



***Indy Arts Council Awards new Project Grants to artists
and nonprofit arts and culture organizations***

*Ten artists and organizations selected for new grant initiative
bringing arts to public spaces and youth*

[Images for media](#)

Indianapolis (November 11, 2025) – The Indy Arts Council has announced the recipients of its new Project Grants, supporting artists and organizations creating arts and culture experiences in public spaces across Marion County and providing transformative arts education opportunities for young people. Ten projects were selected from 96 eligible applications. While a total of \$90K was awarded, over \$852K was requested among the applicants, demonstrating a clear need for this type of support in our sector.

Funded in part by the City of Indianapolis, Project Grants offer awards ranging from \$2,000 to \$10,000 for projects taking place November 2025 through November 2026. The program supports creative activities that strengthen community connection through accessible, inclusive, and inspiring arts experiences.

“From neighborhood concerts to youth-led storytelling, the projects reflect how artists and organizations are making art a vital part of everyday life in Indianapolis,” said Judith B. Thomas, President & CEO at Indy Arts Council. “In response to findings in our strategic plan, these projects will take place in accessible public spaces where residents are most likely to seek out arts experiences.”

Art in Public Spaces

This category supports projects presented in accessible public spaces such as parks, libraries, and community centers. The following six projects, funded with support from the City of Indianapolis, were recommended for funding:

- **Arts for Learning** – \$10,000
Workshops exploring emotions through multidisciplinary arts experiences
Location: Krannert Park (Far West)

- **Brandon Meeks** – \$10,000
Outdoor jazz concert series
Location: Fort Ben Cultural Campus (Far East)

- **Clockwork Janz** – \$10,000
Drag variety show parodying 90s kids' edutainment
Location: Garfield Park Arts Center (South)
- **Cuong Tran** – \$10,000
Public dance party featuring local street dance and live musicians
Location: Indiana State Museum/Canal Walk (Downtown)
- **Percussive Arts Society** – \$7,188
Immersive, site-specific musical performance featuring 150+ musicians
Location: White River State Park (Downtown)
- **Tricia O'Connor** – \$9,812
Art experiences designed to build community across cultures
Location: Indianapolis Public Library – Michigan Road and Eagle Branches (West and Northwest)

Youth Arts Education

This category supports organizations providing arts education programs that center young people. The following four projects were recommended for funding:

- **1000 Words Inc.** – \$9,500
After-school workshops where youth create illustrated storybooks
Location: 1000 Words (Near East)
- **Indianapolis Movement Arts Collective (IMAC)** – \$5,500
Performance and classes led by a visually impaired dancer at the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Location: Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired and Indianapolis Movement Arts Collective (Far East and Midtown)
- **INSPIRE Music Collective** – \$9,500
Digital music and storytelling workshops in partnership with the MLK Center
Location: Martin Luther King Community Center and Kheprw Institute (Midtown)
- **Read for Joy, Inc.** – \$8,500
Creative writing workshops inspired by the work of Black poets
Location: Temple Community Outreach (East)

About Project Grants

Art in Public Spaces grants support the development and presentation of arts and culture activities that are free or accessible to the public. Projects must take place in public spaces across Marion County—including parks, libraries, community centers, and neighborhood green spaces—to ensure all residents can experience and participate in the arts.

Youth Arts Education grants support organizations providing arts education programs for youth under the age of 18. For more information about funding opportunities and upcoming grant cycles, visit indyarts.org.

About Indy Arts Council

[Indy Arts Council](http://indyarts.org) 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.

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