



DC COMMISSION ON THE ARTS & HUMANITIES

FY 2022 PROJECTS, EVENTS, or FESTIVALS GRANT PROGRAM
REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities (CAH) is seeking applications from qualified arts, humanities, and service organizations, individual artists or humanities practitioners for its Fiscal Year 2022 Projects, Events, OR Festivals (PEF) grant program. The number of awards and the amount of each will vary.

Organizations may request up to \$15,000
Individuals may request up to \$7,500

RFA Release: Monday | May 3, 2021
Submission Deadline: Friday | June 18, 2021 | 11:59pm

Incomplete or late applications or applications that do not follow the instructions and guidelines will be automatically deemed ineligible for review and funding.

Prospective applicants should read through this Request for Applications (RFA) in its entirety before submitting an application.

Staff Contact: Robert Nunez, Grants Manager | robert.nunez@dc.gov
Travis Marcus, Grants Manager | travis.marcus@dc.gov

The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities (CAH) is an independent agency within the District of Columbia government that evaluates and initiates action on matters relating to the arts and humanities and encourages the development of programs that promote progress in the arts and humanities. As the official arts agency for Washington, DC, CAH is supported by District government funds and in part by the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

CAH has grantmaking authority under the Commission on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1975, as amended (D.C. Law 1-22, D.C. Official Code § 39-204).

Government of the District of Columbia
Commission on the Arts and Humanities
200 I Street, SE, Suite 1400, Washington, DC 20003
202-724-5613 | dcarts.dc.gov

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FY 2022 PROJECTS, EVENTS, or FESTIVALS GRANT PROGRAM

Applicants may submit one (1) Projects, Events, Festivals Grant application per fiscal year cycle

OVERVIEW

The Projects, Events, or Festivals (PEF) offers support to qualified Individuals, and nonprofit arts, humanities, arts education, and service organizations to deliver exemplary programs that promote arts and/or humanities activities to a diverse range of communities within the District of Columbia. CAH will award select applicants (grantees) a grant of funds to support the delivery of their proposed project. CAH grant funds must be spent within CAH's Fiscal Year 2022 (FY 2022) (October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022). Grant award funds cover expenses made only within this period.

Grants are competitive and applications are organized for review in cohorts based on the following qualifying project categories: (1) Organizations; or (2) Individuals.

Award amounts are subject to CAH's availability of funds and are based upon the advisory review panel score and ranking.

All PEF grant awards no longer require a 1:1 cash match.

GRANT PROGRAM GOALS

By making its PEF grant awards, CAH endeavors to meet the following goals:

- Provide access to high-quality arts and humanities experiences for all District of Columbia residents;
- Improve quality of life by supporting vibrant community projects within the arts and humanities; and
- Strengthen the creative economy through investments in local individuals and organizations.

SUPPORTED PROJECT CATEGORIES

CAH accepts applications for projects of all sizes that demonstrate District impact and engage District residents and visitors.

CAH encourages community-based projects that share characteristics such as geographic location, common interests, or community impact. Arts and humanities projects may include but are not limited to: concerts; visual arts exhibitions; literary readings; or festivals that feature dance, folk art, film, music, theatre and other art forms. Applicants who are unsure if their project may qualify for this grant program are encouraged to contact a CAH grants manager.

PEF applicants will be reviewed by cohorts based on applicant type (individuals or organizations). Cohorts will be determined by CAH based on the pool of applications received.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants shall, in their respective grant applications:

- Clearly articulate the design, deliverables, and schedule of the project, including the impact of the project on the community and on the artists and/or organization involved in the execution;
- Demonstrate knowledge of the community and community members where the project is sited and reflect this understanding of its location and participants through the design of its proposed project(s);
- Employ methods and technology, where appropriate, to ensure project accessibility and engagement for all project participants;
- Present one distinct project with a clear plan for project budgeting, marketing, and a timeline for implementation. It is not recommended that applicants include multiple projects in their applications; and
- **INCLUDE A CERTIFICATE OF GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE OR A PRICE QUOTE FROM AN INSURANCE PROVIDER DETAILING COVERAGE FOR THE PERIOD OF THE PROPOSED GRANT AWARD.**

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Prior to submitting applications, applicants must meet all of the following eligibility requirements:

