
Mission Support Grants

Through competitive grant programs, ArtsGreensboro invests in high-quality arts experiences that further its core values of access, inclusion, and cultural equity. Mission Support Grants are intended to support:

- The creation and/or presentation of programming with high artistic merit—including visual arts, music, dance, theatre, and other performance, instructional and/or creative arts programs or art forms. Priority is given to the arts experience itself (we do not fund expenses associated with endowment-building, capital projects, fundraising, debt reduction, the acquisition of equipment, or training programs).
- Programs with high artistic merit that demonstrates defined and measurable outcomes, including impact on the community.
- Programs that increase access to the arts, engage the community and enrich the varied cultural vitality of Greater Greensboro.
- Arts education experiences that inspire and engage students (including life-long learning) enhance curriculum, and result in increased knowledge and skills in the arts.

Mission Support is a competitive single-year program for mature arts organizations with unrestricted operating revenue exceeding \$500,000 annually for the past three (3) consecutive years. Applicants must have a demonstrated record of success in creating or presenting programs of the highest artistic merit and regional significance and further ArtsGreensboro’s core values. Mission Support Grant program is funded by foundations, corporations, and individual donors.

Eligibility

An organization is eligible to apply for a Mission Support Grant if it meets all of the following criteria:

- Produces or presents the arts to the public in the Greater Greensboro region through ongoing arts programming;
- Has its principal office in the Greater Greensboro region for at least the last three (3) consecutive years;
- Can demonstrate nonprofit 501(c)3 tax-exempt status from the U.S. Internal Revenue Service and a current charitable solicitation license from the State of North Carolina;
- Has operated as an arts organization with unrestricted operating revenue exceeding \$500,000 annually for the past three (3) consecutive years; and
- Governed by a board of directors in compliance with Chapter 55A, Article 8 of the North Carolina Non-Profit Corporation Act.

Organizations must confirm eligibility to apply with staff before applying. Grant-making organizations and entities that receive a majority of their operating budget from a unit of government or college/university programs are NOT eligible to apply for Mission Support and Project Grants. Organizations receiving or applying for a Mission Support Grant may not apply for Project Support Grants.

Review Criteria

The Grant Review Panel will use the following criteria to evaluate and score Mission Support Grant applications on a scale of 1 to 100. An organization’s commitment to each criterion should be apparent throughout the entire application. By demonstrating this commitment, organizations of any size and discipline can achieve a rating of “Exemplary.”

Score	Rating	Definition	Recommended % of Maximum
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90 to 100	Exemplary	The applicant has provided OVERWHELMING evidence throughout the application demonstrating the organization has the capacity and programming to drive impact, provide quality programming, and supports ArtsGreensboro's goals of access, inclusion, and cultural equity.	90 to 100%
80 to 90	Strong	The applicant has provided STRONG evidence throughout the application demonstrating the organization has the capacity and programming to drive impact, provide quality programming, and supports ArtsGreensboro's goals of access, inclusion, and cultural equity.	80 to 90%
70 to 80	Good	The applicant has provided SUFFICIENT evidence throughout the application demonstrating the organization has the capacity and programming to drive impact, provide quality programming, and supports ArtsGreensboro's goals of access, inclusion, ,and cultural equity.	70 to 80%
50 to 70	Needs work	The applicant has provided LITTLE evidence throughout the application demonstrating the organization has the capacity and programming to drive impact, provide quality programming, and supports the goals ArtsGreensboro's goals of access, inclusion, and cultural equity.	80 to 70%
1 to 50	Weak	The applicant has provided VERY LIMITED evidence throughout the application demonstrating the organization has the capacity and programming to drive impact, provide quality programming, and supports ArtsGreensboro's goals of access, inclusion, and cultural equity.	Not eligible to be funded

Applicants must meet a minimum score of 50 to receive funding for either Mission Support or Project Grants.

Application Process

Application Deadline: December 23, 2019 at 11:00 P.M.

Please refer to the Review Criteria as you prepare your narrative and other required documents. All materials should tell the same story and represent your organization at its best. Grant review panels look for evidence of your commitment to your mission and artistic merit, as well as sound governance, management, and operations, based on your strategic planning. The panels also look for evidence of your organization's understanding of, and responsiveness to, its community. During the panel meeting, panelists discuss and rate your application based on how your organization demonstrates that it meets the Review Criteria.

Support Period

2020 Mission Support Grants support arts + education activities taking place between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020.

Narrative Questions for 2020 Mission Support Applications

Organization and Programming

1. Provide a brief overview of your organizations history and mission and any significant changes over the last year.
2. Provide an overview of planned artistic programs and intended outcomes, highlighting both in-house and outreach. Describe any collaborations and partnerships for program delivery.
3. Provide an overview of planned educational programs and intended outcomes, highlighting both in-house and outreach. Describe any collaborations and partnerships for program delivery.
4. Describe your planning process for determining programming, including how and why artists are chosen and how you solicit input from community sources.

5. Describe the organization's staff/volunteer structure, including the key duties and responsibilities of staff leadership and the role of your board of directors.
6. Describe the financial position of your organization for the past year, current year, and planned year, as well as the budgeting process.
7. Describe the organization's fundraising plan for the upcoming fiscal year. Include how this relates to past fundraising efforts and any long-term fundraising goals or plans. If you have plans to launch endowment or capital campaign, please outline the timeline.

Inclusion and Access—building audiences across the community

8. Describe your organization's goals around inclusion and access.
9. Describe the community your organization serves (audiences, supporters, artists, volunteers, demographics, etc.) Describe new audiences your organization hopes to attract, and methodology to do so.

Impact, Evaluation and Economic Development

10. Describe how you evaluate the success and impact of your programs. What and how data is collect to support outcomes.
11. Detail how your organization helps to promote economic development (e.g., tourism, sales, enhancement of neighborhoods, attracting artist and other creatives to the community, etc.)

Other Materials

1. Budget for current fiscal year, noting end date (e.g., 6/30/2020)
2. Projected budget for upcoming fiscal year
3. Program calendar for 2020
4. Work samples
5. Board of Director's with affiliations and zip code
6. Staff list and roles