

# 2026-2027 Mission Support Grant

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*ArtsKC - Regional Arts Council*

## Application Form

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**DEADLINE:** ArtsKC Mission Support Grant applications must be submitted using the online ArtsKC grants system by **October 21, 2026 at 11:59 PM.**

**The mission of ArtsKC - Regional Arts Council is to advance lives through the arts.** Our vision is to live in a vibrant and just world where everyone participates in and benefits from the transformative power of arts & culture. ArtsKC Grants are investments in people, programs, and projects that make the arts more accessible, sustain a vibrant and thriving arts community, and support traditions of excellence as well as innovation and entrepreneurship in the arts. Your answers will help ArtsKC and our grant committee understand how an investment in your work would help fulfill our mission and achieve our vision.

**Text Field Limits:** The online grants system counts characters, punctuation, and spaces. We estimated how much space you will need to answer each question. *You do not need to use all the available space.* Please focus on answering the spirit of the question fully, accurately, and persuasively.

### COPY ANSWERS FEATURE

Click on the button in the top right to copy your answers over from last year's application. Some questions have been combined or changed, and those will not copy. Some attachments will copy. Here's a How To Video.

The Copy Answers feature is meant to save you time. However, the application can change slightly from year to year, so make sure to check your answers before submitting.

Review all the content and attachments that copy over. We recommend that you update the content and attachments where appropriate, and make sure your application is complete before submitting it. You can press the Save button at the bottom at any time.

If you have questions about this feature, please email Tara Karaim, [grantmaking@artskc.org](mailto:grantmaking@artskc.org).

### Grant Application Name\*

Please enter your organization's name followed by the phrase "Mission Support 26-27 Application."

*Character Limit: 100*

### Do you have a Fiscal Sponsor?\*

#### Choices

Yes

No

## *Fiscal Sponsor Information*

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### Fiscal Sponsor Name

*Character Limit: 100*

### Fiscal Sponsor Tax ID

(format xx-xxxxxxx)

*Character Limit: 10*

### Mailing Address - Fiscal Sponsor

*Character Limit: 100*

### City - Fiscal Sponsor

*Character Limit: 100*

### State

(format XX)

*Character Limit: 2*

### Zip Code - Fiscal Sponsor

*Character Limit: 9*

### Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement / Contract

Provide a copy of the Fiscal sponsorship Agreement, Contract, or Memorandum of Understanding between the organization and the fiscal sponsor.

*File Size Limit: 2 MB*

## *Organization Information*

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### Organization Mission and Overview\*

What is the mission statement of the organization? Provide an overview of the organization, its recent history, and a list of your upcoming programs, dates, and locations.

*Character Limit: 4000*

## Artistic and Programming Quality\*

**What are the artistic goals of your organization / What does your art strive to communicate? How does your organization assess the quality of your arts programs and services?**

You may expand this answer with more information, if applicable:

*How do you select participants in auditions, exhibitions, etc?*

*Do you follow an artistic philosophy and / or cultural tradition?*

*Who is responsible for the artistic and programming quality and what are their qualifications or experience?*

*Character Limit: 2500*

## Art Type\*

What genre best describes the focus of your organization?

### Choices

Dance

Music

Theatre

Visual arts

Photography

Literature / Poetry

Multidisciplinary Combination

Film/Media arts

Folk/crafts/traditional arts

Fashion

Other

## Art Type - Other detail

*Character Limit: 100*

## Community Impact\*

How will support for your mission help provide access to high-quality and/or community-oriented arts experiences? What role do you see for your organization in sustaining or increasing the vibrant arts ecology of the region? Do you have any current or upcoming partnerships / collaborations with other organizations?

**What community needs are served by your organization? (Consider areas outside the arts as well.)**

*Character Limit: 2500*

## Program Circumstances\*

Are there any special successes, challenges, or opportunities that you wish the committee to consider, other than those that are described elsewhere in this application? What are the circumstances of your organization, staff, audience and participants?

*Character Limit: 1500*

### Service Location(s), General\*

In which county or counties does your organization present programming or provide services? (Multiple selections are permitted.)