Organizations

- Be incorporated as a nonprofit with a federally designated tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Service (IRS) code, as evidenced by an IRS determination letter that is dated at least one year prior to the application deadline date;
- Be registered with, and authorized to do business in, the District as either a “Domestic” entity (that is, an entity that was incorporated in the District) or a “Foreign” entity (that is, an entity that was incorporated in another state);
- Ensure that one hundred percent (100%) of the grant award dollars are used to support District of Columbia programming, inclusive of direct and indirect costs;
- Have an active Board of Directors;
- Register and comply with the regulatory requirements of the following agencies:
 1. District of Columbia Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs’ (DCRA) – Corporations Division (indicating an “active” business license status at the time of application, and agreeing to maintain such status throughout the grant period);
 2. District of Columbia Office of the Chief Financial Officer, Office of Tax and Revenue (OTR);
 3. District of Columbia Department of Employment Services (DOES); and
 4. United States Internal Revenue Service (IRS).
- Obtain a Certificate of Clean Hands (CCH) from the District of Columbia Office of Tax and Revenue (see Citywide Clean Hands- Page 11);
- Be in “good standing” with CAH. (Note: A CAH grant applicant who has failed, as of June 18, 2021, to comply with all applicable CAH-related mandates (e.g., failed to submit to CAH required reports related to prior CAH funding), is not in “good standing” with CAH and, accordingly, is ineligible to receive additional funds from CAH in FY 2022); and

- Have a principal business office address that is located in the District of Columbia, subject to an on-site visit. (Note: CAH will not allow post office boxes or the addresses of board members or volunteers as evidence of the principal business address).

Individuals

- Be a legal District of Columbia resident for at least one (1) year prior to the submission deadline;
- Have a permanent District of Columbia address, as listed on government issued identification or tax returns. Post office boxes may not be used as a permanent address;
- Maintain District of Columbia residency during the entire granting fiscal year;
- Be an artist, arts professional, and/or humanities practitioner, aged 18 or older;
- Be in “good standing” with CAH. (Note: A CAH grant applicant who has failed, as of June 18, 2021, to comply with all applicable CAH-related mandates (e.g., failed to submit to CAH required reports related to prior CAH funding), is not in “good standing” with CAH and, accordingly, is ineligible to receive additional funds from CAH in FY 2022); and
- Obtain a Clean Hands Certificate (CCH) from the District of Columbia Office of Tax and Revenue (see Citywide Clean Hands- Page 11).

Organizational and Individual Applicants restricted from applying include:

- Organizations awarded funds in the FY 2022 General Operating Support grant are prohibited from applying to PEF for FY 2022;
- Applicants are prohibited from submitting PEF applications for projects that feature temporary or permanent public art projects. For more information on public art projects, review the Public Art Building Communities (PABC) grant program;
- Applicants are prohibited from submitting PEF applications for projects that provide activities for children or youth;
 - For more information on funding projects and activities for children or youth, review the Arts or Humanities Education Project (AHEP) or East of the River (EOR) grant program guidelines.
- Eligible projects by individuals are projects that work independently of the applicant’s affiliated organization;
 - Individuals who are staff of a non-profit organization may not apply for funding for projects that are part of that organization’s programming; and
 - Individuals who are staff or proprietors of a for-profit company cannot apply for funding for projects that are a product or service of that company.
- Arts and humanities organizations with a majority of their constituents who reside outside of the District of Columbia;
- Tax-Exempt organizations other than 501(c)(3) designated entities;
- Private clubs and organizations that prohibit membership based upon race, gender, color, religion, or any other classes identified in the District of Columbia Human Rights Act;
- Organizations that require “fiscal agents”; for-profit organizations; private foundations; political organizations; colleges; universities; foreign governments; federal government entities; and other District of Columbia government agencies, including DC Public Schools;
- Organizations submitting an application whose content is combined with the application of another organization. Proposed projects must be “stand-alone” projects;
- Individuals who reside outside of the District of Columbia; and
- Individuals who use or require fiscal agents.

Applications not adhering to this policy will be automatically deemed ineligible.

