Grant Application Assistance Workshop

Virginia Commission for the Arts

December 15, 2020
Virtual Application Assistance Workshop Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Technology Tips
- State of the Arts
- Virginia Commission for the Arts Overview
- How it Works
- Online Grant System
- Grant Programs
- Q&A

www.arts.virginia.gov

Photo Courtesy of Virginia Rep
The Virginia Commission for the Arts (VCA), is the state agency that supports the arts through funding from the Virginia General Assembly and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Mission - JUST ADOPTED 12/10/2020!
To invest in the arts in the Commonwealth by supporting, celebrating, and promoting artistic and cultural equity in an innovative and creative environment to benefit all Virginians.
State of the Arts

Continues to evolve...

Since March, in response to the critical needs of the field, the VCA has:

- launched multifaceted relief efforts to help stabilize the field
- retrofitted grants programs, making them faster, more flexible and responsive to new realities, as we distributed federal CARES Act funding and other state funding to artists and organizations;

  $480,000+ to 174 organizations       $25,000 to 50 artists

- centered equity within grant-making by prioritizing policies related to IDEA
- conducted virtual convenings for the field, bringing specific sectors of the field together for much needed connection to each other, as well as for professional development to help ready them for a new day
Cultural Equity and IDEA

In 2018, the VCA Commission Board approved the first-ever Statement on Cultural Equity. The VCA also created the IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access) Committee, a standing committee of the Commission Board.

To support a full creative life for all, the Virginia Commission for the Arts commits to championing policies and practices of cultural equity that foster a just, inclusive, and equitable Commonwealth.

Cultural equity embodies the values, policies, and practices that ensure that all people—including but not limited to those who have been historically underrepresented based on race/ethnicity, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, socioeconomic status, geography, citizenship status, or religion—are represented in the development of arts policy; the support of artists; the nurturing of accessible, thriving venues for creative expression; and the fair distribution of resources.
IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access)

Inclusion
The active, intentional, and ongoing engagement of the diversity of an organization, creating and cultivating a sense of belonging, which allows people to participate and contribute within an environment.

Diversity
The characteristics of a group of people that recognize all dimensions of human identity and differences. These differences may include, but not be limited to, race, ethnicity, age, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, physical abilities, nationality, language, religious beliefs, and socioeconomic background.

Equity
The adoption and enactment of policies, practices, attitudes, and cultural messages designed to treat everyone fairly and justly, regardless of their identities.

Access
The ability to easily participate in or with arts experiences, regardless of age, disability/special need, geographic positioning/transportation availability, economic status, and cultural/racial background.

Sources: Americans for the Arts, National Endowment for the Arts
IDEA--Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access

CALL for SUBMISSIONS!

- Education and awareness project to strengthen understandings of what IDEA means
- VCA Commissioners will create videos to review agency definitions of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access
- We want to share your best practices too!
  1. Send a video clip (max. 3 mins) or photos (max. 3) of your work as an artist or arts organization that exemplify one of the four IDEA principles.
  2. Include a brief paragraph explaining which principle your submission is related to, and how your submission demonstrates the principle.

Examples: “Diversity: This photo shows the audience diversity at our recent production of Crows. For this production, we reached out to area African American/Black churches to offer/promote group discount rates, resulting in a 15% increased diversity among our patrons; 12% of which had never been to our theater before.”

“Access: We increased the aisles and other pathways throughout the gallery to accommodate wheelchairs, and hung the works at a lower level on the walls so that patrons in wheelchairs could better view the works. We partnered with a local organization that works with people with disabilities to offer personalized gallery strolls, and increased our patron attendance of people with disabilities.”

Send your submissions to Ivy Haga at arts@vca.virginia.gov.
A New State of the Arts: Reimagined, Reinvented, Restored

January 26 - 28, 2021

(fully virtual)
January 26
4 PM  Pre conference with peer-alike groups (i.e. Executive Leadership, Development/FR, Education, Teaching Artists, Public Art, Local Arts Agencies (LAAs), etc.)
5 PM  Opening Reception

January 27 – 28
9 AM – 1 PM  Multiple tracks of sessions
○ Leadership Development ○ IDEA ○ Advocacy ○ Arts Education
○ Development/Fundraising ○ Public Art ○ Healing Arts
○ Programming/Production (artistic) ○ Marketing ○ More

Also, annual presentation of Art Stars Awards,
in partnership with Dominion Energy

REGISTRATION WILL BE FREE, AND OPENING SOON! STAY TUNED!
Who are we?

