Grants Committee of the Arlington Commission for Arts and Culture (Arlington Cultural Council)

2021 Grants Program Workshop

Application period opens on October 1, 2020

*Application period closes on **December 14, 2020***

Would an arts and culture grant help you or your organization...

- use music or art to bring groups together?

- create an experiential program that brings interpretative science or history to life for a diverse audience?

- complete a series of paintings, a musical composition, or theatrical performance?

- create or enhance an arts program addressing social or environmental justice, or cultural inclusion?

- actively seek to address or expose systemic racism in Arlington and our society at large?

Who can apply?

- Organizations, agencies, schools, non-profits, libraries and individuals may apply for grants that support activities in culture, humanities, arts, and interpretive sciences **benefiting the Arlington community**. All applicants must reside or be located in Massachusetts.

What are the grant requirements?

- The program must involve the arts, humanities, or science.

- The program must have a public benefit for **Arlington residents**.

- The proposed project cannot discriminate based on age, ability, ethnicity, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, nationality, geographic origin, or immigration, military, or socio-economic status.

- Approved projects must take place between **February 2021 and December 31, 2021**.

What are the Grants Committee priorities?

We will give priority to projects which include one or more of the following components:

- The activity is open to the broadest possible range of Arlington residents.
- Arlington-based artists or cultural organizations are leaders of the project.
- The project is planned in collaboration with other Arlington-based groups, agencies, organizations, and businesses.
- The proposal demonstrates other sources of financial support or matching funds.
- New projects that have not received prior funding from the Grants Committee.

How are applications evaluated?

Each year the Grants Committee typically receives grant requests totaling about twice the amount of funds that we have available. Therefore, we look for proposals that are thoroughly prepared:

- Identify the location where the event(s) will take place and, as applicable, include confirmation from venue host. This confirmation is not required, but encouraged.

- Provide event dates and times, including duration of the program.

- In the application's budget: Include all costs and in-kind donations (i.e. free use of space or donated services) in your budget statement. Include all expenses including space rental, project supplies, marketing, and fees.

- If permits (e.g., permission from the Town to utilize a public park) are needed for your proposal please identify where you are in the permitting process. While applicants do not need to acquire permits for the application submittal, it is highly recommended to begin the planning process.

- If outreach and/or collaboration (e.g., working with a school system) is needed for your proposal, please identify what has been done and cite any related agreements.

How applications are evaluated (continued)

- Identify the target audience for this project.

- What is the cost of participation for attendees (if any)?

- How does the proposed project provide a public benefit?

- Describe the qualifications of key artists and/or organizations involved with leading the cultural component of this project.

- List any other individuals that will be involved in the project as planners or collaborators, distinguishing between firm or tentative/ potential commitments.

- Describe how you are planning to promote the project to the community and your target audience.

COVID-19 Precautions

It is assumed that public health measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 will continue throughout 2021. Therefore, proposals that would utilize indoor or outdoor space should, as applicable, identify effective alternatives (e.g., webinar) on how the event will be provided and consumed.

Proposals that involve large indoor or outdoor gatherings will likely be denied.

How do I apply?

- **Applications must be submitted online via the MCC website here: https://massculturalcouncil.org/communities/local-cultural-council-program/application-process/**

- The application period will open on **October 1, 2020**.

- The application period will close on **November 16, 2020**.

- **We cannot accept late applications**.

- We will contact all applicants with results of our review. It is anticipated this notification will occur on or about February 16, 2021.

Navigating the MCC Website

The MCC website has directions on how to submit an application via their website here: https://www.mass-culture.org/lcc_public_applicant_process.aspx

See *Application Form* and *Online Application FAQs*

Applicant Presentation Sessions

- Once the grant application period has closed, the Grants Committee will be scheduling virtual applicant proposal presentation sessions. While these sessions are optional, they allow the Grants Committee members to ask questions and gain a deeper understanding of proposals.

- These sessions will most likely occur in early December. Additional information will be provided to all applicants in late November/early December.

Other MCC Programs

Please visit the MCC website for a list of other programs they provide:

https://massculturalcouncil.org/about/programs-a-z/

Questions?

- Please send any questions about this grant program to ArlingtonCulturalCouncil@gmail.com

- The Grants Committee is always looking for new members! If you have an interest in joining, please contact us at: ArlingtonCulturalCouncil@gmail.com