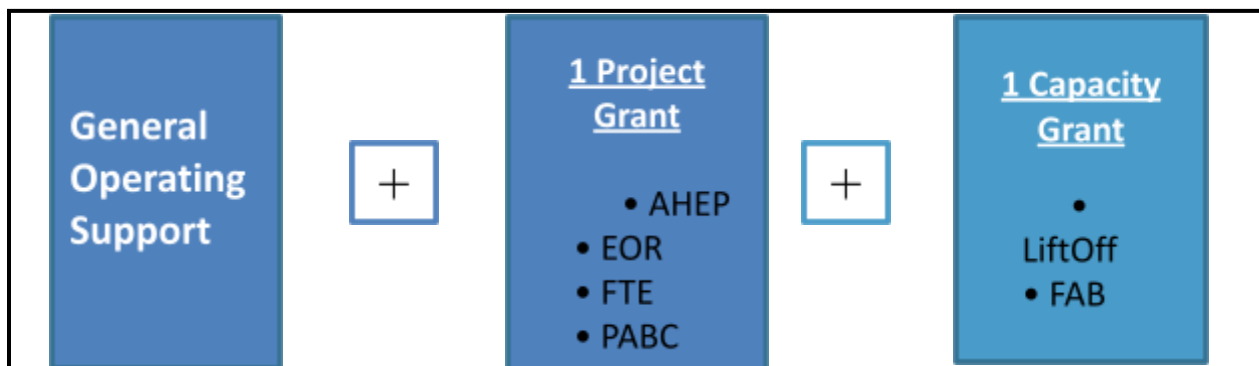
For festival requests, applicants must also meet the following eligibility requirements:

- Anticipated festival numbers must align with District-mandated guidelines for public gatherings; Artistic programming must comprise a minimum of six (6) hours of the festival;
- Festival events and programs must be publicly advertised and open to the general public;
- The festival may not be a block party, fundraiser or charity benefit;
- Funding may be used for project expenses only, which includes support for salaries and operations directly related to the festival events and programs. Funding may not be used for food, beverages, capital costs, building renovations/improvements, cash prizes, gifts, security, items for sale (for example, t-shirts and posters) or an organization’s operational costs associated with the administrative office (such as staff salaries, office rent and utilities, office equipment, office supplies, etc.); and,
- All festival activities must comply with District of Columbia permits, policies and safety.

ALLOWABLE COSTS AND FUNDING RESTRICTIONS

PEF applicants may apply to the Arts or Humanities Education Project (AHEP) grant program. PEF applicants that are headquartered in Wards 7 and 8 may also apply to the East of the River (EOR) grant program. There must be no project scope overlap across these programs.

Organizations that have applied to FY22 General Operating Support (GOS) are restricted from applying to FY 2022 Projects, Events, or Festivals (PEF) grants. All FY 2022 GOS recipients may apply to only one “Project Grant” and one “Capacity Grant” as defined below.



CAH must ensure that all award funds are expended in a fiscally responsible manner. Allowable costs are those that the District government and CAH have determined as valid expenditures. All awarded funds are subject to audit and Performance Monitoring (see Page 12 of these Guidelines).

Examples of Allowable Costs Related to the Grant:

- Salaries for arts and humanities professionals for nonprofit organizations;
- Artists/humanities practitioners, or consultants;
- Space rental and fees directly related to project implementation;
- Travel and transportation directly related to project implementation;
- Materials, supplies, and equipment purchases that are no more than 25% of the award and are directly related to the work of project implementation; and

- Overhead, maintenance, and administration not exceeding 35% of the grant award.

Examples of Unallowable Costs Related to the Grant:

- Food and beverages;
- Tuition and scholarships;
- Expenses associated with an organization assuming the role of a fiscal agent for another organization;
- Costs related to fundraisers and special events;
- Debt reduction;
- Expenses unrelated to the execution of the scope of work;
- Operational reserve;
- Temporary or permanent public art projects;
- Activities for youth;
- Re-granting (also known as “sub-granting”); and
- Funding to universities, foreign governments or DC government agencies, including DCPS.

Grantees with questions regarding allowable costs may contact PEF grant program managers. The grantee will be responsible for demonstrating expenses, as applicable, in Interim and/or Final Reports.

INCLUSION, DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND ACCESS (I.D.E.A.)