Commission
- Created in 1968
- Guided by 13 Commissioners
- VCA staff

Role of Advisory Panels
- Panels make recommendations and give guidance that will affect the future of the arts in the Commonwealth.
- The quality and integrity of the Commission’s decision-making depend upon the individual contributions of time, thought, and energy of these volunteers.
VCA is Seeking Grant Panelists for FY22

Nominations for Advisory Panels
- Staff keeps a file of nominations
- Anyone can submit nominations throughout the year. Include brief description of arts experience, address and contact information (phone/email)
- Self-nominations accepted
- Remain on file for at least three years

Who is eligible for the Panels?
The VCA approves nominees for advisory panels annually. Commission staff invite panelists to serve, attempting to balance each panel with varied knowledge about the arts based, in part, on the disciplines represented in applications. Each panel is to include geographic and racial diversity.
Who Is Eligible For Panels? (continued)

Each panel consists of 7-9 members. We seek panelists that:

● have in-depth knowledge in a discipline and/or sector of the arts
● regularly attend a variety of arts events in their community
● are articulate and willing to offer opinions in public
● are able to work in a committee setting
● are willing to contribute the time necessary to review grant applications, having gained an understanding of the Commission’s programs and policies
● are able to attend a one- to two-day panel meeting
● have access to a computer for (live) panel application review

Send nominations to Executive Director Janet Starke, at Janet.Starke@vca.virginia.gov.
FY22 Grant Programs

- General Operating Support
- Project Grants
- Creative Communities Partnership Grants
- Performing Arts Touring Assistance and Touring Artist Roster
- Technical and Organizational Assistance Grants
- Artist in Education Grants
- Artist in Education Express (AIEx) Grant and Teaching Artist Roster
- Artist Fellowships

Is a VCA Grant Right for You? Find out, HERE.

Photo courtesy of Chrysler Museum of Art
Family Art Day
Basic Eligibility Requirements

- Not-for-profit organizations, exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(a), which includes the 501(c)(3) designation of the Internal Revenue code, units of government, educational institutions, or local chapters of tax exempt national organizations and individual artists;
- Those who produce, present, or support--in Virginia--dance, literary arts, media arts, music, theater, visual, and related arts;
- Organizations must comply with:
  - Title VI, Section 601, of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which provides that no person, on the ground of race, color or national origin, shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.
  - Title IX, Section 1681, of the Education Amendments of 1972, which provides that, with certain exceptions, no person, on the basis of sex or age, shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.
  - Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 which states that no otherwise qualified person shall, solely by reason of his or her handicap, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination in federally assisted programs.

Please see each grant category for additional eligibility criteria
Ineligible Activities

The Virginia Commission for the Arts does not fund:

- Activities restricted to an organization’s membership.
- Expenses related to parties, receptions, fundraising events/benefits, etc.
- Endowments or capital campaigns.
- Activities that are primarily religious in purpose.
- College or university-based projects that are part of a required course or curriculum, that do not involve and serve a significant non-student population, or that are for activities that are otherwise available in the community.
- General operating support for historic celebrations or community promotional activities.
Ineligible Activities *(continued)*

The Virginia Commission for the Arts does not fund:

- Fines and penalties, bad debt costs, or deficit reduction.
- Arts activities / programs that have already started or otherwise occurred.
- Activities or programs that take place outside Virginia, with the exception of the Technical and Organizational Development Assistance grant.
- Vocal and musical ensembles that perform primarily pop, Broadway, or barbershop music, or that focus primarily on competitions.

**Lobbying**

No part of a Virginia Commission for the Arts grant shall be used for any activity intended to influence a member of Congress or the General Assembly, to favor or oppose any legislation.
Grant Requirements

**Actions of the General Assembly:** All Commission programs and grant amounts are subject to change, based upon action on the state budget by the Virginia General Assembly and by the Office of the Governor.

