



*The mission of the Arts Foundation of Cape Cod is to support, promote, and celebrate the arts and culture of Cape Cod in order to sustain a vibrant, diverse and strong arts community.*

## **Creative Exchange Capacity Grant Program**

Individual artists are essential to a vibrant arts and culture ecosystem, but developing a successful creative career has unique challenges. That's why the Arts Foundation of Cape Cod is teaming up with MASS MoCA's Assets for Artists (A4A) to offer the Creative Exchange Capacity Building Grant Program, a 6-month cohort program providing Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket artists with the entrepreneurial support they need to grow and thrive in the post-pandemic cultural sector.

The ultimate goal of this program is to increase the long-term financial resiliency and business success of these artists.

### **Through the Capacity-Building Grant Program, artists will have access to:**

- \$1,000 working capital grant (received at completion of the artist's written plan)
- Support in creating a required written plan outlining the artist's business/career goals and action steps with the help of A4A mentors.
- A one-on-one business or financial coaching session with an A4A mentor.
- Priority sign-up for any A4A or Arts Foundation webinar made available to Cape Cod and the Islands artists
- Webinar: "Making a Plan in a Time of Uncertainty" with Laura Baring-Gould
- Webinar: "The Basics of Building a Grant" with Yara Liceaga-Rojas
- Access to a community cohort of creative peers.
- An opportunity to showcase their work in a public setting organized by the AFCC. Not mandatory.

### **Who is eligible for this program:**

Artists of all mediums: visual arts, writing, film, dance, music/sound, theater, performance, social practice, etc.

Artists that reside on Cape Cod (Barnstable County), Nantucket (Nantucket County), and Martha's Vineyard (Dukes County).

**This program promotes equal opportunity and seeks diversity in its applicants and participants. Those who have never received an artist grant are especially encouraged to apply.**

## **Selection Criteria:**

Ten individual artists will be selected for the 2022 cohort. Applications will be assessed based on the following:

- Demonstrated financial need
- History of creative work (whether emerging or seasoned)
- Community impact. Does your work involve community engagement and/or is your work informed by the community, place, geography.

## **Timeline:**

**August 1, 2022: Online application opens**

**September 15, 2022: Online application closes**

**October 2022: Review applications & select artist participants**

**November 2022: A4A / Creative Exchange awardees are onboarded**

**December 2022 - August 2023: Cohort workshops & meetups**

**September 2023: Graduation/program completion/grant money released/public viewing (optional)**

Each participant will be encouraged to complete a basic plan that outlines their creative business goals for the coming one to two years. After completing this written plan, grantees shall receive payment of their working capital grant of \$1,000.

For those who would like to showcase their work and or plans, the AFCC will work with participants to coordinate at the graduation in September 2023.

## **Supporting Workshops:**

The online workshops are free and open to artists throughout the Cape and Islands, with priority registration being given to capacity-building grantees:

- “ Making a Plan in a Time of Uncertainty” w/ Laura Baring-Gould (2 parts)
- “The Basics of Building a Grant” w/ Yara Liceaga-Rojas (3 parts)
- “Taxes and Money Management” with tax specialist and artist Hannah Cole
- Two more workshops determined by needs of cohort.

## **What to consider before starting application process:**

**How would you benefit from this opportunity?**

Please describe how you think you can benefit from the Capacity Building Grant Program, including possible artist-business workshop(s), one-on-one coaching, and mini-grant to help you execute your goals for your creative practice.

What stabilization and/or growth opportunities are you pursuing as an artist, and what types of investment(s) do you envision making to achieve that?

Why is now an important time in your career as an artist for you to take advantage of this program's business & personal finance training?

### **Community Connections**

Be able to briefly explain how your creative practice has engaged (or hopes to engage in the future) with communities on Cape Cod, Nantucket, or Martha's Vineyard. How does your creative practice strengthen these communities and vice versa?

Please email any question to:

[Info@artsfoundation.org](mailto:Info@artsfoundation.org)

Online application opens on August 1, 2022