FY2024
Black and Brown Artist Grant
for Individual Artists

Program Guidelines

arts wave

Funding Arts. Fueling Community.

ArtsWave's Black and Brown Artist Grant
funded by City of Cincinnati and other partners

Purpose

ArtsWave's Black and Brown Artist Grant for individual artists will provide financial support for artists in the Greater Cincinnati Region to continue to explore the themes of our times. **Projects should use the arts to explore the themes of Truth and Innovation to build upon the current artistic commentary of health and race and to connect it with historical events and visions of a more equitable future.**

Projects should connect with one or more goals as outlined in ArtsWave's [Blueprint for Collective Action (see Appendix A)](): 1) to deepen roots in our community; 2) to bridge cultural divides; 3) to promote learning and understanding; 4) to put Cincinnati on the map; or 5) to enliven neighborhoods. Projects should also involve some aspect of collaboration with neighborhood or community groups or partners. In this way, members of the Cincinnati region will engage with this major social justice moment and work towards realizing a more just and equitable present and future through the arts.

NOTE: There are multiple sessions for assisting artists in completing an application. Please note the KEY DATES Section below.

Who May Apply

Applicants for a Black and Brown Artist Grant are:

- An individual artist (either working as a sole proprietor or under an organized LLC as the sole member of the LLC), or teaching artist, working in any artistic discipline*
- Black, Indigenous, and People of Color
- 18 years of age or older
- Full-time resident in one of the 16 counties** served by ArtsWave, prior to January 1, 2023 and at the time of the grant award;
- Have reported taxable income related to your work as an individual artist or teaching artist in your most recently filed tax return; and/or have a verifiable body of work through digital work samples or website.

IMPORTANT: Started during the FY22 grant cycle, an artist may receive funding for two (2) consecutive years and then will be required to take one (1) year off before applying for the Black and Brown Artists grant program again. For example, if you received a grant for the last two consecutive years (FY2022 and FY2023), you are not eligible again to apply until FY2025.

For the purpose of this program, artistic disciplines include Dance, Music, Opera/Musical Theatre, Theatre, Visual Arts, Design & Textile Arts, Crafts, Photography, Media Arts, Literature, Folk/Traditional Arts, Performing Arts, Spoken Word or Interdisciplinary Arts.

**The 16 counties include Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA, which includes the following counties: Brown, Butler, Clermont, Hamilton, and Warren Counties in Ohio; Boone, Bracken, Campbell, Gallatin,*

Grant, Kenton, and Pendleton Counties in Kentucky; and Dearborn, Franklin, Ohio, and Union Counties in Indiana.

Proposal and Documentation Requirements:

1. Application narrative including project description and how your proposed project relates to the theme of Truth and Innovation
2. Identification of community collaborators or neighborhood partners and their roles
3. Project Budget and Project Timeline (projects must be completed by **June 1, 2024**)
4. Any plans for project presentation, installation or display for the general public beyond the planned joint Grantee showcase
5. Artist Statement and artistic work samples (digital format)
6. Proof of residency (deed, lease, utility bill or other documentation)
7. Completed W9 and Vendor Survey
8. Optional: Attendance at Wave Pool's *Professional Practice* program in March, 2024 date/time **TBD**
9. Optional: Completed Cincinnati Artist Census

Funding Amounts

Grant awards will be made up to $10,000. Proposed projects may be funded in part or in whole, and applicant should address in their narrative if partial funding is not feasible to complete the proposed project. Seventy-five percent of the award will be paid when grant is awarded; the remaining 25% will be paid upon completion of an interim report due March 1, 2024.

Other Benefits Offered to Grant Recipients

- A grant overview will take place on Zoom on October 10, 2023 at 12:00 pm
- Application drop-in sessions on Zoom on October 23 and 25 at noon. Sign in briefly to ask a question about your application.
- Monthly networking and progress meetings starting February 2024 with ArtsWave staff and consultants; there will be 4 meetings, each held the second Monday of each month (February-May)
- Professional Learning session: Wave Pool's *Professional Practice* program in March, 2024 date/time **TBD**
- Summer 2024 Showcase opportunity: More information to come

Eligible Expenses

Expenses must be directly associated with the funded activity and include:

- Artist Fee (self-compensation)
- Fees paid to other artists or collaborative partners as part of this project
- Materials/Supplies
- Online tools/services
- Marketing
- Community engagement activities

- Other expenses directly associated with the funded activity

Ineligible Expenses:

- Refinance or repayment of existing debt
- Expenses related to gambling or gaming activities
- Expenses related to the purveyance of "adult" materials (i.e., pornographic, lewd, prurient, obscene, etc.)
- Activities, services, products or materials involving nude or semi-nude performances or the sale of sexual aids or devices
- Real estate investment business expenses
- Religious-affiliated organization expenses
- Any expenses that give rise to or support any other activity constituting a nuisance
- Capital purchases
- Any expenses supporting any illegal activity

Criteria for Evaluating Proposals

Applications will be reviewed by a panel consisting of community volunteers and awarded by the ArtsWave Board of Directors using the following criteria:

- Project must align with the Truth and Innovation theme. Topics include, but are not limited to:
  - Social justice (e.g. equal rights; reproductive rights; trans rights; healthcare for all)
  - Black Lives Matter
  - Indigenous Sovereignty
  - Healing and Accountability
  - Tradition vs Innovation
  - Written History vs Oral History
  - Environmental Justice

- Projects should leverage the power of the arts in one or more ways as outlined in ArtsWave's Blueprint for Collective Action: 1) to deepen roots in our community; 2) to bridge cultural divides; 3) to promote learning and understanding; 4) to put Cincinnati on the map; or 5) to enliven neighborhoods
- Meaningful involvement of and collaboration with community members or neighborhood partners, so that residents are involved in reconciliation and imagining a more just and equitable Cincinnati
- Track record of artistic work; and
- Project budget and timeline are reasonable and sufficient to execute the project

Application Instructions

All application materials must be submitted via Submittable, ArtsWave's online grantmaking system. We strongly recommend that you begin your online application well before the due date to familiarize yourself with the online grantmaking system and to address any technical concerns. **Additionally, you will have the opportunity to submit a draft proposal by October 20, 2023 to be reviewed by staff in advance of the deadline.**

While completing your application, remember these tips:

- Take advantage of ArtsWave grant writing workshops and support sessions;

- Be brief, clear and direct, focusing on what is most important.

- Review panelists may have little or no prior knowledge of your organization. Create a stronger application by:
  - not assuming reviewers have extensive knowledge of all artistic disciplines;
  - explaining acronyms; and
  - explaining the characteristics of your community or audience as needed.

- We recommend that you prepare your responses offline in a word processing program and then copy and paste them into the appropriate sections of the online application.

- Limit the use of bullets and other formatting in text fields.

- Add Impact@ArtsWave.org to your safe senders list to ensure that you receive all communications from the online grantmaking system.

- Use one of the following compatible browsers: Chrome® v.22+, Firefox® version v.27+, Internet Explorer® v.8-10 (if enabled), Internet Explorer v.11, Safari® v.7+, or Edge®.

The application can be accessed using the following link:

https://artswave.submittable.com/submit

Important Information for Grant Recipients

- Grant awards are competitive and contingent on available funds and the range of proposals received
- This funding opportunity does not require a match
- Groups/ensembles/partnerships must identify a lead applicant. If awarded, the lead applicant will be responsible for entering into an agreement and receiving the funds to disperse to the other members
- Applicants must complete a W9 with data reflecting the appropriate individual/entity for tax purposes. Please consult with your accountant or a tax advisor to determine if the grant is taxable income in your specific situation.

- If an artist has established their artistic practice as an LLC or other business entity and the artist is the sole owner/proprietor of the business, then the artist may choose to enter their business entity into an agreement with ArtsWave.
- Grant awards will be paid in two parts: 75% of award payable upon execution of contract between ArtsWave and Artist and 25% of award payable upon receipt of an interim report due March 1, 2024.
- Grantees are required to acknowledge, with name and logos, grant support provided by ArtsWave and the City of Cincinnati and any other funding partners in connection with the project. This may include, but is not limited to, acknowledgment on promotional or press materials (print and digital/online), at the physical installation site, and/or at public engagement events. This also includes submitting event information to ArtsWave Guide (online arts calendar).
- This grant does not constitute a purchase agreement for any artwork produced. The artist retains ownership of work produced with the support of ArtsWave.

Key Dates

- Applications Open   October 2, 2023

- Grant Information Session   October 10, 2023 at 12:00 pm
  FY24 Black and Brown Artist Grant Overview

- Drop-in Support Session 1   October 23, 2023 at 12:00 pm
  https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86125844455?pwd=MEzLV 8ON3bEbKPHMqc7ZB78ozWM9i0.1&from=addon

- Drop-in Support Session 2   October 25, 2023 at 12:00 pm
  https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85887485121?pwd=BvsOe JeOcEUEuULGT0vDG2EYD0s8KN.1&from=addon

- **Application Review**   **Submit your application by October 20, 2023 at 5:00 pm for review, so you can edit before the deadline (OPTIONAL)**

- **Application DEADLINE**   **November 3, 2023 at 5:00 pm**

- Award Announcement   No earlier than December 4, 2023

- Monthly Meetings   2nd Monday of each month at 4:00 pm (Zoom)*

- Interim Report DUE   March 1, 2024 at 5:00 pm

- Wave Pool's *Professional Practice* March, 2024 date/time **TBD**

- Projects must be completed   June 1, 2024

- Showcase   July 2024 [to be confirmed]

*Monthly Meeting Schedule:
- February 12, 2024 at 4:00 pm
- March 11, 2024 at 4:00 pm
- April 8, 2024 at 4:00 pm
- May 13, 2024 at 4:00 pm

Contact ArtsWave

Additional application questions may be directed to Janice Liebenberg, VP of Equitable Arts Advancement at janice.liebenberg@artswave.org; Ray Gargano, VP of Community Impact, at ray.gargano@artswave.org, or Lori Burkhardt, Grant Programs Manager, at lori.burkhardt@artswave.org.