**Grant Contract:** Each grant application must be signed by an individual with the authority to act on behalf of the applicant organization. The signed **Certification of Assurances** is the applicant's agreement to do what is described in the application and to comply with the Grant Conditions, including the filing of final reports. When the Commission awards a grant, a letter is sent to the applicant with the payment schedule for that grant. Major changes in activities, personnel, or budget must be approved in advance by the Commission.

**Acknowledgement:** If funded, acknowledgement in online and print materials must be made that the activity is partially supported by a grant from the Virginia Commission for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts. The purpose of crediting the VCA and the NEA is to provide citizens with an accurate picture of the broad range of arts activities are supported by their tax dollars. Please use the updated [VCA and NEA logos](#).
Application Process

- Applications are sent via the online grant system by the deadline (no exceptions)
- Staff reviews applications
- Staff sends applications (via the online grant system) to statewide panels for review
- Panels will rate applications based on review criteria in guidelines
- Panels will submit funding recommendations to the board of the Commission
- The Commission meets in mid June to make final decisions
- Notice will be sent out by the last week of June
- Final reports are due 30 days after the completion of a project and no later than June 1

**Note:** FY22 GOS applications will be reviewed by staff/Commission only. If awarded GOS & Project funding, the first payment of 85% will be sent by August 15 (for AIE--September 15), and final payment approximately 30 days after the receipt of the final report.
Appeals Process for Grant Applicants

Applicants who believe their applications for funding were rejected for any of the following three reasons may appeal to the Commission for reconsideration:

1. declined on the basis of review criteria other than those appearing in the guidelines; or
2. declined due to influence of advisory panel or Commission members who willfully failed to disclose conflicts of interest; or
3. declined because erroneous information was provided by staff, panelists, or Commission board members at the time of review, despite the fact that the applicant provided accurate and complete information on regulation forms as part of the standard application process.

Dissatisfaction with the denial of an award or the amount of a grant award is not grounds for appeal. Incomplete applications are specifically denied any appeals process. Requests of appeals must be received, in writing, at the Commission office within 30 days (15 days for Touring/Teaching Artist Rosters) of the applicant's notification of a funding award decision. The board of the Commission will review and act upon the appeal at its next regularly scheduled meeting. If the board of the Commission changes a funding decision as a result of an appeal, the timing of the payment of the grant will be at the discretion of the agency’s Executive Director.
Foundant - Online Grant System

Accessing Foundant

- Click on “Foundant Grant System” located in the upper left corner of VCA's homepage
- If you already have an account, enter your email and password
- If you need to set up an account, visit Create Account link (whether organization or individual)
- Visit this Foundant System Tutorial to learn more about using the portal
Basic Foundant Tips

- Click on “Question List” to print a hard copy of the application.
- Use the “Collaborate” tab to allow others within your organization to access the application.
- Questions with an asterisk are required. Incomplete applications cannot be submitted.
- Once an application is submitted, you will be unable to access it.
- Applications may be sent back to draft, if staff identifies essential missing information.
- VCA Staff may add “Administrator Comments” within your application to request additional information or clarification as needed, during preliminary review.
General Operating Support Grants

Purpose
To assist organizations of artistic merit in fulfilling their missions by providing funds to maintain their stability and encourage their advancement.

Photo Courtesy of The Birthplace of Country Music (Bristol)
General Operating Support Grants

Description: The largest grant program of the Virginia Commission for the Arts, General Operating Support Grants (GOS) assist organizations of artistic merit in fulfilling their missions by providing operating funds to continue, strengthen, and expand their programs.

FY2021 Grant Award Information: GOS Budget: $2,810,507; Number of GOS Grantees: 212

Deadline: February 1, 2021 at 5:00 PM (EST) for the grant period of July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

Eligible Applicants: Only Current FY21 GOS Grantees, that meet the eligibility criteria as listed in the Guidelines for Funding, may apply. No new GOS applications will be accepted in FY22. Interested applicants may apply in other grant categories such as Project Grants, Technical Assistance, and/or Artists in Education grants, if applicable. Note: Organizations applying for GOS may not apply for Project Grants. In addition, organizations that receive more than $2,500 in GOS, may not apply for Artist in Education Express grants.

