, videos should be submitted as links.
WEBSITES Up to 2 links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only submit websites that are relevant to your project, do not submit your organization's general website. • Do not use this section to submit additional audio clips, video clips, images, or documents in excess of the stated limits.
DOCUMENTS Up to 3 documents, 12 pages each. Excess pages will be removed and not be reviewed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Types of documents may include: exhibition checklists, publications, periodicals, and catalogues. • Use only 8.5 x 11-inch size pages. Do not reduce type below 12-point font size. • Applicants submitting publications should provide descriptive information that provides an overview of the exhibition covered by the publication excerpt.

Music

We support a wide range of music genres, from classical and contemporary to jazz. Applicant organizations include chamber music ensembles, choruses, early music programs, jazz ensembles, music festivals, symphony orchestras, music presenting organizations and service organizations, as well as professional artist development programs, music education organizations, and artist residencies. We are particularly interested in collaborations, innovative presentation strategies, and initiatives that help organizations engage audiences in new ways.

Support is available for:

- Commissions, co-commissions, or development of new musical compositions and innovative works, including artist residencies dedicated to providing support for artists to create and develop their work
- Public presentations of new and existing musical works, including festivals and domestic touring;
- Performances and educational engagements by or about NEA Jazz Masters that honor their work, history, style, and/or significance to jazz.
- Recordings of works by American or International composers.
- Music learning and exposure projects for people of all ages.
- Services to the field including conferences, publications, or archival, documentation, and preservation projects; professional leadership or artistic development training programs for musicians and arts administrators; and technology projects, such as broadcasts or webcasts, online resources, and libraries that provide public access to musical works.

Applications must be for projects only. A project may consist of one or more specific events or activities and should not cover an entire season of programming. We do not fund seasonal or general operating support.

Part 2 Grant Application Form

Additional Items Tab

This section offers an opportunity to submit more information only if your particular project fits the types listed below. This section is not required, even if your project includes these types of project activities. If necessary, combine items in a single field and label the items clearly.

Additional Items
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• For recording projects: Distribution plans• For professional artistic development projects: A representative list of the names and current professional affiliations of participants from the past two years.

Items to Upload Tab

Work Samples

[PLACEHOLDER, SEE UNIVERSAL INSTRUCTIONS]

Work Sample Types & Limits

Work samples are a required part of all Music applications and are considered carefully during application review.

- **All performing ensembles**, including music festivals with resident ensembles, must submit three to five samples of live performances recently recorded (no commercial studio recordings) of at least three contrasting works that are typical of the repertoire performed by your organization. Include, as applicable, recordings of works by proposed artist(s) or work(s) to be performed as part of your project.
- **All presenting organizations** must submit three to five samples of performances (commercial recordings are acceptable) that are typical of the artists and works presented by your organization. Recordings should be within the past five years. Include, as applicable, recordings of works by proposed artist(s) or work(s) to be presented as part of your project.
- **Both performing and presenting organizations** should also include the following as relevant to the proposed project:
 - **Commissioning projects:** one sample of recent work (within the last five years) by each proposed composer is required. If your project involves both music and text, also provide a PDF example of recent work by the librettist or other creator of the text.
 - **Recording projects:** samples of the work(s) to be recorded or, if not available, representative work(s) by the proposed composer(s).
 - **Completion of a work:** submit a sample of the work in progress.
 - **Collaborations:** submit samples that feature the various artists and/or organizations involved.
- **Commissioning projects:** submit a one-page letter of commitment from each composer that outlines the vision for the new work, providing length and instrumentation if known and text, if any.
- **Services to the field:** samples should demonstrate the quality of the services being provided.
- **Educational and outreach activities:** sample(s) should demonstrate both the skills of the artists who will be working with the participants as well as the artists/teachers working with students or others. The performance and the audio or video recording itself should both be of the highest quality.

Do not submit:

- Promotional material.
- General statements of support.

Type	Guidance
AUDIO & VIDEO SAMPLES Up to 5 audio samples; Up to 5 video samples. Up to 4 minutes per sample.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You may submit any combination of up to five audio and/or video work samples total.• For commissions or recordings projects, you may submit additional work samples, if needed.• For projects that do not involve commissions or recordings, submit no more than five samples overall that total no more than 20 minutes.
WEBSITES Up to 3 links	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Only submit websites that are essential to your project; do not submit your organization's general website.• Do not use this work sample type to submit additional audio clips, video clips, images, or documents in excess of the stated limits.
DIGITAL IMAGES Up to 12 Images	Each image counts toward the 12 image maximum, regardless of how many images are included per PDF page.
DOCUMENTS Up to 4 documents, up to 12 pages each Excess pages will be removed and not be reviewed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do not submit season brochures and programs.• Leave a margin of at least one inch at the top, bottom, and sides of all pages. Use only 8.5 x 11-inch size pages.• Do not reduce type below 12-point font size.• Within each PDF, number pages sequentially; place numbers on the bottom righthand corner of each page.

