



Arts
Foundation
of Cape Cod

Grants

Organizations | March 2025

The Arts Foundation of Cape Cod's (AFCC) 2025 Grant Program prioritizes **arts initiatives that create access for everyone in the community**, ensuring that the arts are inclusive and widely available to people of all ages and abilities. We are looking to support projects that remove barriers — financial, physical, or social — and introduce innovative ideas to engage all audiences.

We are especially interested in programs that:

- Make the arts accessible — offering free or low-cost participation.
- Engage seniors, individuals with disabilities, or intergenerational groups.
- Bring fresh, innovative arts experiences to the community.
- Foster connections through shared creative experiences.
- Prioritize hiring artists to lead and implement these programs, ensuring they are fairly compensated for their work.

Whether large or small, if your project opens the doors to the arts while supporting working artists, we want to hear about it!

Grant Info Sessions

- Wednesday, March 19, at 9 am (10 am for artists) **[RSVP here](#)**
- Friday, April 4 at 9 am (10 am for artists) **[RSVP here](#)**

Join us for an Info Session on the Arts Foundation of Cape Cod's Grants for organizations. We'll cover eligibility, project ideas, budget, the application process, and tips for crafting a compelling proposal. Please reach out with any questions you may have at info@artsfoundation.org.



2025	Grants for Organizations Guidelines
Who is Eligible	<p>These grants include federal funds through the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). The Arts Foundation of Cape Cod is matching these funds. Since these are federal funds, only 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, units of state or local government, institutions of higher education, or federally-recognized Indian tribal governments are eligible to receive funds sub-awarded through an NEA award (20 USC Sec 954 (f)).</p> <p>The entity and program must happen in: Barnstable County, Dukes County, or Nantucket County</p> <p>Program/project must happen between June 1, 2025 and June 30, 2026.</p>
Award Amount	\$2,500 to \$10,000
Funding Period	June 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026
Eligible Costs	These funds are intended to support specific project-related costs. Cost share/matching funds are not required. Please see below for unallowable expenses.
Deadline to Apply	<p>Friday, May 2, 2025 at 11:59 PM</p> <p>Please note: No exceptions will be made past the deadline.</p> <p>It is highly recommended that you begin your online application process well before the deadline to ensure there is proper time to submit your application.</p> <p><i>The most successful applications we have received have clear evidence that significant time was spent in preparation of the narrative, the budget, and all sections of the application. We advise applicants not to wait until the final day to start their application process or to submit their application in the last few minutes before the deadline.</i></p>



Grant Webpage	https://artsfoundation.org/afcc-grants/
Unallowable Expenses	See below for complete list.
Funders	These grants consist of federal funds provided through the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) with matching funds from the Arts Foundation of Cape Cod.
Additional Eligibility Consideration	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Grants will not be awarded for similar activities for more than one year.• Applicants with incomplete or outstanding grant obligations or past-due reports from previous Arts Foundation grants are not eligible to apply. Feel free to contact us if you are unsure at info@ArtsFoundation.org.• Grants will not be awarded to two or more parties for the same project, program, etc. Collaborative efforts will need to determine one eligible lead organization to be the applicant responsible for the application and disbursement of funds to partners and required reporting on the progress of the project, if awarded.



Materials to Prepare	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Narrative• Project/program budget. <u>Please use this budget template.</u>• SAM Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) (Organizations ONLY)• Tax Form 990 or 990-EZ• IRS Affirmation Letter of nonprofit Certification.
Narrative Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brief description of project or program.• What new or innovative element does the program introduce to the community.• Please include number of artists, their roles, and how they will be compensated.• How will this project or program remove barriers to participation.• How will grant funds be used.
Helpline & Info Sessions & Rubric	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• You must have a current UEI number when applying. This is a requirement to receive federal funds. You can read more about this here.• Please email info@artsfoundation.org, subject: Grants Help Needed. Someone will respond as soon as possible.• Info sessions (see below)• <u>Use the rubric!</u>

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Project Budget Guidelines

- Funds can be used for direct project costs, including artist fees, materials, marketing, and venue rentals.
- All expenses must be documented and incurred within the grant period.
- Keep your budget clear and straightforward to reduce administrative burden.