CAH embraces a commitment to the philosophy of I.D.E.A. and complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) (42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 et seq.) in its work. CAH encourages applicants and grantees to be as inclusive, diverse, equitable, and accessible in their work throughout the District of Columbia, beyond participants with disabilities. Successful applications will consider a broad definition of “accessibility” by addressing financial, geographic, demographic, cultural, and developmental access in their programming/projects. For more information, see the Americans with Disabilities Act section of these RFA guidelines (see page 11, below) and the CAH Grants Glossary, located in the [Guide to Grants](#). For reference, applicants may use this link to access the text of the ADA: <https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/42/12101>). Notwithstanding the fact that it has shared hyperlinks attached immediately above and later below, the District government does not represent that shared text of the ADA (or any other text) is the latest version of the subject law.

I.D.E.A. DEFINITIONS

Below are definitions used by CAH of each component of I.D.E.A. CAH encourages applicants to develop short- and long-term plans to ensure each of these components is realized in their processes and programs. CAH’s goal for the arts and humanities community is to have a comprehensive and actionable plan in place by FY 2024. **Applicants in receipt of funding from CAH will be required to demonstrate their progress in all future interim and final reports beginning in FY 2022.**

INCLUSION

Inclusion authentically welcomes, and intentionally brings, traditionally excluded individuals and/or groups into processes, activities, and decision/policymaking in a way that shares power.

DIVERSITY

Diversity refers to the various backgrounds and races that comprise a community, nation, or other grouping. In many instances, the term diversity does not only acknowledge the existence of diversity of background, race, gender, religion, sexual orientation etc., but applies a recognition of the value of these differences. Diversity enriches policies and practices by bringing people of diverse backgrounds and experiences together to inform, shape, and enrich these policies and practices.

EQUITY

Equity is giving everyone what they need to be successful. Equity is different from treating everyone the same. Equity operates from the understanding that people and groups enter given situations from very different starting points. These starting points are often determined by certain social hierarchies such as race, class, gender, age, sexual identity, disability, etc. An equitable framework centers awareness of these hierarchies and creates systems that are actively anti-racist, anti-classist, anti-sexist, anti-homophobic, and anti-ableist.

ACCESS

Access is defined in the broadest definition of the term as a means of ensuring individuals and/or groups are given financial, geographic, demographic, cultural, and developmental access to programming, services, and other opportunities.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND WORKSHOPS

CAH staff members are available to assist grant applicants through group or individual technical assistance. CAH staff members will not write applications for applicants. CAH staff members are available to review draft applications for thirty (30) minute appointments, on government business days up to one (1) week prior to the grant application deadline. Applicants should contact CAH to schedule a meeting by calling 202-724-5613. Please note that CAH requests the applicant prepare and deliver (by e-mail or via the online grants portal) their full draft application proposal along with any questions in advance of scheduling a meeting for agency staff assistance.

CAH conducts free workshops for participants to learn useful information about the agency's funding opportunities and how to submit a grant application. Workshop dates and times are subject to change. All workshops are virtual, free, and open to the public; however, participants are strongly encouraged to RSVP. More information about the dates and times of these workshops may be found at www.dcarts.dc.gov under [Grant Writing Assistance](#), or by calling CAH at 202-724-5613.

Day and Date	Time	Topic	Location
Friday, May 7, 2021	10:00 am – 12:00 pm	TeleTown Hall	Online Location TBD
Friday, May 14, 2021	2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Grants/Public Art	Livechat
Friday, May 21, 2021	2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Grants/Public Art	Livechat
Friday, May 28, 2021	2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Grants/Public Art	Livechat
Tuesday, June 1, 2021	3:00 pm – 4:30 pm	Online Workshop	Online Location TBD

Friday, June 4, 2021	2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Grants/Public Art	Livechat
Thursday, June 10, 2021	10:00 am – 11:30 am	Online Workshop	Online Location TBD
Friday, June 11, 2021	2:00 pm – 3:00 pm	Grants/Public Art	Livechat

Livechats may be accessed by visiting <https://dcarts.dc.gov/page/live-chat-dccah-grants-specialist>. Please register for workshops via Eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/dc-commission-on-the-arts-and-humanities-cah-1252966799>.

GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Read the [Guide to Grants](#).
2. Read the RFA guidelines (for the desired grant program) and determine eligibility.
3. Visit the [Grant Application Portal](#) to register as a user.
(Note: To reset a user password either select “Forgot your password?” or click [here](#)).
4. Upon registration, applicants select the desired grant program(s).
5. Complete the application questions, budget and budget narrative data.
6. Upload required documents, supplementary material and work samples.
7. Double-check the application for thoroughness, clarity and typographical errors.
8. Submit the application by 11:59 PM ET on the grant program’s deadline date.
9. Ensure receipt of grant submission confirmation email (auto-generated by the online portal) by the application deadline.