Opera

Applicants typically include professional opera companies, opera festivals, music festivals, presenting organizations, and other organizations that commission, develop, or produce fully-staged operatic works and/or concert opera. Applications for collaborations and innovative projects that engage audiences in new ways are encouraged.

Support is available for:

- Commissioning, development, and premiere of new operatic works
- Productions and presentations of traditional and contemporary opera, as well as domestic touring, festivals, performances and activities in public spaces, and semi-staged or concert opera.
- Recordings of opera works by International or American composers
- Residencies and workshops that focus on the creation of opera works, or training in the opera artform
- Post-conservatory professional artist development and training programs, and/or residencies for musicians, composers, librettists, conductors, directors, designers, and singers
- Opera learning and exposure projects for people of all ages
- Services to the opera field including conferences, publications, and archival, documentation, and preservation projects;
- Technology projects, such as broadcasts or webcasts, including simulcast performances and online resources that provide public access to opera.
- Tech-centered creative practices and artist-driven explorations of digital or emergent technology

Applications must be for projects only. A project may consist of one or more specific events or activities and should not cover an entire season of programming. We do not fund seasonal or general operating support.

Part 2 Grant Application Form

Additional Items Tab

Additional Items

All applications: an Artistic Statement *is strongly encouraged*. This statement should be written by the Artistic Director or other person who has responsibility for the project. Discuss the reasons for the project's selection, the project's relationship to the artistic vision of the organization, and the project's relevance to the community.

Creation, development, or premiere of a new opera projects: creative vision statement(s) from the composer *and* librettist (one each) are strongly encouraged. Each statement should address the composer's/librettist's role in the project, the potential impact of the project,

Additional Items

their vision for the new work including information about length, instrumentation, and/or text, as well as any details regarding their creative process and/or themes of the work.

Recording projects: A distribution plan.

Professional artist development programs:

- A curriculum plan that outlines the training activities and performance opportunities offered. Outline specifics about the training provided such as vocal coaching, diction, language, acting, movement, and theatrical training.
- A representative list of the names and current professional affiliations of participants from the past two years.

Educational and outreach programs: A plan that outlines both the training activities and the performance opportunities offered.

Items to Upload Tab

Work Samples

[PLACEHOLDER, SEE UNIVERSAL INSTRUCTIONS]

Work Sample Types & Limits

Work samples are required for all Opera applications.

- **All performing and presenting organizations are strongly recommended to submit at least two video samples of contrasting works (performed live within the past few years)** that demonstrate a range of styles, and are relevant to the project for which you are requesting support. Select and identify specific arias, duets, ensembles, etc.
 - Include at least one example of your organization's mainstage work, even if you are not requesting support for a mainstage production;
 - Include at least one ensemble selection (e.g., chorus, quartet, quintet).
- **Creation of new work.** Samples of creative artists' work are critical components of your application and will be considered carefully during the review process:
 - Submit the score and libretto of the proposed project, in progress.
 - Submit examples (video/audio) of the proposed work. If not yet available, submit recent work by the composer and the librettist .
- **Completion of a work:** submit (video/audio) samples of the work in progress.
- **Mounting a new production:** submit examples of recent work by the artistic team (e.g., images or artists' renderings of sets, costumes).
- **Collaborative projects:** submit samples (video/audio) that feature the various artists and/or organizations involved.

- **Recording projects:** include samples (video/audio) of the work(s) to be recorded or, if not available, representative work(s) by the proposed composer(s) or artist(s).
- **Professional development and training of artists:** submit samples (video/audio) that demonstrate the training activities and performance opportunities provided to young artists.
- **Educational and outreach activities:** submit samples (video/audio) that demonstrate the skills of the artists and teachers working with students and other participants. Also, submit sample curriculum material such as a teacher's guide. Label this "Teacher Guide" and limit it to 10 pages.
- **Convening activities:** submit video samples of speakers or presenters from previous convenings. Also submit sample agendas, program offerings, convening website, lists of attendees and their roles and affiliations, and/or reports from previous convenings.
- **Service organizations:** submit brief selections from publications or other documents that demonstrate the quality of the services being provided, as well as their ability to carry out the proposed project.