Unallowable Expenses & Activities

The following costs cannot be covered by the grant:

- General operating support, or support for a full season of programming.
- Direct grants to individuals.
- Direct grants to individual elementary or secondary schools - charter, private, or public, or booster clubs and similar organizations dedicated to supporting individual elementary or secondary schools. See Eligibility on page 16 for more information.
- Projects that replace or supplant arts instruction provided by an arts specialist.
- Generally, courses/coursework in degree-granting institutions.
- Literary publishing that does not focus on contemporary literature and/or writers.
- Generally, publication of books, exhibition of works, or other projects by the applicant organization's board members, faculty, or trustees.
- Generally, exhibitions of, and other projects that primarily involve, single, individually-owned, private collections.
- Projects for which no curatorial, juried, or editorial judgment has been applied to the selection of artists or art works.
- Costs of entertainment, including amusement, diversion, and social activities such as receptions, parties, galas, community dinners, picnics, and potlucks. Generally, this also includes activities at venues such as bars, wineries, and breweries where the consumption of alcohol/social activity is the primary purpose of the venue.
- Awards to individuals or organizations to honor or recognize achievement.
- Commercial (for-profit) enterprises or activities, including arts markets, concessions, food, T-shirts, artwork, or other items for resale. This includes online or virtual sales/shops.
- Lobbying, including activities intended to influence the outcome of elections or influence government officials regarding pending legislation, either directly or through specific lobbying appeals to the public.
- Voter registration drives and related activities.
- Construction, purchase, or renovation of facilities or the purchase of land. Design fees, preparing space for an exhibit, installation or de-installation of art, and community planning are allowable.



- Subgranting or regranting, except for local arts agencies that meet the NEA's eligibility criteria for subgranting. Local arts agencies may not subgrant to individuals.
- Cash reserves and endowments.
- Costs for the creation of new organizations.
- Costs to bring a project into compliance with federal grant requirements. This includes environmental or historical assessments or reviews and the hiring of individuals to write assessments or reviews or to otherwise comply with the National Environmental Policy Act and/or the National Historic Preservation Act.
- Expenditures related to compensation to foreign nationals and/or travel to or from foreign countries when those expenditures are not in compliance with regulations issued by the U.S. Treasury Department Office of Foreign Assets Control. For further information, contact our Office of Grants Management at grants@arts.gov.
- Project costs supported by any other federal funding. This includes federal funding received either directly from a federal agency (e.g., National Endowment for the Humanities, Housing and Urban Development, National Science Foundation, or an entity that receives federal appropriations such as the Corporation for Public Broadcasting or Amtrak); or indirectly from a pass-through organization such as a state arts agency, regional arts organization, or a grant made to another entity.
- Alcoholic beverages.
- Gifts and prizes. This includes cash prizes, gift certificates/cards, or any other items with monetary value.
- General contingencies or miscellaneous costs.
- General fundraising for your organization.
- Marketing expenses not directly related to the project.
- Hospitality costs and costs related to social functions such as receptions, parties, and galas, as well as food/meals that conclude a program or event.
- Land purchase costs, construction, or renovation of building structures.
- Vehicle purchase costs.
- Audit costs not directly related to a federally required Single Audit.
- Rental costs for home office workspace owned by individuals or entities affiliated with your organization.
- Cash reserves or endowments.
- Concessions including food, beverages, T-shirts, posters, and other items for resale. This includes costs for workers selling such items.
- Contributions or donations to other entities.
- Fines and penalties, bad debt costs, or deficit reduction.



- Visa costs paid to the U.S. government.
- Costs incurred before or after the approved Period of Performance.
- Lobbying.
- Additional Notes:
 - Indirect costs (such as general overhead) cannot be included.
 - In-kind contributions (donated goods/services) must be clearly documented.
 - Ensure all figures in your budget align with actual project needs and comply with funding guidelines.