Eligible Activities: Special projects, maintenance/operation costs, and/or on-going programming
General Operating Support Grants (continued)

**Amount of Assistance:** GOS awards are calculated annually based on:

1. Priority rating of the organization in FY2021
2. Average eligible income as reported in FY2021 & FY2020 GOS applications
3. Number of applicants in the pool
4. Available state and federal funds.

*Because of these variable factors, grant awards are likely to fluctuate from year to year. Minimum grant awards will be $500 per year; maximum grant awards will be $200,000 per year.*

**For Budgeting/Planning Purposes**

Last year, Priority 1 applicants received approximately 3% of their eligible revenue (e.g. an organization with eligible income of $100,000 requesting 10% or $10,000, received $3,000). Priority 2 organizations receive half of Priority 1 or 1.5% of their eligible revenue ($1,500); Priority 3 organizations received half of Priority 2 organizations or .75% of their eligible revenue ($750).

**Contact:**

Cathy Welborn, Program Coordinator
catherine.welborn@vca.virginia.gov
Project Grants

Purpose
To facilitate new and innovative art projects or services that engage the community and that have the potential to advance cultural presence, awareness and connections.

Photo Courtesy of Academy Center of the Arts (Lynchburg)
Project Grants

FY21 Grant Award Information:
Project Grant Budget: $87,400     Project Grant Applications: 37     Project Grant Awards: 24

Deadline: March 1, 2021 by 5pm (EST) for the grant period of July 1, 2021-June 15, 2022

Eligible Activities
1. New and/or expanded performances or exhibitions that involve direct community participation in underserved communities
2. Commissions of new works of art
3. Operating support for new and emerging arts organizations (whose primary purpose is the arts, which have applied for 501(c)3 designation of the Internal Revenue code, are incorporated in Virginia, are five years old or less, and had a previous year’s income of less than $150,000).
4. Services to artists and arts organizations, such as research studies, shared administrative and/or technical services, professional development workshops, and shared promotional materials
Project Grants (continued)

Eligible Applicants
- Virginia not-for-profit organizations
- Units of government
- Colleges/universities (*Each department of a college/university is considered to be a separate applicant.

Amount of Assistance
Generally between $1,000 and $5,000. Applicants may submit more than one application for a combined total of no more than $5,000 and must provide at least a 1:1 cash match of the requested grant. The Commission will not grant more than 50% of the cash costs of any project.

Photo Courtesy of Museum of Contemporary Art (Norfolk)
Project Grants (continued)

Project Evaluation
The Commission’s commitment to Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Access (IDEA) will guide the recommendations for this grant program with the following priorities for investment:

- Organizations that are located in and/or primarily serve geographically isolated and/or socioeconomically under-resourced communities
- Organizations that represent and/or with missions that focuses on arts access to culturally diverse communities, including but not limited to: Indigenous/First Americans, African American, Asian, Latinx/Hispanic, and/or Immigrant or Refugee populations.
- Organizations with programming with a focus on underrepresented and/or under-resourced communities or populations and/or market their programs to encourage inclusion of any one or more of these populations, including but not limited to: individuals with disabilities, LGBTQ+, veteran/military connected individuals, or incarcerated populations.

Project grants will reviewed by a statewide, multi-disciplinary panel for:

1. Artistic Quality of the Proposed Project
2. Community Engagement & IDEA
3. Project Management
Project Grants (continued)

Important Notes

- Due to limited funds, organizations may not apply for both a Project Grant and General Operating Support Grant in the same fiscal year.
- General operating support or annual budgets for established organizations are not considered projects and are ineligible (except for new and emerging art)
- Applications from colleges/universities should be for activities not otherwise available in the community
- Projects from colleges/universities that are primarily for academic credit are not eligible
- Commission grants to any established arts organization in one year will total no more than 30% of that organization’s income for the previous year;
- Generally, the Commission will not support the same project for more than three years
- Applications for projects involving Pre-K-12 and post-secondary students, or adults, with identified learning goals, must be filed under the Artist in Education grant program.
Project Grants (continued)

The VCA will provide the following forms in the application:
- Project Budget Form
- Staff & Board Information Form
- Signed Certification of Assurances
- Virginia W-9 Form (note: NOT the federal W9)