Type	Guidance
AUDIO & VIDEO SAMPLES Up to 3 audio samples, up to 7 minutes each Up to 3 video samples, up to 10 minutes each	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For projects that involve commissioning or recordings, you may submit additional video and audio samples, if needed. • The performance and the recording should both be of the highest quality. • Submit continuous production footage. Do not submit trailers or montages set to music, spliced segments of productions, or marketing materials. • Only submit podcasts or interviews if directly relevant to your proposed project.
WEBSITES Up to 3 links	Only submit websites that are essential to your project, do not submit your organization's general website. Do not use this work sample type to submit additional audio clips, video clips, images, or documents in excess of the stated limits.
DIGITAL IMAGES Up to 12 Images on one PDF	Each image counts toward the 12 image maximum, regardless of how many images are included per PDF page.
DOCUMENTS Up to 6 documents, up to 12 pages each	Documents may include: scores, librettos, teachers guides, performance reviews (limit of two reviews), publications, periodicals, professional development resources, and conference programs.

Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works

Projects in this area should be multidisciplinary (presenting works from across multiple arts disciplines, standalone work that is multidisciplinary, and/or work by interdisciplinary artists) and may include performing, visual, media, design, and literary arts. **Projects that present a single artistic discipline should apply through that discipline.** For example, a project that primarily features dance should apply through the Dance program, and a project that primarily features music should apply through the Music program. Applicants in Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works often include presenters, festivals, artist collectives, arts centers, community-based or arts education organizations, and service organizations.

Support is available for:

- Presentation and/or touring of new or existing works, including performances, exhibitions, festivals, site-specific or outdoor work, and guest artist residencies.
- Commissioning, development, and creation of new works, including artist residency programs dedicated to providing support for artists to create and develop their work.
- Storytelling and spoken word activities, and multidisciplinary hip hop programs;
- Arts learning and exposure projects for people of all ages;
- Services to the field such as conferences and convenings; publications; archiving, preservation, and documentation projects; leadership training, mentorships, and professional development activities; and volunteer legal services and business councils.

A project may consist of one or more specific events or activities and should not cover an entire season of programming. We do not fund seasonal or general operating support.

Part 2 Grant Application Form

Additional Items Tab

Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works does not accept additional items. **Enter N/A in each field.**

Items to Upload Tab

Work Samples

[PLACEHOLDER, SEE UNIVERSAL INSTRUCTIONS]

Work Sample Types & Limits

Work sample videos that give an overview of the organization or project are accepted and encouraged. Highlight reels and compilation audio or video samples featuring more than one artist or performance are permitted.

Type	Guidance
AUDIO & VIDEO SAMPLES Up to 2 audio samples; Up to 3 video samples Up to 3 minutes per sample	If the audio or video selection exceeds three minutes, indicate which three-minute segment you would like to be reviewed. If not indicated, panelists will be directed to review the first three minutes of the selection.
WEBSITES Up to 3 links	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Only submit websites that are relevant to your project, do not submit your organization's general website.• Do not use this section to submit additional audio clips, video clips, images, or documents in excess of the stated limits.
DIGITAL IMAGES Up to 10 Images	Each image counts toward the 10 image maximum, regardless of how many images are included per page.
DOCUMENTS Up to 3 documents, of up to 5 pages each.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Examples of documents may include scripts, study guides, professional development resources, program brochures, and literary excerpts, among others.• Do not submit bios, resumes, or board lists.• Excess pages will be removed and not be reviewed.

Theater & Musical Theater

We support the non-profit theater and musical theater fields through project-based funding to organizations that produce or present theater and musical theater, including companies known primarily for work in other artistic disciplines. Projects may provide support for organizations in the creation and refinement of new plays, musicals, or theater and musical theater-focused works, the public production or presentation of plays and musicals from all cultures and periods, theater and musical theater-based engagement and learning activities for communities, and opportunities for professional development.

Support is available for:

- Commissioning, development, and production of new plays, musicals and adaptations, including devised, experimental, and community-engaged projects;
- Development programs and laboratories for new plays and musicals, which may include showcase productions, development workshops, and curated festivals of new works or works in progress;
- Artist residencies dedicated to providing support for theater and musical theater artists to create and develop their work;
- Production, presentation, or domestic touring of existing plays and musicals, including traditional repertoire;
- Theater and musical theater for young audiences;
- Theater and musical theater learning and exposure, projects for people of all ages;
- Projects that involve collaborations among theaters, new models for co-production, and other innovative and new ideas for rethinking the business model of non-profit theater and musical theater;
- Services to the field such as: preservation, conservation, archiving, dissemination, and documentation, including capturing live performance; professional training and workforce development for theater and musical theater artists, technicians, and administrators; and digital capacity-building efforts to create virtual programming, increase audience accessibility, and/or collaborate with other organizations.