CAH utilizes an online grant portal to receive grant applications. **All applications must be submitted online by 11:59 PM ET on Friday, June 18, 2021.** Technical issues or failure to receive a confirmation email should be immediately brought to the attention of CAH staff. **Incomplete or late applications or applications that do not follow the instructions and guidelines are deemed ineligible for review and funding.** CAH does not accept mailed, emailed or hand-delivered copies of grant applications and/or the required attachments. CAH will accept reasonable accommodation requests from applicants with disabilities in advance of the application due date to assist them in submitting grant applications via mail, email or hand-delivery. To request a reasonable accommodation, contact Travis Marcus at travis.marcus@dc.gov and await request approval.

CAH’s grant application process is competitive and subject to the availability of funds.

Applicants may not request or receive funding for the same activities through more than one CAH program or grant category. Multiple applicants may not apply for funding for the same scope of work, whether through the same or different grant programs.

Applicants are fully responsible for the content of their application materials. An automated confirmation of an applicant’s submission does not guarantee an applicant’s eligibility, and therefore review by the advisory review panel (see below, “Review Process”). CAH staff is not permitted to make corrections to applications on behalf of applicants. CAH staff reviews applications for completeness and contacts applicants for any incomplete documents within five (5) business days of the deadline. Applicants are then responsible for updating their application within five (5) business days of CAH’s notification. Failure to do so will disqualify the application.

APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS

CAH selects individuals who are arts, humanities and/or business professionals, independent of CAH, to serve as advisory review panelists for each grant program. The role of a panelist is to review and score an eligible application's content to the established grant program review criteria.

CAH's grant application evaluation process takes into consideration general standards of decency and respect for the diverse beliefs and values of the American public consistent with [The National Foundation on the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965, as amended](#). For more information regarding the grant review process please visit the FY21 Guide to Grants. To volunteer or nominate a person to serve as an advisory review panelist for a grant program, see CAH's [Call for Panelists](#).

NOTIFICATION AND AWARD DISBURSEMENT

CAH will notify applicants of this grant program as to the results of their application by October 1, 2021 via (1) letter of intention to award, (2) letter of ineligibility, or (3) letter of denial.

For award recipients, the date(s) of CAH grant award disbursement(s) is/are subject to the availability of funds and the processing of required documentation. CAH staff will advise grant award recipients on the award disbursement process on or after October 1, 2021. More details may be found on CAH's website at [Managing Grant Awards](#).

FUNDING CONDITIONS, REPORTING REQUIREMENTS, GRANT CANCELLATIONS

CAH reserves the right to rescind any and all grant awards for non-compliance with CAH grant guidelines, policies or regulations, at any time. FY 2022 grant recipients with unmet reporting obligations regarding any CAH funding program as of close of business on Friday, October 15, 2021 are ineligible to receive additional awards from CAH.

Reporting Requirements

Each grantee is required to submit to CAH Interim and Final Reports regarding: (1) the extent to which they met their CAH grant award-related organizational and project goals; and (2) the quality of the engagement and responsibility to community that its funded projects or activities have had on the District of Columbia.

CAH reporting requirements are determined by award size:

- All grantees must submit a Final Report (due by Friday, October 21, 2022)
- Awards greater than \$10,000 must also submit an Interim Report (due by April, 22, 2022)

Grantees who do not submit Final Reports are ineligible for further CAH funding.

Grant Management and Rescindment

Grantee agrees that it will include a CAH logo and a credit line in all of its grant-related announcements and promotional materials and that it will make its best efforts to publicly credit CAH's support for the project in all related public events.

CAH has the right to withhold, reduce or rescind a grant award according to the terms and provisions of the grant agreement or if the grantee exercises any of the following:

- Fails to meet deadlines for grant reports;

- Fails to notify CAH of changes in project collaborators or other significant management changes or changes in the project scope without advance approval;
- Refuses to provide access for monitoring;
- Fails to comply with the terms of the grant award contract requirements;
- Fails to demonstrate adequate financial management and oversight of the project; and/or
- Fails to properly publicly credit CAH's support of the organization's scope of work.

