Arts
Foundation
of Cape Cod

Grants   Organizations | Fall 2025

The Arts Foundation of Cape Cod's (AFCC) Fall 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**,** October 15, at noon, **RSVP here**
- Friday, October 17, at noon, **RSVP here**

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	**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.** **The entity and program must be located in:** Barnstable County, Dukes County, or Nantucket County The proposed project must happen between January 2026 and December 2026
Award Amount	$500 to $10,000
Funding Period	January 2026 - December 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	**November 11, 2025 at 11:59 PM** Please note: No exceptions will be made past the deadline. **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.** *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.*

Grant Webpage	https://artsfoundation.org/afcc-grants/
Unallowable Expenses	See below for complete list.
Funders	These grants are part of the Arts Foundation of Cape Cod's grant program and are supported by generous donors who believe in the power of the arts to strengthen our community.
Additional Eligibility Consideration	• You're welcome to apply again for funding to support the same program, but please know that we give priority to new projects. Our goal is to encourage creativity, innovation, and growth, so repeat funding for the same activity should not be expected beyond 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; disbursement of funds to partners; and required reporting on the progress of the project, if awarded.

Materials to Prepare	• Narrative • Project/program budget. **Please use this budget template.**
Narrative Questions	• 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	• Please email info@artsfoundation.org, subject: Grants Help Needed. Someone will respond as soon as possible. • Info sessions (see below) • Use the rubric!

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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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Cash reserves and endowments.
- Costs for the creation of new organizations.
- 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.
- 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.
- Costs incurred before or after the approved Period of Performance.

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.