



EMERGENCY RELIEF FUND FOR ARTISTS

The Arts Partnership is announcing an Emergency Relief Fund for Artists, with a limited pool of funds.

Application Deadline: Friday, December 11, 5:00 pm

Application Opens: Friday, November 20, 9 am

Eligibility

The Fund supplies monies to artists, culture bearers or creative workers working in any genre and living in the Metro with catastrophic, career-threatening emergencies such as:

- Income loss from cancellations, closures, and postponements in the COVID-19 pandemic
- Medical emergency
- Theft
- Natural disaster

Given that the pandemic has disproportionately impacted some populations, funding priority will be given to artists who are members of the following populations:

- Artists who identify as Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC), and/or Native
- LGBTQIA+ artists
- Artists from the disability community, including those who are immuno-compromised

Selection Process

After the application window closes and eligibility is verified, applications will be randomly selected through a random lottery process. Applicants will be informed of selection by Friday, December 18. Funding is subject to application approval and available funds. We expect to fund up to 12 applicants with \$500 grants.

Payment

The payment amount of \$500 is a disaster payment, and should not affect your ability to claim Unemployment Insurance or other benefits. No 1099 forms will be issued for these funds. Artists may need to claim the contribution as income; please consult with a tax expert for specific questions.

Funding for the Emergency Relief Fund for Artists comes from an anonymous donor. The Arts Partnership is part of the Upper Midwest Emergency Relief Fund coalition, in partnership with Springboard for the Arts, Arts South Dakota, Crosshatch Center for Art & Ecology, CultureSource, ImagineMKE and Racing Magpie.

Questions?

We've tried to answer some of your questions below, but please email tania@theartspartnership.net with any other questions.

What counts as an emergency?

We allow applicants to self-define emergency, but we expect that the need is tied to circumstances that directly impact your creative career. We imagine that many applicants will use their emergency funding towards rent and food.

Why a lottery?

With a limited pool of funds, we want to balance responsiveness with access to the Fund, and so we have opted for a lottery once all eligible applications are in.

Why those priority groups?

This pandemic has disproportionately impacted these populations, and before the pandemic these are populations that have been affected by historic disparities in funding, resources and access. Through this work, we seek to address needs from those most affected by ongoing, systemic inequities. Depending on overall response, individuals outside of those populations will be included in the lottery.

If I've received an Individual Arts Partnership grant in the past, am I still eligible? And could I apply for artist grant opportunities in 2021?

Yes and yes.

If you would like help determining your eligibility or have other questions, please email tania@theartspartnership.net before applying.