Citywide Clean Hands (CCH)

All applicants that are recommended for funding must obtain from the District of Columbia a Certificate of Clean Hands in order to receive a grant award from CAH. This certification is required before any related grant disbursement may be made. The CCH website application supports the "Clean Hands" Mandate (D. C. Code § 47-2862) which stipulates that individuals and businesses are to be denied District goods or services if there is a debt owed to the District of Columbia of more than one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for fees, fines, taxes or penalties. Applicants may visit the following site to obtain more information: <https://mytax.dc.gov/>.

Legal Compliance

Federal and District of Columbia law requires all grant applicants to comply with all applicable laws and regulations that regard non-discrimination. The list of those laws and regulations include: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (which provides that grant recipients must take adequate steps to ensure that people with limited English proficiency receive the language assistance necessary to afford them meaningful access to grant-related programs, activities and services); Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) (which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin); Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. Sections 1681-1686) (which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex); Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. Section 794); the DC Human Rights Act of 1977; and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. §§12101 - 12213) (which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disabilities).

Americans with Disabilities Act

CAH is committed to ensuring that all grant recipients comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. The ADA provides civil rights protection to individuals with disabilities in the areas of employment, services rendered by state and local government, places of public accommodation, transportation and telecommunication services. Organizations funded by CAH must make reasonable accommodations to ensure that people with disabilities have equal physical and communications access, as defined by federal law.

An organization applying for funding from CAH must include, in its grant application, a response to the information request set forth in the I.D.E.A. section of its grant application, by providing the following information:

1. The process for formulating plans to increase its diversity, access, inclusion, and ultimately overall equity for its staff, board, and audiences.
2. The process for formulating accessibility plans (e.g. creating an accessibility advisory committee, board and staff disability-rights training, budgeting for reasonable accommodation requests, etc.).
3. The current progress/status of an organization's physical accessibility. If the location is not barrier-free, include in the grant application a plan for project/program modification that ensures access in a barrier-free environment, when needed.

4. The current progress/status of the organization's accessibility in presenting activities – communications access (e.g. TDD, large print or Braille materials, audio description or assistive listening devices, interpreted performances, etc.) and marketing/advertising.

Credit/Acknowledgment

Grant recipient agrees that it will include a CAH logo or a credit line in all of its grant-related announcements and promotional materials and that it will make its best efforts to publicly credit CAH support in any and every public event that is held and that is related to CAH's funding.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING

All grant recipients are subject to risk assessments and monitoring requirements. Those practices are discussed in greater detail in the applicants' grant agreements with CAH.

Activities funded by CAH will be monitored and evaluated by its staff, to assure compliance with all applicable District of Columbia's statutes, regulations, orders and other requirements. This monitoring process may include site visits, an evaluation of allowable costs, as assessment of efforts to meet projected grant applicant benchmarks, providing proof of expenditures, etc.

CONTACT INFORMATION

More information regarding CAH's grant programs, and clarification about related accessibility requirements, work sample submissions and grant making processes can be found in CAH's [Guide to Grants](#). Specific questions about the PEF grant can be referred to CAH staff members Robert Nunez (robert.nunez@dc.gov) and Travis Marcus (travis.marcus@dc.gov).

FY 2022 PROJECTS, EVENTS, or FESTIVALS GRANT PROGRAM

REVIEW CRITERIA

Arts, Humanities and Content and/or Merit (40%)

- The applicants work samples and support materials (brochures, articles, letters of support, etc.) demonstrates their knowledge of, and skills in, their content area; (20%) and
- The applicant demonstrates the use of personnel with subject matter expertise (such as arts administrators, humanities professionals, teaching artists, educators, professional artists) to plan and implement project content. (20%)

I.D.E.A. (15%)

CAH prioritizes applicants who give intentional focus to working with District residents who have been historically excluded or marginalized and who demonstrate authentic responsiveness to their identified needs.

