



Fall 2020 Support Grant Guidelines

Operating Support for Arts Organizations

APPLY ONLINE: bit.ly/artscouncilsc-grants

Application Deadline: October 2

Awards Announced: Early December

Funding Period: January 2021 - December 2021

Grant Orientation Registration & More Details:

artscouncilsc.org/for-grantseekers

Questions? Contact Nallely Martinez, Grants Program Manager

nallely@artscouncilsc.org

Our Mission

Our mission is to generate creativity, vibrancy, and connection.

Our Vision

Our vision is a stronger Santa Cruz County, where creative expression thrives and the arts are integral to all aspects of our diverse community

Our Commitment to Equity

We seek to deliberately and continuously address systemic barriers to opportunity and are committed to promoting equity and inclusion for all Santa Cruz County residents. We believe our impact is enhanced when people from different backgrounds with unique perspectives are engaged in our activities and decision-making processes. We strive to increase equitable opportunities and outcomes by building a board and staff that reflects the communities we serve.

We acknowledge that historically and currently, institutions and systems of power grant privilege and access unequally, especially on the basis of race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, citizenship status, socioeconomic status and disability status. The more that these barriers converge, greater limitations to opportunity exist. We recognize our role in supporting large and pervasive disparities in access to the arts and are committed to taking the actions required to eliminate these disparities and advance equity in our organization and in our community.

Support Grant Program Overview

Support Grants provide general operating support for arts organizations that are based in, produce, and publicly exhibit their work in Santa Cruz County. Grants are open to all arts organizations, regardless of budget size. Our 2020-21 guidelines have been updated to address current community needs. Support Grants invest in the sustainability of local arts organizations through the current health and economic crisis and help with preparedness for a safe reopening of artistically excellent and inclusive arts programming when the time comes.

Grant Program Objectives

We provide funding for artists and arts organizations in Santa Cruz County to:

- Support the creation and presentation of artistically excellent work

- Increase the success of artists and the sustainability of arts organizations
- Engage new audiences in the arts
- Expand equitable access* to the arts
- Increase social impact* through art

**Equitable access: how you are improving disparities in representation and access in the arts.*

**Social impact: how you are advancing social and racial justice issues in your community.*

Eligibility Criteria

Applicant eligibility is based on the following criteria. Applicant must:

- Have as its primary mission the development and delivery of arts and/or cultural programming to the public;
- Be a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization or have a fiscal sponsor that is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization;
- Be based in and produce the majority of its work in Santa Cruz County;
- Have met previous grant reporting requirements; and
- Have a board-approved non-discrimination policy.

Support Grants Do Not Fund

- Capital improvements, construction, or renovation projects
- Government departments, boards, or programs
- Foundations, social services, political or religious advocacy, or for-profit organizations

Review Criteria & Process

Proposals are reviewed and scored by staff, board members and volunteer panelists selected for their knowledge and understanding of Santa Cruz County's arts community. The Grants Committee considers these scores and makes funding recommendations to the Arts Council Board of Directors for approval.

Criteria

- Artistic excellence, as defined by each applicant, and demonstrated commitment to the art form in the proposal
- Capacity to administer and implement programs
- A realistic budget
- Sustainable and diverse income streams
- Effective and accountable management
- Community relevancy and response to current environment
- Completeness and clarity of application

Further consideration is given to organizations led by and/or serving communities that include but are not limited to people of color, LGBTQ+, those with disabilities, and seniors

Award

Grants of up to \$7,000 will be awarded to arts organizations regardless of budget size. Grant award size will be based on results of the review process.

Grantee Responsibilities

- Recognize the Arts Council in promotional materials
- Submit a final report 30 days after the close of the grant period
- Retain financial records for the funded project in the event that they are required for an audit

Application Support Materials

Financial statements

- Profit & Loss Statement and Balance Sheet for most recently completed fiscal year, or board approved Audit.
- Current fiscal year budget with actuals to-date, if available.

Work samples, reviews, letters of support, brochures, programs or flyers

- Submit 4 - 8 items that best represent the work of the organization
- Work samples will serve as the key indication of artistic excellence
- Reviews, letters of support, brochures, programs and flyers illustrate the quality and effectiveness of your community outreach

How to Apply

1. Attend a grant orientation session (recommended, but not required)
2. Log in to our online grants portal to complete your application: bit.ly/artscouncilsc-grants
 - New applicants, click on the 'create new account' button on the login page to begin.
 - Returning applicants, forgot your password? Click on the 'forgot password' link on the login page to reset your password.
3. Submit your application by 5pm on October 2, 2020.

TIMELINE

August 28	English Grant Orientation (register here: artscouncilsc.org/for-grantseekers)
August 31	Spanish Grant Orientation (register here: artscouncilsc.org/for-grantseekers)
September 2	Application Opens
October 2	Application Deadline, 5pm
Early December	Awards Announced

Public Records

Information submitted as part of a grant application is kept confidential unless disclosure is required by law.

Statement of Non-Discrimination

Arts Council Santa Cruz County is committed to providing services and making resources available to every resident of Santa Cruz County without regard to ethnicity, color, creed, religion, age, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, military status, marital status, political opinion, national origin, familial status, mental and physical disability, or source of income.