#### Choices

Clay County, MO  
 Jackson County, MO  
 Platte County, MO  
 Johnson County, KS  
 Wyandotte County, KS  
 Outside this Area  
 All of the Above

### Program Attendance/Participation\*

In your most recently completed fiscal year, how many people participated in your programs or events in person? (By participants we mean audience, members, performers, exhibitors, volunteers, and audience members. This does not include people who are board members or staff).

*Character Limit: 20*

### Governing Body & Bylaws\*

Does the organization have a governing body (Board of Directors) and bylaws?

#### Choices

Yes  
 No

### Number of board members\*

How many board members currently serve on your board?

*Character Limit: 10*

**For the following questions, please provide information about your workforce during your most recently completed fiscal year.**

Please enter the number of positions, as opposed to the number of people. If someone left mid-season and is replaced, only count one position, not two different people. A position left unfilled for part of a year should be counted.

### Full-time paid positions.\*

How many full-time paid positions were part of your workforce last fiscal year?

*Character Limit: 10*

### Part-time paid positions\*

How many paid part-time, temp, or independent contractor positions were part of your workforce during your last fiscal year?

*Character Limit: 10*

**Artists\***

Of your organization's paid employees and contractors counted above, how many were artists paid to create art?

*Character Limit: 10*

**ArtsKC is seeking equity in our funding practices.**

We will use the numbers and demographics you provide to determine how much of your organization's staff and board of directors is made up of underrepresented communities such as BIPOC, LGBTQIA, and people with disabilities.

Without accurate demographic data, it's easy to unknowingly perpetuate inequity. Tracking the diverse identities of the people we work with ensures we are living up to our values and advancing racial and economic justice.

To work toward equity, the organizations that are diverse-led through greater overall representation among their staff and board will receive added value in the evaluation process. We acknowledge that collecting demographic data is a continually improving practice. Here's a resource to consider: GuideStar by Candid's DEI Survey Guide.

**ArtsKC Diversity Statement**

**One of the many well-recognized benefits of the arts to the region is their power to bring together people of diverse cultures, backgrounds, ethnicities, and socio-economic circumstances. Click here** (and scroll down) for our official ArtsKC Diversity Statement.

**Diversity Statement\***

If your organization has a Diversity Statement, paste the text in the field below. If not, or not yet, please respond "N/A," or "Under Development."

*Character Limit: 2500*

**Board & Staff Demographics**

What are the basic demographic characteristics of your Board of Directors and Staff? Please input the following percentages to the best of your ability. If you prefer not to say, you can input N/A.

What percentage of your board and staff are:

<p><b>People of Color (i.e. African American, Asian, Latino, Native American, two or more races)?</b></p>	
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<p><b>Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, or Asexual?</b></p>	
<p><b>People with disabilities (physical or mental)?</b></p>	

**Staff Demographics\***

Select any of the race or ethnicity categories that, by your best estimate, made up more than 25% of your paid workforce in your most recently completed fiscal year.

**Choices**

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian or Asian American
- Black/African American
- Hispanic/Latino
- Middle Eastern or North African
- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- White

No single race/ethnic group listed above made up more than 25% of the population directly served

**Audience Demographics - 1\***

Using your best estimate, is the population that your organization served in your most recently completed fiscal year 50% or more people who are Black, Indigenous, or People of Color (BIPOC)?

**Choices**

- Yes
- No

**Audience Demographics - 2\***

Select any of the race or ethnicity categories that, by your best estimate, made up 25% or more of the population that your organization served in-person in the last fiscal year.

**Choices**

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian or Asian American
- Black/African American
- Hispanic/Latino
- Middle Eastern or North African
- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- White

No single race/ethnic group listed above made up more than 25% of the population directly served

**Audience Demographics - 3\***

Select any of the additional categories that, by your best estimate, made up 25% or more of the population that your organization served in-person last fiscal year. (Select all that apply.)