Applicants must generate and upload the following:
- Short Principal Staff and Artist(s) Bios
- Four (4) Documents Reflecting Artistic Quality
- Profit & Loss Statement or Audit from Most Recently Completed Fiscal Year
- Balance Sheet from December 31, 2020
- IRS 501 (c)(3) Determination Letter
- Fiscal Agent Agreement (if applicable)

Project applicants are encouraged to contact Cathy Welborn to discuss the project in advance of submission. Applicants are invited to attend the virtual panel meeting in April. Panel meeting details will be announced in January.

Learn More, HERE.

Contact:
Cathy Welborn, Program Coordinator
catherine.welborn@vca.virginia.gov
Artist in Education Grants

Purpose
To provide opportunities for Virginia’s students, educators and other adult populations throughout Virginia to participate in and learn through the arts by working with high quality professional artists in support of lifelong learning.

Photo Courtesy of Barefoot Puppets (Richmond)
Artist in Education Grants

Eligible Applicants
● Virginia Public Pre-K-12 Schools
● Private, federally tax exempt schools
● Not-for-profit organizations

Note: A federal tax identification letter is required for all applications.

Amount of Assistance
● Applicants may request a maximum of $7,500 and must provide at least a 1:1 cash match of the requested grant.

Eligible Program Dates
● Programs must take place between July 1, 2021 through June 10, 2022.
Artist in Education Grants

Eligible Activities
● New or Expanded Residencies Pre-K-12 or Adults ([Identified Learning Goals (SOLs) for Pre K-12])
● New or Expanded After-School or summer arts programs
● New or Expanded Training programs for artists or teachers
● Synchronous or asynchronous virtual learning with a specific Virginia population

Note: The Commission will not fund the same activity with the same teaching artists for more than three years without significant program expansion.

Learning Models
● In-Person
● Virtual (Synchronous and Asynchronous)
● Hybrid
Artist in Education Grants (continued)

Application Requirements (Narrative)
● Description of existing arts education instruction
● Description of purposed learning activity and how it will expand upon existing learning
● Evaluation Plan
● Participant Recruitment Plan
● Teaching Artist/s Selection Rationale

Additional Requirements (Document Uploads)
● Letters of Support (Current)
● Budget Template
● Accessibility Checklist
● Certification of Assurances
● IRS Determination Letter
● Virginia W-9
Artist in Education - Teaching Artists

Teaching Artist/s - Who can I use?

- Teaching Artists can be (VA residents, non-VA residents or VCA Roster Teaching Artists)
- If a VCA Roster Teaching Artist is selected, supplemental support documentation is not required.
- Any artist that is not a VCA Roster Teaching Artist is required to provide the following documentation

Required Teaching Artist Support Documentation

- Resume/CV (current)
- Sample Lesson Plan
- Three professional examples (artistic excellence)
- Two examples of teaching artistry (in process examples)
Artist in Education - Teaching Artists (continued)

Deadlines and Notifications

● Application opens: early January 2021
● Application deadline: April 1, 2021 at 5PM
● Eligibility review: Upon receipt and through -mid-April 2021
● AIE Advisory Panel: May 2021
● Panel/Staff recommendations compiled: May 2021
● Commission Board votes on recommendations: June 2021
● Award Notifications: June 2021
● AIE first payments of 85% distributed: September 15, 2021
● Final payments of remaining 15% distributed: upon receipt of Final Report
Artist in Education Grants

FY21 Grant Award Information:
FY21 AIE Budget: $94,000
FY21 AIE Applications: 42
FY21 AIE Awards: 36

Deadline: April 1, 2021

Learn More, HERE.

Contact:
Casey Polczynski, PhD
casey.polczynski@vca.virginia.gov
Artist in Education Express (AIEx) Grants

Purpose
To increase opportunities for short-term artist residencies with an open application process.

Grammy Nominated Progressive Hip-Hop Artist, Christylez Bacon
Photo Courtesy of Jim Hale
Artist in Education Express (AIEx) Grants

Eligible Applicants
Eligible applicants may apply for no more than two AIEx Grants within a grant cycle. Organizations receiving $2,500 or less in General Operating support may apply for AIEx.