Applications must be for projects only. A project may consist of one or more specific events or activities and should not cover an entire season of programming. We do not fund seasonal or general operating support.

Part 2 Grant Application Form

Project Details Tab

Subtab: Project Activity

DISCIPLINE SUB-CATEGORY*

Select the sub-category that best suits your project activities:

- Theater

- Musical Theater

Additional Items Tab

Leadership Statements, Primary Artist Statements, and Letters of Commitment are no longer requested. Do not include any of these items, they will not be reviewed. Enter N/A in each field.

Items to Upload Tab

Work Samples

[PLACEHOLDER, SEE UNIVERSAL INSTRUCTIONS]

Work Sample Types & Limits

At least one work sample is required. NOTE: Several union (e.g., Actors Equity Association) contracts allow for producers and presenters to submit work samples for the purpose of fund raising. Some contracts require that permission be obtained prior to producing and submitting samples of work (video, audio, digital images, etc.). This information does not constitute or substitute for legal advice. Organizations should contact their union representatives with questions and to request permission for the production of work samples.

Type	Guidance
AUDIO & VIDEO SAMPLES Up to 2 audio samples; Up to 2 video samples. Up to 3 minutes per sample.	Audio: Audio tracks from the proposed work or proposed artists may be submitted. Unless relevant to your proposed project, <i>do not</i> send podcasts, interviews, or promotional tracks. Video: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Video work samples are recommended for applications from producing and presenting organizations.• Submit video samples of recent work that demonstrates the quality of the organization and/or proposed artists, and when possible, is relevant to the project for which you are requesting support.• Submit continuous production footage rather than promotional trailers or montages set to music.• Select specific excerpts that convey your organization's highest artistic quality.• When possible, submit two video samples that provide a sense of the range of your organization's work.

Type	Guidance
WEBSITES Up to 3 links	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Only submit websites that are relevant to your project, do not submit your organization's general website.Do not use this work sample type to submit additional audio clips, video clips, images, or documents in excess of the stated limits.
DIGITAL IMAGES Up to 12 Images	Each image counts toward the 12 image maximum, regardless of how many images are included per page.
DOCUMENTS Up to 2 documents, up to 15 pages each. Excess pages will be removed and not be reviewed.	<p>For projects that involve the creation or development of new work, or world premiere, second, or third productions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Script and/or score samples are recommended. Submit a 12-15-page sample of the script and/or score for the proposed project, or a recent sample of similar work by the primary creative artist(s). <p>For projects that involve publications or periodicals: Brief selections from up to two sample works published by your organization are recommended. The selections should be similar to the publication for which support is requested.</p> <p>For learning and exposure projects: A syllabus demonstrating a clear evidence-based and outcome-driven plan is recommended.</p>

Visual & Media Arts

Visual Arts Projects

Visual arts activity, undertaken by a wide range of organizations, creates opportunities for communities and artists to engage through contemporary arts mediums such as painting, photography, drawing, printmaking, sculpture, ceramics, fiber, textiles, and glass. Projects often include individual artistic development, experimentation, and dialogue between artists and the public.

Support is available for:

- Exhibitions and related activities
- Commissions and public art
- Artist residencies in the U.S. dedicated to providing support for artists to create and develop their work
- Visual arts learning and exposure projects for people of all ages
- Periodicals, publications, and catalogues
- Activities that strengthen the visual arts field such as professional development, mentorships, training, convenings, and conservation, preservation, and restoration projects

Media Arts Projects

The media arts sector includes community film and media arts centers, presenting organizations, independent cinemas, non-commercial distributors, public broadcast stations, and colleges and universities. Projects include the creation, presentation, and engagement with media art, as well as emergent practices at the intersection of arts and digital technology.

Support is available for:

- Film/audio/new media festivals; curated series, screenings, installations, and/or touring programs
- Production of all genres and forms of media art that use electronic media, film, and creative technology
- Artist residencies dedicated to providing support for artists to create and develop their work
- Regional, national, or international broadcast or online distribution of electronic media, film, and technology as art
- Media arts learning and exposure projects for people of all ages
- Activities that strengthen the media arts field such as professional development, mentorships, training, convenings, access to equipment and technical facilities, field studies and reports, and preservation services

Part 2 Grant Application Form

Project Details Tab

Subtab: Project Activity

DISCIPLINE SUB-CATEGORY*

Select the sub-category that best suits your project activities:

- Visual Arts
- Media Arts

Additional Items Tab

If your proposal includes a blend of project types and activities, you may include a selection of suggested items across project types within the three available text fields.