### Choices

Individuals with disabilities  
 Individuals in institutions (nursing homes, correctional facilities, homeless shelters, etc.)  
 Individuals below the poverty line  
 Individuals with limited English proficiency  
 Individuals under age 18  
 Individuals age 65 or older  
 Individuals from the LGBTQ community  
 Military veterans or active-duty personnel  
 Transgender or gender-non-conforming individuals  
 No single distinct group made up more than 25% of the population

### Method of Collecting Demographics\*

Identify the method(s) by which you collected Demographic information. Pick all that apply. If the method you used is not listed, please choose "Other," and write it in the next field.

#### Choices

Zip Code Collection  
 Ticketing Information  
 Electronic Survey  
 In-Person Survey  
 Observation  
 Other

### Other - Method of Collecting Demographics

If you chose "Other" above, please write details here.

*Character Limit: 100*

### Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Progress and Efforts\*

Please tell us about any progress and efforts made in the past two years toward diversifying your board, staff, audiences and/or participants so that they reflect better the constituents and communities which you strive to serve. This may include strategic programming, collaborations, outreach, or other methods.

If your organization is historically rooted in an underrepresented or marginalized community, group, or identity, use this space to share how your work has reflected and amplified the voices/experiences of that community.

*Character Limit: 2500*

### Accessibility\*

Are your programs and services provided in facilities that are accessible to individuals with disabilities (physical and/or mental) or other specific audiences and participants? What access accommodations or services might be available to individuals? Are further access accommodations or services planned? Answers may include meeting ADA compliance, communicating accessibility details in promotional materials, ramps, elevators, audio

description, sign-language interpretation, closed or open captioning, large-print brochures/labeling, specific staff skills, sensory sensitivities etc.

*Character Limit: 2000*

## *Financial Information*

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### **Grant Amounts, FYI**

All grants will be \$5,000. Grantees will receive \$5,000 this fiscal year and the second payment will be contingent upon ArtsKC's fundraising (but we will aim for \$5,000). Additional funding may be assigned to organizations determined to be diverse-led.

### **Previous FY Dates\***

What were the start and end dates of your most recent fiscal year that ended prior to June 30, 2025? (Examples: 7/1/25 - 6/30/26, or 1/1/24 - 12/31/25, etc.)

*Character Limit: 250*

### **Previous Fiscal Year Operating Revenue\***

What was the total operating revenue of the organization in that fiscal year?

*Character Limit: 20*

### **Earned Revenue\***

What percentage of your revenue in your most recently completed fiscal year was earned operating revenue (ticket sales, education, subscription/membership, sales, contracted services, touring fees, etc.)?

*Character Limit: 10*

### **Contributed Revenue\***

What percentage of your revenue in your most recently completed fiscal year was contributed (individual donations, corporate supporters, foundations, city, county, federal, Tribal, etc.)?

*Character Limit: 10*

### **Previous Fiscal Year Operating Expenses\***

What was the total amount of operating expenses of the organization in that fiscal year?

*Character Limit: 20*

### **Current Fiscal Year Operating Revenue\***

What is the current FY operating revenue budget? (Projected)

*Character Limit: 20*

### **Current Fiscal Year Operating Expenses\***

What is the current FY operating expense budget? (Projected)

*Character Limit: 20*

## Major Budget Changes and Concerns\*

Have there been any major changes in the operating budget from the previous fiscal year? If so, please explain. If there was a significant operating deficit in the previous fiscal year or in the current budget, please explain plans for dealing with it.

Please explain any extenuating circumstances related to your organization's need for this funding.

*Character Limit: 2500*

## Financial Attachments

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File uploads automatically save when attached. You can check that the file has successfully attached by clicking on the "save draft" button at the bottom of the application and visiting the "Attachments" section.

## Previous FY Financial Statement\*

Submit a PDF file of the financial statement for the most recently completed fiscal year. Include Revenue and Expenses.

*File Size Limit: 2 MB*

## Current Year Budget with YTD Actuals\*

Submit a PDF file of your current budget with year-to-date actuals.

*File Size Limit: 2 MB*

## Support Materials and Documentation

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Please submit **work samples, photographs, links, or other support materials** that document the artistic quality of your programs or services. If possible, include images that show your programs and services in action, your constituents, and your organization's activities. Include samples that are closely related to your proposal.