- Virginia Public Pre-K-12 schools
- Private, Federally Tax Exempt Schools
- Not-for-profit organizations
- Current VCA Roster Teaching Artists who are permanent Virginia residents

Amount of Assistance
- Up to $1,500 with a 15% cash match. Grants are awarded from available funds on a first-come, first-served basis. All grant awards (100%) are distributed 30 days in advance of the program start date.
Artist in Education Express (AIEx)

Eligible Activities
- Short-term (maximum 20 hours) participatory residency for schools and community organizations
- Workshops, demonstrations with a participatory component, and individual or community projects
- Synchronous or Asynchronous

Note: AIEx is not intended to support concerts, assemblies or field trips.

Criteria for Funding
- Demonstrated applicant need
- Financial need of school or community organization
- VCA Roster Artist working with underserved populations with limited arts access

Eligible Programming Dates
- July 1, 2021 through April 15, 2022
Artist in Education Express (AIEx)

Application Requirements (Narrative)
● Description of proposed residency
● Evaluation plan

Additional Requirements (Document Uploads)
● Letters of Support (Current)
● Budget Template
● Accessibility Checklist
● Certification of Assurances
● IRS Determination Letter
● Virginia W9

Contact: Casey Polczynski, PhD, casey.polczynski@vca.virginia.gov
Teaching Artist/s - *Who can I use?*

- Teaching Artists can be (VA residents, non-VA residents or [VCA Roster Teaching Artists](#))
- If a [VCA Roster Teaching Artist](#) is selected, supplemental support documentation is not required.
- Any artist that is not a [VCA Roster Teaching Artist](#) is required to provide the following documentation

**Required Teaching Artist Support Documentation**

- Resume/CV (current)
- Sample Lesson Plan
- Three work samples--artistic excellence
- Two work samples--teaching artistry
Artist in Education Express (AIEx) Grants

FY21 Grant Award Information:
FY20 AIEx Budget $32,830
FY20 AIEx Awards: 37
FY21 AIEx Budget $34,000

Deadline:
July 1, 2022 through April 15, 2022

Learn More, HERE.

Contact:
Casey Polczynski, PhD
casey.polczynski@vca.virginia.gov
Teaching Artist Roster

Purpose
To identify and promote highly-qualified and experienced teaching artists

Grammy Nominated Progressive Hip-Hop Artist, Christylez Bacon
Photo Courtesy of Jim Hale
Teaching Artist Roster

Eligible Applicants

Teaching Artists must be:

- 18 years of age or older
- A resident of one of the following: VA, DE, KY, MD, NC, PA, TN, WV, DC
- Professional Artist with expertise in one or more disciplines
- Skilled in working with children, youth, teachers, adults, seniors, veterans and other populations
- Committed to differentiated instruction

Note: Individuals and organizations can apply. Full-time students are ineligible.
Teaching Artist Roster

**Deadlines**
- April 1, 2021 and October 1, 2021

**Required Documentation**
- Resume (current)
- Sample lesson/workshop plan
- Three examples of artistic excellence
- Two examples of teaching artistry-- in process samples
- Two reference letters (current)

**Background Check**
- Background Check Agreement
Teaching Artist Roster (continued)

Deadlines and Notifications

- Application opens: early January 2021 and July 2021
- Application deadlines: April 1 and October 1, 2021
- Eligibility review: upon receipt and until Advisory Panel
- AIE Advisory Panel: May/November 2021
- Panel/Staff recommendations compiled: May/November
- Commission board votes on recommendations: June and December 2021
- Determination letters sent: June and December 2021
- Background Check: to be completed upon approval to the Roster
- Online Roster Page Created: upon approval to the Roster, and updated annually

VCA Roster Artists are required to renew their status every three years via a simple three step renewal process.
Teaching Artist Roster

FY21 Grant Award* Information:
16 artists approved in two cycles
*Approval not directly tied to a funding award.

Deadlines:
April 1 and October 1, 2021

Learn More, HERE.

Contact:
Casey Polczynski, PhD
casey.polczynski@vca.virginia.gov
Artist Fellowships

Purpose
To recognize the creative excellence of individual Virginia artists and support their pursuit of artistic excellence.