Visual Arts Additional Items

- **Residencies:** a description of the equipment or materials accessible to artists for their technical training and practice
- **Publications:** information regarding sales figures, print runs and circulation; a list of proposed articles and committed writers/artists; and a description of your current payment to writers policy
- **Commissions and public art:** a statement regarding permission to use the site.

Media Arts Additional Items

Exhibition-based projects:

- A representative list of screenings and exhibitions from the previous two years. Include: Date, Event Title/Artist or Presenter Names(s), Country of Origin(s), film titles, # of attendees/venue capacity

Production or distribution activities:

- Details on the number, length, and content of broadcast or streaming series to be produced
- Technical, or conceptual treatment of the proposed work(s) or project
- Details about the involvement and relationship between the key artistic personnel for the proposed project and the applicant organization. Reminder: the NEA does not fund fiscally sponsored projects.

Educational or professional development activities

- A sample agenda
- Description of the facility, available equipment, and fee structures as applicable

Items to Upload Tab

Work Samples

[PLACEHOLDER, SEE UNIVERSAL INSTRUCTIONS]

Visual Arts Projects

For your Visual Arts application to be considered complete, **you must submit digital images (up to 20)**. Include the following only if applicable to your project:

- Video Work Samples (Up to 2 links)
- Websites (Up to 2 links)
- Document Work Samples (Up to 8 pages)

Types of work samples vary by project type, for example:

- **Exhibitions:** submit images by selected or proposed artists
- **Residencies:** submit images by selected or proposed artists; if not yet selected, submit representative samples of work by previous participants. Images of residency facilities and campus amenities are also acceptable
- **Commissions:** submit work samples by artist(s) under consideration, mock-ups, and images of the proposed site
- **Conservation projects:** submit images, a condition report, and a treatment proposal for each work to be conserved.
- **Publications:** submit brief excerpts from a recent publication, and as applicable, short writing samples by contributors.

Type	Visual Arts
DIGITAL IMAGES <i>Required</i> Up to 20 images	For your Visual Arts application to be considered complete, you must submit digital images.
VIDEO SAMPLES Up to 2 video samples; Up to 2 minutes each	Do not include general promotional videos, highlight reels or general marketing productions. Do not submit images of video stills.
WEBSITES Up to 2 links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only submit websites that are relevant to your project, do not submit your organization's general website. • Do not use this work sample type to submit additional audio clips, video clips, images, or documents in excess of the stated limits.
DOCUMENTS Up to 8 pages total	Sample spreads for publications, such as magazines, catalogues, writing samples of work by curators or invited essayists, may be submitted. Only include this material if there is a line item in your project budget for the creation of these items.

Type	Visual Arts
	Work that exists in published form (e.g., a sample spread from a published journal or catalogue) may be provided in its published layout, provided that it is easily viewed on screen.

Film & Media Arts Projects:

Select work samples that align with your project type:

- **All projects:**
 - Submit samples featuring proposed artists or participants. If participating artists are unknown, include link to works from previous programs to demonstrate the quality of artists typically involved.
 - Submit an audio or video compilation that best represents the range of project activities outlined in your application.
- **Screenings, festivals, series, or distribution services:** Submit recent program calendars or publications, an excerpt trailer or compilation of recently exhibited or screened works
- **Commissions or productions of new work:** Submit mock-ups, demonstrations, trailers, or works in progress by key artists or individuals involved
- **Professional development, convenings, or trainings:** Submit materials demonstrating the quality of the artistic or professional development activities, such as documentation of previous programming, works created through the program, works by teaching artist or mentors
- **Convenings, studies, or publications:** Submit the most recent program, agenda, or published work that best illustrates your proposed project.

Type	Media Arts
AUDIO & VIDEO SAMPLES Up to 3 audio samples; Up to 3 video samples.	Each work sample may contain a variety of content, but must not exceed 5 minutes. If the audio or video selection exceeds 5 minutes, indicate which 5-minute segment you would like to be reviewed. If not indicated, panelists will be directed to review the first 5 minutes of the selection
WEBSITES Up to 3 links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only submit websites that are relevant to your project, do not submit your organization's general website. • Do not use this work sample type to submit additional audio clips, video clips, images, or documents in excess of the stated limits.
DOCUMENTS Up to 3 documents, up to 12 pages each.	Examples of documents may include sample curriculum, professional development resources, conference programs, and publication excerpts, among others. Excess pages will be removed and not be reviewed.