Files can be PDF, JPEG, GIF, PNG, Doc, Docx, Xls, Xlsx, Txt, or CSV. Please use images that are at least 300 dpi in print quality and are not blurry or pixelated. If your file is too large, try: <http://www.simpleimageresizer.com> or <https://resizeimage.net>.

For the **performing arts especially**, add web links to music, video, YouTube, Vimeo, etc. Do not upload media files, because they do not work with our grants system. Type links in full "http" format in the boxes, and include passwords if needed. The committee has a limited amount of time to review applications, so links to short excerpts are best. Guide them to the most important part.

**Support Material 1: work sample, photograph, etc.\***

Add Description or Link. Include the most closely related or best work here, as the first sample.

*Character Limit: 750 | File Size Limit: 5 MB*

**Support Material 2: work sample, photograph, etc.\***

Add Description or Link

*Character Limit: 750 | File Size Limit: 5 MB*

**Promotional Material 1: press article, program, brochure, etc.\***

Add Description

*Character Limit: 750 | File Size Limit: 5 MB*

**Summary for Representation of your Organization by ArtsKC\***

Please provide a short summary about your organization for ArtsKC to use in potential announcements, promotions, and fundraising. This summary may be changed or shortened by ArtsKC Staff as needed for social media or other purposes. Using information from this application, and without adding any new details, please write a summary with this outline:

Your organization's mission, type of art, what you plan to do, why, with whom, where, and how.

*Character Limit: 250*

**Image for ArtsKC's Representation of your Organization\***

All applicants must include at least one image for ArtsKC to use in public representation of your grant. Images that show your programs and services in action, your constituents, and the unique activities of your organization are best.

**By uploading materials below, you indicate that they are pre-approved for use by ArtsKC in promoting Grantmaking and other ArtsKC programs.**

You can choose an image that is already included in this application. In this case, please upload it again.

*File Size Limit: 5 MB*

## *SMU Data Arts Initiative Questions*

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**ArtsKC is participating in a national pilot with SMU DataArts and Bloomberg Associates to strengthen how city arts agencies collect and understand data about the health of their local arts ecosystems. Your organization's participation will help build a clearer, data-informed picture of the financial and operational realities facing Kansas City's arts and cultural community.**

The questions in this section will not be seen by evaluators and will only be used for this new initiative. If you have any questions about this, feel free to reach out to Tara Karaim at [grantmaking@artskc.org](mailto:grantmaking@artskc.org).

### **Mailing Address\***

In this online grants system, you are required to include an address for your account. How do you use the space listed as your mailing address?

#### **Choices**

Administrative only  
Programming only  
Mix of administrative and programming  
Other

### **Other: mailing address detail**

If you selected "Other," please describe here.

*Character Limit: 250*

### **Primary Location Relationship\***

What's your organization's financial relationship to the space you shared above?

#### **Choices**

Owned  
Rented  
Donated  
Other

### **Other: primary location detail**

*Character Limit: 250*

### **Future of space\***

How much confidence do you have in your organization's ability to retain or access adequate space for your work over the next 12 months

#### **Choices**

Very low  
Low  
Moderate  
High  
Very High

### **Previous Fiscal Year Expenses - Personnel\***

Please enter your total personnel expenses for your most recently completed fiscal year.

*Character Limit: 20*

### **Previous Fiscal Year Expenses - Non-personnel\***

Please enter your total non-personnel expenses for your most recently completed fiscal year.

*Character Limit: 20*

We recommend clicking "Save Application," then, let the page reload. Next, click on "Application Packet," at the top of the page to **preview your application and attachments as a combined PDF, which is how our committee reviews it.** Up until the time you hit "Submit Application," or the deadline, you can return to your application online to revise and edit your request.

FINISHED? Be sure to click the **Submit Application** button!

You will receive a Submitted notification email with a link to our 3-minute Post-Applicant Survey. We value your feedback. If you prefer to email feedback, please email [Grantmaking@ArtsKC.org](mailto:Grantmaking@ArtsKC.org).