- The project demonstrates an experience that is inclusive and diverse, either through project content or the personnel involved in delivering the project; (5%)
- The project design demonstrates a commitment to engage all participants by ensuring equity and access (considering factors including; cultural, socio-economic, geographical, physical, and intellectual ability); (5%) and
- The applicant outlines a plan for current and/or future adjustments to the project, based on the evolving needs of the community. (5%)

District Impact and Evaluation (15%)

- The project demonstrates the ability to reach a reasonable number of District residents and/or visitors; (5%) and
- The applicant demonstrates a commitment to hiring DC-based artists and humanities professionals, where applicable, to deliver arts and/or humanities content (such as arts administrators, humanities professionals, teaching artists, educators, professional artists); (5%) and
- The applicant presents effective evaluation methods that will measure both project impact and effectiveness, and participant engagement. (5%)

Organizational Management (30%)

- The applicant demonstrates the appropriate oversight, financial controls, and governance to deliver its services and programming; (15%) and
- The applicant has the necessary expertise and personnel in place to deliver its services and programming (15%)

FY 2022 PROJECT, EVENTS, or FESTIVALS GRANT PROGRAM

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

The following is a checklist for all mandatory and supplementary documents required to submit the Projects, Events, or Festivals application, in addition to the required narrative questions within the online application. Documents must be uploaded as PDFs through CAH's online grant portal prior to the application deadline. Visit www.dcartts.dc.gov, click on the grants tab, select "Managing Grant Award" to obtain compliance documents.

In order to submit an application:

Individuals:

- Ensure the application meets all eligibility requirements listed in this request for applications;
- Complete all required questions in the online application;
- The **Arrest and Conviction Statement** is no longer required for CAH applications; and
- Attach the following mandatory documents to the online application (forms available at <https://dcarts.dc.gov/page/managing-grant-awards>):
 - **Certificate of Clean Hands** (dated no more than 30 days prior to the deadline);
 - **Certificate of Liability Insurance** (general coverage);
 - **Individual Demographics Overview Form**;
 - **Résumés of Key Personnel**
Examples include: artistic/managing/executive directors; teaching artists; etc. Provide roles, areas of responsibility, and ward or state of residence;
 - **IRS Form W-9**
Note: Post office boxes are prohibited. The organization's address MUST match the address in the grants portal, the address on file in the DC Government's PASS system, and address registered in the DC Vendor Portal. Only the October 2018 version of the W9 form may be used and the form must be dated at the time of application submission;
 - **Statement of Certification** (signed at the time of application);
 - **Support Materials**
Up to three (3) internally-produced items (e.g. curricula, strategic plans, marketing materials, etc.) and up to three (3) externally-produced items (e.g. reviews, commendations, testimonials, letters of support, etc.); and
 - **Work Samples**
CAH recommends reviewing the Work Sample Addendum in the [Guide to Grants](#) to determine materials that might best support the application.

Organizations:

- Ensure the organization meets all eligibility requirements listed in this request for applications;
- Complete all required questions in the online application;
- The **Arrest and Conviction Statement** is no longer required for CAH applications; and
- Attach the following mandatory documents to the online application (forms available at <https://dcarts.dc.gov/page/managing-grant-awards>):
 - **Balance Sheet** (from most recently completed fiscal year);
 - **Certificate of Clean Hands** (dated no more than 30 days prior to the deadline);

- **Certificate of Liability Insurance** (general coverage);
- **Current Organizational Budget** (approved by the organization's Board of Directors);
- **IRS 501(c)(3) Letter of Determination;**
- **IRS Form 990** (most-recently submitted);
- **IRS Form W-9**
 Note: Post office boxes are prohibited. The organization's address **MUST** match the address in the grants portal, the address on file in the DC Government's PASS system, and address registered in the DC Vendor Portal. Only the October 2018 version of the W9 form may be used and the form must be dated at the time of application submission;
- **List of current Board of Directors**
 Provide board roles (e.g. president, treasurer, etc.), responsibilities and home addresses/wards;
- **Organizational Demographics Overview Form;**
- **Profit and Loss Statement** (from most recently completed fiscal quarter);
- **Résumés of Key Personnel**
 Examples include: artistic/managing/executive directors; teaching artists; etc. Provide roles, areas of responsibility, and ward or state of residence;
- **Statement of Certification** (signed at the time of application);
- **Support Materials**
 Up to three (3) internally-produced items (e.g. curricula, strategic plans, marketing materials, etc.) and up to three (3) externally-produced items (e.g. reviews, commendations, testimonials, letters of support, etc.); and
- **Work Samples**
 CAH recommends reviewing the Work Sample Addendum in the [Guide to Grants](#) to determine materials that might best support the application.
- **Letter of Project Site Agreement** (Required for Festivals. Optional but recommended for all other PEF applicants);

ADDENDUM A: WORK SAMPLES AND SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

The DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities (CAH) values and emphasizes excellence in all grant programs within all disciplines. This section contains detailed information on the CAH's requirements and suggestions regarding content.

