COVID-19 Arts Aid PHL

Application Guidelines for Mid-Sized Organizations ($250,000 to $15,000,000)

As part of COVID-19 Arts Aid PHL, arts and culture organizations with annual budgets between $250,000 and $15 million whose operations have been deeply affected by the COVID-19 pandemic can apply for emergency relief funding. This funding will provide $5,000-$45,000 to arts and culture organizations in Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia counties.

COVID-19 Arts Aid PHL is designed to support a wide range of organizations, emphasizing the importance of preserving public accessibility to arts and culture. All funds are provided as unrestricted grants with no reporting requirements. However, all awarded grantees will be asked to complete brief data collection surveys 3 months and 6 months after funds are distributed.

Applications open on Thursday, May 21 at 12 p.m. and the deadline to apply is Friday, June 5 at 5 p.m. Organizations applying can only submit one request to COVID-19 Arts Aid PHL but may apply for support through any other relief funding available – a list of available resources and funding sources are available at creativephl.org/opportunities and philaculture.org/coronavirus.

Eligibility Requirements:
- Must be a 501(c)3 nonprofit or fiscally-sponsored organization with arts, culture or humanities as its core mission; or a nonprofit public space with significant, ongoing arts and culture programming
- Must have had expenses between $250,000 and $15 million in FY2019
- Must be located in Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery or Philadelphia counties in Pennsylvania
- Must have at least 3 year-history of nonprofit or fiscally-sponsored status

Funds will be awarded in six budget tiers:
- $250,000 to $499,999 (1% of budget up to $5,000)
- $500,000 to $999,999 (1% of budget up to $10,000)
- $1,000,000 to $2,99,999 (0.5% of budget up to $15,000)
- $3,000,000 to $4,999,999 (0.5% of budget up to $25,000)
- $5,000,000 to $9,999,999 (0.4% of budget up to $35,000)
- $10,000,000 to $15,000,000 (0.3% of budget up to $45,000)
How to Apply:

- Eligible organizations can apply online through Submittable at artsaidphl.submittable.com/submit.
- The application asks for general organizational information; level of financial need, including original budgeted expenses for FY2020, projected revenue and expense changes and accessible cash reserves, and breadth and/or depth of audiences/constituencies served in FY19.
- A full PDF of the application is available on our website.
- If you are unable to complete the application through the online form, please email artsaid@philaculture.org to request a Word document version to submit.

Review and Funding Distribution:

- Applications will open on Thursday, May 21 at 12 p.m. and the deadline to apply will be Friday, June 5 at 5 p.m.
- Applications will be screened for eligibility by staff of the Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance based on the eligibility requirements stated in the guidelines.
- Using the scoring system developed by the Advisory Committee, Cultural Alliance Staff will assign a score to each eligible application using an automated system based on the level of financial need and the breadth and/or depth of the audiences/constituencies served.
- The Advisory Committee will perform an identity-blind review to evaluate the need within each of the six budget tiers and adjust funding allocations between tiers to reflect the applicant pool and to ensure the widest reach possible. The Committee will not see the names of the applicants, only their budgets and scores.
- If the need in a budget tier is greater than the funding available, the Advisory Committee will determine a cut-off score, and all applications above that score will be placed into an automated digital lottery system to determine the final grants.
- Applicants will be notified by mid-July 2020, depending on the volume of applications received.
- Funding will be distributed via a mailed check or ACH direct bank deposit shortly after notification.

For more information on the COVID-19 Arts Aid PHL initiative, view our Frequently Asked Questions.


If you have any questions about applying for COVID-19 Arts Aid PHL funding, please contact artsaid@philaculture.org.