Photo Courtesy of The ARTFactory (Manassas)
Artist Fellowships

Eligible Applicant
- Artists who plan to remain in Virginia during the grant period
- Artists who are legal Virginia residents. A legal resident is defined as:
  - Possess a valid VA driver’s license
  - Pays VA income tax
  - Registered VA voter
- Artists who are 18 years of age
- Artists may only receive one fellowship from the Commission within any four-year period

Amount of Assistance
Four artists will be considered for fellowship awards of up to $5,000 each. No matching funds are required.
Artist Fellowships (continued)

Evaluation Criteria
- Consistent quality of artistic work
- Applicant’s record of professional activities and achievement
- Fellowship potential

Deadlines and Notifications
- Application due: October 1, 2021 at 5 PM
- Advisory Panel meets: November 2021
- Commission Board votes on recommendations: December 2021
- Full payment to Fellowship Awardees: by January 15, 2022

Fellowship awards are reported as taxable income.
Artist Fellowships

FY21 Fellowship* Budget: $ 25,000
(made Artist Relief Grants for FY21)
FY21 Fellowship Awards: 50
FY20 Fellowship Budget $ 14,500
FY20 Fellowship Awards: 5

Deadline: October 1, 2021
FY22 Budget TBD

Learn More, HERE.

Contact:
Casey Polczynski, PhD
casey.polczynski@vca.virginia.gov
Creative Community Partnership Grants

Purpose
To encourage local governments to support the arts.

Staufferstadt Arts ~ Strasburg Mural Project
Artist ~ Lula Goce
Creative Community Partnership Grants

Eligible Applicants
Independent city, town, or county governments in Virginia.

Eligible Activities
Grants to independent arts organizations for arts activities in the locality, including activities that promote cultural equity and access. The Commission does not match payments paid to performers for specific performances. Local governments seeking such funding should apply to the Performing Arts Touring Assistance Program.

Amount of Assistance
The Commission will match, \textbf{up to $4,500}, subject to funds available, the tax monies given by independent town, city, and county governments to stand-alone arts organizations. The money, which does not include school arts budgets or arts programming by local governments, committees or councils of government, nor departments such as parks and recreation, may be subgranted either by a local arts commission/council or directly by the governing body.
Creative Community Partnership Grants (*continued*)

Grant Information: FY21 Budget ~ $484,000  Number of CCPG Grantees ~ 117

Deadline to Apply*: April 1, 2021 by 5:00 PM for grants awarded in 2021-2022
Final Report Deadline: February 1, 2022 by 5:00 PM

NOTE: * A local government that has not approved its budget by the grant deadline may apply conditionally and confirm the application as soon as possible (and no later than February 1, 2022 by 5 PM). The local government match must be from local government funds; federal funds may not be included.

Contact:
Lucas Hall, Deputy Director
Lucas.Hall@vca.virginia.gov or
Cathy Welborn, Program Coordinator
Catherine.Welborn@vca.virginia.gov
Performing Arts
Touring Assistance

Purpose
The Commission’s touring assistance program is designed to ensure that all Virginians have the ability to enjoy high quality performances by our state’s finest touring artists.

VCA Touring Artist Padmarani Rasiah Cantu
Performing Arts Tour Roster

For Performing Artists and Ensembles Seeking to be Listed in the FY23 Tour Directory

Eligible Applicants
Legal Virginia performing artists and performing arts organizations/ensembles. Non-profit status is not required. Virginia artists and arts organizations must reside or be headquartered in the state of Virginia. For larger ensembles, the majority of its members must be Virginia residents.

Individual students or organizations whose members are primarily Pre-K-12 or undergraduate college students are not eligible for inclusion in the Tour Directory.

Deadline: July 15, 2021, by 5:00 PM (EST) for the touring season of July 1, 2022 - June 15, 2023

Applicants are reviewed by a statewide panel that evaluates applicants on the following criteria:
- Artistic excellence
- Effective management
- Availability of similar touring programs in the state
- Cost-effectiveness of the proposed tour
- Evidence of presenter interest in the proposed tour

Questions? Contact: Cathy Welborn, Program Coordinator, catherine.welborn@vca.virginia.gov
Performing Arts Touring Assistance for Presenters

Eligible Applicants
Virginia not-for-profit organizations, units of local government, or educational institutions that meet the Basic Eligibility criteria.

