



# THE Arts Partnership

## 2026 ART FOR ALL GRANT GUIDELINES *Cultivating Community Through the Arts*

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<b>APPLICATION DEADLINE</b>	<b>Friday, May 22, 2026 at 5:00 pm</b> No applications will be accepted after this date or time.
<b>PURPOSE</b>	To encourage and support health and human services organizations to use the arts to make a valuable and significant commitment to and impact on their constituents
<b>ELIGIBILITY</b>	Health and human services nonprofits with a 501(c)3 designation based in and serving Fargo or West Fargo, ND or Moorhead, MN. Further details on page 2.
<b>GRANT AMOUNTS</b>	\$750 to \$1,750
<b>ON-LINE APPLICATION</b>	The application portal will open on <b>Wednesday, April 8.</b>  The link to the application, application preview with required questions and prompts and the scoring rubric used by the panelists can be found at <a href="http://theartspartnership.net/arts-hub/grants-and-funding/">theartspartnership.net/arts-hub/grants-and-funding/</a> , under the Art for All Grant button.
<b>QUESTIONS/SUPPORT</b>	Make certain to read these guidelines and the application preview thoroughly; they will help you craft your best proposal. If you still have questions, contact Tania Blanich, Executive Director, at <a href="mailto:tania@theartspartnership.net">tania@theartspartnership.net</a> .  TAP will offer a virtual meeting to answer questions and cover some basics for submitting your best application.  <b>Wednesday, April 15 from 8 to 9 am</b>  <b>Grant writers new to the Art for All grant application process are <i>strongly encouraged</i> to attend a meeting.</b>  Email <a href="mailto:tania@theartspartnership.net">tania@theartspartnership.net</a> <b>by 5 pm on Monday, April 13</b> with the name and contact information of the person from your organization that will attend so we can forward them the link.  Applicants may ask TAP staff to provide feedback on a draft application up to one week before the application deadline.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

The Art for All Grants grow and cultivate community through the arts, primarily to benefit underserved populations.

Successful applications present a thorough, mission-related reason to incorporate the arts and a clearly articulated, well-conceived project. Applicants are strongly encouraged to work with a paid artist, performer or arts educator to fully conceptualize and/or realize the project. While that may not be necessary for every project, most previously funded projects have incorporated such expertise; in some cases, such an individual may already be on staff.

Projects should incorporate the arts and/or cultural heritage, rather than craft. If those you serve will be creating the art, the work produced should provide a personal reflection of them.

The grants provide seed money for projects that use the arts to approach mission-related work or funding to continue or expand a current arts-related project. Funds for the program are provided by Choice Bank, Bell Bank, AdShark, Alerus and other businesses.

## ELIGIBILITY

Eligible applicants must be **all** of the following:

- An organization with an explicitly stated mission to meet human needs and maintain a commitment to improving the overall quality of life of the populations they serve.
- An organization that is a stand-alone 501(c)3 tax-exempt health and human services nonprofit  
*OR*  
A health and human services organization that is fiscally sponsored by a 501(c)3 organization  
*OR*  
A stand-alone chapter of a larger, regional or national health and human services 501(c)3 organization.
- Based in and primarily serving the residents of Fargo and/or West Fargo, ND and/or Moorhead, MN.
- Demonstrate general fiscal responsibility and agree to use the grant funds as stated in their submitted proposal and to further the arts to build community.
- Submit a complete and accurate application, providing all requested information, by the stated deadline.
- If a prior-year grantee, be up-to-date with reporting.

Ineligible activities include:

- Activities that are **not** focused on the arts- or cultural heritage, but rather lean toward craft and lack artistic intent
- Projects not based in or serving residents of Fargo and/or West Fargo, ND and/or Moorhead, MN
- Fundraising activities
- Scholarships
- Rent, Operational or Capital Improvement costs
- Activities that are primarily for religious socialization or political purposes

## **Use of Grant Funds**

Eligible projects may be a one-time project, not anticipated to be sustained; a pilot project, anticipated to continue in subsequent years; or the continuation or expansion of an existing project incorporating the arts.

## **GRANT REVIEW PROCESS AND CRITERIA**

The grant review panel consists of individuals from both the Metro's arts community and the community at large. Each panel member will review all application submissions. Panelists generally serve no more than two consecutive years. TAP observes strict procedures to prevent any conflicts of interest. Each panel member reviews all the application submissions but recuses themselves from voting on an application from an organization for which they have a conflict of interest.

The panel uses the following criteria to assess all applications:

- Project Concept, including the overall concept and who's implementing the project and how
- Impact on Clients, including who the project serves and how this project will serve them
- Organizational Capabilities to implement the project: capacity, efficacy and organizational and fiscal stability

Additional points will be given to projects that serve one or more underserved audiences. Although applicant proposals are not required to reach underserved audiences, the panel will prioritize those proposals that serve Black, Indigenous and/or People of Color (BIPOC), the LGBTQIA+ and the disabled communities, immigrants newly established in the community, those from low-income families and other underrepresented and underserved groups.

Panelists score applicants in each of the criteria plus any additional points; those scores are averaged, providing a highest possible score of 34. Applications must receive 25 or more points to be considered for funding. Grant award amounts are based on the applications' final rankings. There is no guarantee that an application that receives 25 points or more will be funded or that a project awarded a grant will be fully funded.

## **GRANT ADMINISTRATION**

The grant period is for 12 months, beginning no earlier than July 1, 2026 and concluding by June 30, 2027.

The TAP Board approves the grant awards, based on the Grant Review Panel's recommendations. Applicants will receive email notification regarding whether or not the application has been funded, typically within forty-five (45) days of the application deadline. If the application is not funded, applicants may contact TAP staff to receive feedback.

If awarded a grant, the applicant must sign a formal grant agreement, which includes detailed information about funding distribution, reporting requirements (due by or on April 30 of the grant year) and recognition of support.

The grant funds are disbursed in late June.

If the project receiving funds is not completed by the expected date, the grantee must request an extension from The Arts Partnership prior to the original completion date or return the funds; while TAP is likely to approve the extension, it is not guaranteed.

## **FILLING OUT YOUR APPLICATION**

- ***Make sure you are in the Art for All Grants section*** at [theartspartnership.net/arts-hub/grants-and-funding](http://theartspartnership.net/arts-hub/grants-and-funding).
- Read through the guidelines, application preview and scoring rubric **thoroughly** before starting the process – and use them for reference while working on your application. They will guide you to writing your best application.
- Although the online application form allows you to save your work and return to it, we strongly recommend using the application preview document to draft your answers to the questions.
  - Working offline helps avoid technical glitches that could result in lost work.
  - If you would like TAP staff to review a draft application, it will be easier for both you and TAP to work with a Word document.
  - Once your narrative is ready, you can cut and paste the final narrative into the application form and upload the attachments.
- If you have technical difficulties, try using a different web browser, for example, Explorer instead of Chrome. Sometimes that's all it takes to resolve the problem.

## **NOTIFICATION OF APPLICATION RECEIPT**

Applicants will receive an email confirmation of submission. *Save and print this email to document the application submission date and time.* If you have not received an email within two (2) business days, contact Tania Blanich at [tania@theartspartnership.net](mailto:tania@theartspartnership.net).

TAP staff reviews submitted applications for completeness and eligibility. Applicants are notified within ten (10) business days if a proposal contains significant errors or omissions or is otherwise ineligible.

Questions?  
Contact Tania Blanich at  
[tania@theartspartnership.net](mailto:tania@theartspartnership.net)