



Project Grants

Funding Art in Public Spaces and Youth Arts Education

Application Release

Monday, August 18, 2025, 10:00 am

Application Deadline

Tuesday, September 30, 2025, 11:59 pm

Application Portal

<https://indyarts.grantplatform.com>

Overview

The Indy Arts Council is pleased to offer project grant funding for arts activities in public spaces and for youth arts education. Funding opportunities are available for both nonprofit organizations and individual artists. All projects and programs presented under this funding must either:

1. Take place in accessible public spaces, including but not limited to parks, libraries, community centers, neighborhood greenspaces, etc. (this project type is open to both organizations and individual artists),

OR

2. Provide arts education programming that centers youth (this project type is only open to organizations).

All activities must take place in Marion County.

All program-related expenses are eligible for funding, including fees to artist(s). Grant awards will be made from \$2,000 to \$10,000. There is no match requirement. Funds must be spent and programs must take place between November 2025 - November 2026; with all programs finishing by November 30, 2026.

There is a limited pool of funding available, so priority will be given to applicants who best meet the review criteria (listed on Page 4).

Eligibility Requirements

Eligible artists:

- Are 18 years of age or older.
- Are able to provide a Social Security Number (SSN), Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN), or A-Number/USCIS Number.
- Are a resident of Marion County.

Eligible organizations:

- Have 501(c)(3) nonprofit status.
 - Organizations that are fiscally sponsored by a nonprofit entity are eligible.
 - Schools and universities are not eligible.
- Are Indianapolis-based and physically headquartered in Marion County.
- Must include artist(s) in their programs or projects and pay them fairly.

Application Process

All applications, attachments, and work samples will be submitted at indyarts.grantplatform.com. This is an online, written application. If you prefer an alternate format (i.e. dictated responses, video responses, other languages), please reach out to grants@indyarts.org, and we'll do our best to accommodate.

Applications will be evaluated according to the review criteria listed on Page 4.

Program Timeline

August 18, 10:00 am: Application opens

September 30, 11:59 pm: Application deadline

October: Applications reviewed

Early November: Grant award notifications

November 30, 2026: All grant activities must be complete, and all funds must be spent

December 31, 2026: Final report deadline

Final Report

Awardees will complete a final report sharing project impact, attendee and participant data, photos or videos of the activities, and testimonials.

Grant Guidelines

This funding supports arts projects or programs in Marion County. Grants must align with one of two types of projects, which are described in detail below: Arts Programming in Public Spaces or Youth Arts Education Programming.

Arts Programming in Public Spaces

- Projects can include, but are not limited to: arts festivals, music, dance, literary or theatrical performance(s) or workshops; art, movement, literature/poetry, or music therapy programming, writing or visual art activities, etc.
- *Public art installations are not eligible for this grant program, due to the limited funding available.*
- Applicants must include a letter of support from the public venue and/or property manager where the project activities will take place.
- **This project type is open to both organizations and individual artists.**

Youth Arts Education Programming

- Projects can include, but are not limited to: in-school programming (including public, charter, and private schools), after-school programming, summer workshops, and camps within a wide array of arts disciplines.
- Programming must center an audience of youth under the age of 18.
- If programming takes place in-school, applicants must include a letter of support from the school where the project activities will take place, confirming the partnership.
- **This project type is only open to organizations.**

Funding can support all project-related activities, including artist fees, production costs, art supplies and materials, project administration, marketing and outreach to target population(s), etc.

Applicants will be asked to provide details about their project, information about artists involved (including samples of their work), intended audience, use of funds, and location.

Applicants may submit only one application and may contain only one proposed project or program.

Review Criteria

Applicants will be reviewed by Indy Arts Council representatives on the following criteria:

- **Community Benefit** (50%) - project meaningfully connects with the intended audience/community;
 - The applicant has been thoughtful about who might engage with their project.
 - The activities and logistics create opportunities for genuine community connection.
- **Artistic Experience** (30%) - arts and culture are meaningfully incorporated for a relevant and engaging experience.
 - The project/program is centered in the arts.
 - The project pays artists and creative professionals fairly.
 - *If the project is youth arts education programming*, the applicant has articulated the intended arts learning outcomes and teaching methods.
- **Feasibility** (20%) - applicant has clear and defined plans, including a timeline and impact goals, and can successfully manage the project.
 - The timeline is feasible, the budget is reasonable, and activities align with program goals.
 - *If an applicant is proposing a public spaces project*, they must provide a letter of support from the venue where the project/program takes place.
 - *If an applicant is proposing an in-school project*, they must provide a letter of support from the school to confirm a partnership.

Application Assistance

Application Workshop: This recorded workshop reviews the guidelines and requirements, demonstrates the application process, and offers tips for putting together a strong proposal.

Watch the recording here: <https://indyarts.org/grants/projects/>

Office Hours: To discuss your ideas or specific questions with the grants team, email grants@indyarts.org to schedule a virtual meeting.

Contact

Questions which are not answered in this document should be directed to:

Anna Tragesser, Program Manager

317-624-2561, ext. 221

grants@indyarts.org