Appendix A: Blueprint for Collective Action

Our Vision – A more vibrant regional economy and more connected community for all.

Overview

By supporting a wide variety of art forms and providing strategic leadership for the arts sector in the broader community, ArtsWave creates an environment where the growing impact of the arts is felt and celebrated by the entire community.

The Blueprint for Collective Action provides a focus for ArtsWave's community investments and strategic initiatives for the next ten years. The Blueprint is designed to achieve three things:

- Align with broader community objectives;

- Provide more clarity and specificity around the kinds of activities and outcomes ArtsWave desires; and

- Leverage more support from the community by demonstrating relevance to the community.

By focusing the ArtWave's investment strategy, the Blueprint is intended to stake a bold vision for the region for enhanced impact through the arts by establishing five community goals and creating a roadmap for their achievement.

Blueprint Goals and Roles

The Blueprint is based on the following principles:

- All goals have equal priority.

- Every arts organization plays a part in achieving our collective goals through a wide variety of activities and programs that create community impact — some new, many already established.

- Individual arts organizations (of any size or discipline) can play specific roles in support of the achievement of each goal.

- No single arts organization can fulfill all <u>roles</u> for all goals all the time. A diverse arts community supporting many different types of organizations and activities is necessary to fulfill all roles and achieve all goals.

- A single activity or program may fulfill several roles and may advance progress on more than one goal.

- ArtsWave, too, has specific roles to play in the achievement of each goal. ArtsWave must leverage its position as leader, connector, aggregator, and partner to build capacities sector-wide.

Arts Put Cincinnati on the Map

Greater Cincinnati's innovative arts scene attracts talent, visitors, and business to the region.

GOAL: To be a more competitive region for talent attraction by leveraging arts that are perceived as extraordinary

Roles for Arts Organizations:

- To design new or unexpected artistic collaborations

- To create arts experiences that are active, immersive, and social; and that stretch the boundaries of the art form

- To improve and employ digital capabilities and use of social media to reach and engage digitally oriented or remote audiences

- To participate in collaborative efforts to increase earned media and leverage paid media/marketing opportunities

- To develop and share stories that distinguish the region through its arts

Arts Deepen Roots in the Region

Residents who are engaged in the arts – whether as volunteers, artists, or audience members – have a stronger and more positive connection to the community.

GOAL: To deepen feelings of engagement and connection to the community by widening participation in arts experiences, especially those that resonate with adults age 40 and under

Roles for Arts Organizations:

- To create arts experiences that are participatory, social, recurring, and encourage personal investment in the organization and/or community

- To create arts experiences for college students and young professionals

- To develop partnerships and collaborations with local colleges and universities

- To involve college students and young professionals at all levels of organizational decision-making

Arts Bridge Cultural Divides

When the arts reflect and celebrate the diversity of our community, residents build a greater understanding and appreciation of cultural differences.

GOAL: **To promote cross cultural understanding by increasing the availability and accessibility of arts experiences that include and represent all races and ethnicities**

Roles for Arts Organizations:

- To present works of art created by artists of all races and ethnicities

- To create arts experiences that include artists of all races and ethnicities

- To create and/or present art that tells the story(ies) of all races and ethnicities

- To create shared arts experiences for people of all races and ethnicities

- To identify and establish partnerships and collaborations that support equitable access to arts experiences for people of all races and ethnicities

- To involve at all levels of organizational decision-making people who reflect the broadest possible racial and ethnic diversity

- To develop cross-cultural artistic partnerships and collaborations

Arts Enliven Neighborhoods

Community arts centers, galleries, and theaters serve as vital hubs for neighborhood activity that supports local business and builds civic pride.

GOAL: **To enhance the vibrancy of neighborhoods, particularly those that are underserved and/or revitalizing, by increasing the availability and accessibility of arts organizations and opportunities**

Roles for Arts Organizations:

- To establish partnerships and collaborations within the neighborhood in which the organization is physically located

- To create an environment where all members of the organization's surrounding neighborhood feel welcome

- To increase the variety and frequency of arts experiences embedded in or accessible to neighborhoods throughout the region

- To improve the aesthetics of the region's neighborhoods

- To enliven indoor and outdoor public spaces throughout the region with arts experiences

- To optimize the use of resources already present in neighborhoods throughout the region to support equitable access to arts experiences

- To improve and employ digital capabilities and use of social media to reach and engage neighborhoods

Arts Fuel Creativity and Learning

The arts have the power to transform education both by improving learning of core curriculum and teaching skills like creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking.

GOAL: **To promote the development of 21st century skills by ensuring that all children in the region, particularly those that are underserved, have access to multiple arts opportunities**

Roles for Arts Organizations:

- To provide meaningful arts education opportunities for youth at all grade levels

- To optimize the use of resources already present in school and community settings to support equitable access for youth to meaningful arts education opportunities

- To provide professional development and enrichment opportunities for arts educators

- To develop curricula, materials, and training to support arts integration in all subjects and at all grade levels