

Northern Arts Council Arts Grants

General Information

Introduction

The Northern Arts Council (NAC) is a non-profit member organization that supports and promotes the arts and artists in northern Wisconsin. As such, NAC annually awards grants to artists and non-profit organizations in Oneida and Vilas Counties in order to deepen and expand the success of the arts, foster artistic growth, initiate quality artistic endeavors, and create additional arts opportunities throughout the area.

Grants fund **project based** activities such as public exhibitions, performances, touring productions, commissioned art and educational activities. Artistic disciplines include dance, theater, music, folk arts, literary arts, video, film and visual arts.

Grant Amounts & Eligibility

How much can I apply for?

- An Arts Project Grant request can range from **\$250 to \$3,000**. Total available funding for each grant cycle is approximately \$10,000.
- Grants over \$500 will be awarded only to organizations with 501(c)(3) status. Individual artists seeking more than \$500 will need a sponsoring organization with 501(c)(3) status.

Who can apply?

- An applicant may be an individual or organization residing in Oneida or Vilas Counties.
- Closed or private art functions cannot be funded.
- Final reports will be required starting with the 2025 grant cycle.
- A maximum of one grant application is accepted during each two-year cycle. If an organization addresses multiple focus areas, that organization must choose one year to submit a grant application in the two-year cycle. Grant applications must be submitted with a project that addresses that year's specific focus area.

Grants in odd years fund visual arts projects and grants in even year's fund performing arts projects.

Evaluation Criteria

- Artistic merit (0-40 points):
 - The proposal should have clear, reasonable, and achievable goals and outcomes.
 - The budget applicant submits with their application must be able to support the activities described in the narrative.
- Community benefit (0-40 points):
 - Projects that reach a broad audience or have significant impact on a more specified audience will score higher than projects with a limited understanding of their audience.
 - Projects need to include clear plans for promotion.
- Ability to succeed (0-20 points):
 - Include supporting documents such as: resumes of artists, work samples, letters of support from project partners (if applicable), etc.

Grant awards will generally be calculated using the applicant's final evaluation score as a percentage of the amount requested, subject to available funds, eligible project expenses, and the discretion of the Grant Committee.

Process/Schedule

When do I apply?

- Applications are available beginning June 1 at <https://nacwi.org/grants/>.

How do I apply?

- Fill out and submit the application.
- **Completed applications must be received by July 15.** Late/incomplete applications will not be considered.

What is the review process?

- The Grant Review panel will meet in August.
- Award letters will be mailed by September 15.
- **All grant recipients are required to submit final reports on their projects. Reports are due within 45 days after the project is completed.**

Project Budget Requirements

Are there any special budget requirements? Yes. The grant amount cannot exceed \$3,000. Applicants must consider the following:

- **No funds may be used to reimburse any costs incurred prior to the grant award, and a project may not have a start date that is before the grant award.**
- **Ineligible expenses:**
 - General operating funds
 - Purchase or construction or repair of permanent equipment unless a critical component of project
 - Fundraisers
 - Competitions
 - Prizes or scholarships
 - Conference fees

Note

Please Note: Grants over \$500 will be awarded only to organizations with 501(c)(3) status.