Arts and humanities content and/or merit are one of several criteria on which an application is reviewed. Arts and humanities content and/or merit is demonstrated to the advisory review panelists through the applicant's:

- Section 1 - Work Samples**
- Section 2 - Support Materials**
- Section 3 - Résumés of Key Personnel**

Of these, the work sample carries the most weight because it must contain the clearest depiction of the applicant's best work(s) of art and/or humanities. All applicants must submit arts and/or humanities work samples.

Section 1 - Work Samples

Work samples are critical to each application and are carefully considered during application review. CAH strongly recommends that applicants pay close attention to the content of work sample submissions.

The guidelines on work sample submissions depend on the grant program. Applicants are encouraged to adhere to the suggested work samples or risk ineligibility for consideration of a grant award.

Work samples must be no more than three (3) years old from the date of submission. Submitting older work samples may render the application ineligible for funding consideration.

Section 2 - Support Materials

Support materials are documents that strengthen the application and provide additional information that directly relates to the grant request. Support materials do not take the place of a work sample. They do, however, reinforce the quality of the applicant's arts and humanities disciplines(s).

Some examples of supporting materials include:

- Theater/exhibition reviews;
- Letters of recommendation;
- Certificates of achievement or recognition;
- Sample lesson plans;
- Assessments and evaluations; and/or
- Awards.

Assessment and Evaluation

Purpose:

- To determine the efficacy of a program, as articulated in the program goals and as required for grant reporting; and

- To provide evidence to support changes in order to improve the program and its delivery.

Types:

- Qualitative assessment is often subjective in approach and narrative in nature; and
- Quantitative assessment provides empirical data that demonstrates growth in the knowledge, skills, and understandings of the participants.

Assessment and Evaluation Design

There are many ways to assess and evaluate programming including: needs assessments; pre- and post-testing; and formative, observational, and summative assessments that utilize mixed-method approaches such as portfolio/process-portfolio assessments.

Section 3 - Résumés of Key Personnel

Another way for the advisory review panelists to determine the artistic content of each application is to review the résumés of the key artists, administrators and facilitators involved in the grant activities. Those professionals involved in the organization determine the capacity of the organization and ability for the applicant to effectively create an excellent arts and humanities product and/or experience. Their backgrounds as artists and administrators should be relevant to the organization and clearly demonstrated through their professional résumés.

Additional Suggestions from CAH Staff

When creating and preparing work samples, supporting materials and résumés, CAH recommends considering the following:

- Applicants should be able to view and/or play all work samples in the application before submitting. If a sample cannot be played, then panelists will experience the same;
- Select recent, high quality samples that relate as directly to the application as possible;
- Select work samples that illustrate and unite the applicant's narrative content;
- Photograph uploads should be in JPEG (or JPG) format with a 72 dpi minimum resolution and should not exceed 8MB in size (each);
- Adding more than the recommended number of work samples to an application will often weaken it;
- Carefully chosen work samples (pictures, videos, excerpts, etc.) tend to make the biggest impact and create the strongest artistic impression;
- Advisory review panelists are required to review each applicant's work samples; however, they are not guaranteed to review multiple work samples within the same application;
- Each work sample and document must give the specific name and title, so that panelists can identify what they are reviewing; and
- For project-based grants, include samples of similar projects completed to illustrate an ability to execute the proposed project.

For video submissions:

- Do not include highly edited commercial/promotional videos as a work samples;
- Do not include poor quality video samples or samples with dim lighting, unstable video, bright backlighting, or blurred images; and
- If the video work sample is longer than five (5) minutes, indicate the embedded timecode of the video where panelists should begin viewing the work sample (e.g. 5:05:00).

For audio submissions:

- Panelists are unable to scan, rewind, or skip through a sample. Edit the audio clip to feature exactly the desired content; and
- For audio submissions with visual components, consider submitting as a video clip instead.

For online materials and websites:

- Panelists review only within the “four corners” of the application. They are not expected to go to outside links or content, so a linked website may not be viewed; and
- Websites can be screen-shot and attached as an image, but it is often an insufficient work sample. Submit a website only if it is an essential part of the project.

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