



**2025 Annual Grants Program awards over \$1.9 million to a record 101 nonprofit arts and culture organizations**  
*85 organizations received an increase in funding since 2024*

**Indianapolis (May 6, 2025)** – A record 101 nonprofit arts and culture organizations received funding through the 2025 City of Indianapolis Annual Grants Program, the Indy Arts Council and the City announced today. Over \$1.9 million was invested in the local nonprofit arts sector through grants that support the development of arts and culture performances, programs, exhibitions, and activities throughout Indianapolis and Marion County.

“In 2024, we introduced multi-year awards to ensure stability and allow for future planning,” said Nikki Kirk, Director of Community Impact & Strategic Investment at Indy Arts Council. “This year, 85 of those organizations automatically received a 20% increase.”

“The City of Indianapolis is proud to invest in local arts and culture through the Annual Grants Program,” said Mayor Joe Hogsett. “The value of the arts cannot be underestimated. Outside of playing an integral part in our city’s cultural fabric, they are an economic driver for this city – supporting thousands of jobs and generating hundreds of millions of dollars in direct economic impact.”

The Annual Grants Program has been core to the City’s support for arts and culture since 1987. In 2021, new scoring criteria were applied that center racial and socioeconomic equity across three areas: community impact, artistic alignment, and organizational capacity. Since then, the number of BIPOC-led organizations funded has increased by 28%.

“We are grateful for the City’s investment in our arts and culture community for the past 38 years,” said Judith B. Thomas, Indy Arts Council President & CEO. “We appreciate their recognition of our fast-growing arts sector through the 101 total organizations funded this year, including a record 20 BIPOC-led organizations.”

General operating support grant amounts ranged from \$5,000 to \$86,400 and were distributed based on a competitive scoring process. Organizations that were awarded grants in 2024 received automatic increases thanks to expanded City investment, along with additional funding from the Indianapolis Bond Bank and the Capital Improvement Board of Managers of Marion County. The program also funded two capacity-building grants of \$2,500 each to Imagine Indy Inc. and the Tribe Youth Program.

**2025 Annual Grants Program recipients (in alphabetical order):**

*Organizations new to the program are marked with an asterisk.*

1000 Words Inc.*	\$5,000
American Lives Theatre	\$7,800
American Piano Awards	\$17,400
Arte Mexicano en Indiana	\$12,000
Arthentic Arts*	\$8,500
ArtMix	\$30,000
Arts for Lawrence	\$12,000
Arts for Learning Indiana	\$33,600
Arts With A Purpose	\$8,400
Asante Art Institute of Indianapolis, Inc.	\$14,000
Athenaeum Foundation	\$14,400
Aurora PhotoCenter	\$9,600
B-SIDE Creative Campus LLC*	\$5,500
Benjamin Harrison Presidential Site	\$14,400
Big Car Collaborative	\$50,400
Brick Street Poetry Inc	\$7,800
Castlewood Chamber Singers, Inc.	\$6,600
Classical Music Indy	\$16,800
Claude McNeal's Musical Theatre Training Program, Inc.	\$12,000
Dance Kaleidoscope	\$24,000
Defiance Comedy	\$6,000
Discovering Broadway, Inc.	\$9,600
Drum Corps International	\$18,000
Echoing Air, Inc.	\$6,600
Eclectic Soul VOICES Corporation	\$6,600
Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art	\$61,000
El Sistema Indianapolis	\$14,400
Epilogue Players, Inc.	\$6,000
Festival Music Society	\$6,600
Fonseca Theatre Company	\$39,000
Footlite Musicals, Inc.	\$6,600
Freetown Village	\$18,000
GANGGANG	\$33,600
Girls Rock! Indianapolis	\$6,600
Harrison Center	\$60,000
Heartland Film	\$15,000
Hoosier Salon Patrons Association	\$9,000

IF Theatre	\$11,400
iibada Dance Company	\$42,000
Indiana Black Expo	\$71,000
Indiana Entertainment Foundation, Inc.	\$6,600
Indiana Fashion Foundation Corporation	\$7,200
Indiana Repertory Theatre	\$72,000
Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites	\$54,000
Indiana Wind Symphony	\$6,000
Indiana Writers Center	\$10,200
Indianapolis Ballet, Inc.	\$12,000
Indianapolis Baroque Orchestra	\$7,200
Indianapolis Chamber Orchestra	\$26,400
Indianapolis Children's Choir	\$14,400
Indianapolis Cultural Trail, Inc.	\$21,600
Indianapolis Film Project, Inc.	\$17,000
Indianapolis Jazz Foundation, Inc.	\$24,000
Indianapolis Men's Chorus	\$10,200
Indianapolis Movement Arts Collective	\$7,800
Indianapolis Opera Company	\$20,000
Indianapolis Suzuki Academy	\$16,800
Indianapolis Symphonic Choir	\$10,800
Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra	\$54,000
Indianapolis Women's Chorus	\$7,800
Indianapolis Youth Orchestra	\$7,800
Indy Art Center	\$26,400
Indy Dance Council	\$18,000
Indy Folk Series	\$6,600
Indy Gay Market*	\$6,500
Indy Shakes	\$24,000
INSPIRE Music Collective*	\$5,000
International Marketplace Coalition	\$24,000
International Violin Competition of Indianapolis	\$14,400
Irvington Arts Collective*	\$6,500
Kheprw Institute	\$43,200
Kids Dance Outreach	\$21,000
Kurt Vonnegut Memorial Library, Inc.	\$15,600
Madam Walker Legacy Center	\$38,400
Morning Brown, Inc.	\$7,800
Music for All Inc	\$24,000
Musical Family Tree	\$5,000
Naptown African American Theatre Collective	\$24,000

Newfields	\$20,000
PATTERN	\$9,000
Percussive Arts Society	\$18,600
Philharmonic Orchestra of Indianapolis, Inc.	\$18,000
Phoenix Theatre Cultural Centre	\$26,400
React	\$18,000
Southbank Theatre Company	\$6,000
Storytelling Arts of Indiana	\$10,800
Summer Stock Stage, Inc.	\$26,400
Summit Performance Indianapolis	\$8,400
The Cabaret	\$27,000
The Children's Museum of Indianapolis	\$86,400
The District Theatre	\$14,400
The Indy Convergence, Inc.	\$7,800
The John H. Boner Community Center, Inc.	\$12,000
The New Harmony Project	\$14,400
The Performing Arts Conservatory	\$24,000
The Philippine Cultural Community Center	\$12,000
The Sapphire Theatre Company, Inc.	\$31,200
Urban Musical Theatre	\$36,000
Watercolor Society of Indiana*	\$5,000

**The 2025 Annual Grants Program review panelists included:** Kathy Hsieh, Cultural Investments Strategist, City of Seattle, Office of Arts & Culture; Kavita Mahoney, Vice President, Indy Arts Council; Monika Mala, Board Member, Indy Arts Council; Laura Reyes Mejia, Arts + Creativity Program Associate, Barr Foundation; Jacob Sinatra, Director, Grantmaking Strategy & Communications, Cuyahoga Arts & Culture.

**Media contact:** Melissa Rowe, [mrowe@indyarts.org](mailto:mrowe@indyarts.org).

*[Indy Arts Council](#) is central Indiana's leading arts advocacy and services agency. Their mission is to champion arts and culture. Indy Arts Council believes every resident should experience arts and culture in a way that nourishes and inspires them. This vision of a creative life for all is central to the work they do to support artists, arts organizations, and the community. [Read their Equity Statement](#).*

###