Eligible Activities
- Programs listed in the Tour Directory
- Programs should be open to the public, and the presenter must provide community-wide publicity. Elementary and secondary schools, senior living facilities, correctional facilities, and hospitals may be exempt from this requirement.
- NEW (for now) - Touring Assistance grants may be for virtual performances provided that artist(s) include some purposeful component of live audience engagement (i.e. post-performance chat-back; etc.).
Performing Arts Touring Assistance for Presenters (continued)

**Deadline**

**FY21 Applications for Touring Assistance are still open!** The deadline to apply has been extended to February 1, 2021, for performances taking place through June 15, 2021.

**FY22 Applications go online March 1, 2021** Presenters must apply four weeks in advance and no later than December 1, 2021 for performances taking place between July 1, 2021 and June 15, 2022.

**Amount of Assistance**

Up to 50% of the performance fee subject to the overall limit for each touring artist/ensemble. Grant award amounts are a minimum of $100 and maximum of $7,500 per performance.

**Contact:**
Cathy Welborn, Program Coordinator
[mailto:catherine.welborn@vca.virginia.gov](mailto:catherine.welborn@vca.virginia.gov)
Technical and Organizational Assistance Grants

Purpose
To assist arts organizations in improving their artistic quality, community service, or management.

Photo courtesy of Visual Arts Center (Richmond)
Technical and Organizational Assistance Grants

Eligible Applicants
Virginia arts organizations (excluding units of governments and educational institutions and their private companion foundations)

Amount of Assistance
For FY21 up to $1,000. NEW for FY22, up to $3,500 (non-matching) per fiscal year.

Deadline
Applications open on April 1, 2021, and are due at least four weeks before the proposed activity occurring between July 1, 2021, and June 15, 2022.

NOTE: Only organizations with previous year's cash income of $150,000 or less will be reviewed from April 1 - April 30, 2021. All other applications will be reviewed beginning May 1, 2021, and remaining funds will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis to qualified organizations regardless of cash income.
Eligible Activities

1. Short-term consultations on particular artistic/organizational problems, with the staff of the applicant organization carrying out the resulting plan of action.

2. Sending administrators, board members, and other authorized representatives to conferences, seminars or other professional development programs to increase sustainability and effectiveness.

3. **NEW**: Support for purchasing equipment, subscriptions, and setting up platforms for organizations to go fully virtual in order to connect with each other and patrons.

Contact:
Cathy Welborn, Program Coordinator
catherine.welborn@vca.virginia.gov
Foundant Tutorial  Resources & Tips

Webinar Videos

- VCA Online Grant Application Webinar
- Creating a new account
- Registration Process Video Tutorial
- Applicant Workflow Video Tutorial
- Touring Assistance Webinar for Presenters and Performers

Helpful Links for Applicants

- VCA Guidelines for Funding
- Grant Writing Tips for Organizations
- If you do not know your logins, contact the VCA Staff member responsible for the specific program.
- Grant Deadlines
VCA Grant Contacts

Cathy Welborn, Program Coordinator
Catherine.Welborn@vca.virginia.gov
● General Operating Support Grants
● Project Grants
● Creative Communities Partnership Grants
● Technical and Organizational Assistance Grants
● Performing Arts Touring Assistance

Casey Polczynski, Arts in Education Coordinator
Casey.Polczynski@vca.virginia.gov
● Artist in Education
● Artist in Education Express (AIEx) Grant
● Teaching Artist Roster

Lucas Hall, Deputy Director
Lucas.Hall@vca.virginia.gov
● Creative Communities Partnership Grants
● Virginia CARES Emergency Relief Grant
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Follow Us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/VirginiaArts
Read the Latest News: http://www.arts.virginia.gov/latest-news

By Virginia Code, All Meetings of the VCA Are Open to the Public
Board Meetings: http://www.arts.virginia.gov/about_board.html
Advisory Panels: http://www.arts.virginia.gov/about_advisory.html

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