



YEARS  
OF CREATIVE IMPACT

CALIFORNIA ARTS COUNCIL  
A STATE AGENCY

2026

GRANTS WORKSHOPS

[ARTS.CA.GOV](https://arts.ca.gov)

# HELLO

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(she/her)



# **LAND & PEOPLES ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

# ACCESS and QUICK TOUR



**Restroom**



**Exit**



# ICE BREAKER



# OVERVIEW

- About the CAC and our grant cycle
- General CAC Eligibility
- Grant Programs
- Guideline Elements
- Applications Elements
- Grant Writing Tips



# GRANTS CYCLE

## 1. DEFINE PROGRAM POLICY GOALS AND PROGRAMS

The Council discusses funding priorities, public comment is solicited, direction is provided to Council committees.  
\*based on the evaluation of previous programs

## 2. DESIGN GUIDELINE FRAMEWORK AND APPLICATIONS

Staff develop full program guidelines, outreach strategies based on Council decision, and public comment. Framework highlights the priorities set forth by the Council.

## 3. LAUNCH OUTREACH AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Staff prepares and publishes grant guidelines and applications for the public. Staff conducts outreach and promotion and provides technical assistance to applicants.

## 4. DETERMINE GRANT AWARDS

Applications are processed by staff. Panelists review and rank applications. Rankings are provided to Council with funding recommendations from Council committees for a vote at public meeting.

## 5. EVALUATE PROGRAM CYCLES

Data is collected continuously across different phases. Evaluation is ongoing and integrates previous granting cycles. Grantee reports are due in the fall.



# GENERAL ELIGIBILITY

## APPLICANTS MUST BE:



Nonprofit organizations, units of government, or fiscally sponsored



California-based



2 years of arts programming

# 2026 GRANT PROGRAMS

## GENERAL OPERATING

General Operating  
Support Grant

## PROJECT SUPPORT

Impact Projects Grant

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Arts And Youth Grant

## PARTNERSHIP

State-Local Partners  
Grant

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State-Local Partners  
Mentorship



**List of  
available  
grants**

# OTHER CAC FUNDED OPPORTUNITIES

- Individual Artist Fellowship
- Folk and Traditional Arts Grant



# GENERAL OPERATING SUPPORT

## GENERAL OPERATION SUPPORT (GEN)

**Program purpose:** Direct funding to arts and cultural organizations in support of ongoing operations, prioritizing small organizations.

**Maximum request amount:** \$30,000

**Matching Funds:** A one-to-one match is required for organizations with total revenue above \$250,000 for this grant program.

### **Total Revenue Restrictions:**

- Arts producing or presenting organizations with total revenue (TR) of \$1.5 million or below can apply
- Arts service/network organizations with total revenue of \$5 million or below can apply

**Program Specialist:** Arielle Rubin, [genopsgrant@arts.ca.gov](mailto:genopsgrant@arts.ca.gov)

# PROJECT SUPPORT

## IMPACT PROJECTS (PRJ)

**Program purpose:** Impact Projects supports arts organizations for collaborations between California-based artist(s) and community members to address a community-defined need. Projects must use artistic practice to respond to issues experienced by historically and systemically under-resourced communities. Projects for this program should use the arts to create positive social change in their community.

**Maximum request amount:** \$25,000

**Matching Funds:** Matching funds are not required for this grant.

**Total Revenue Restriction:** Organizations with total revenues below \$3 million

**Other Restrictions:** Can apply to Impact Projects OR Arts and Youth, not both

**Program Specialists:** Natalie Peeples, Leslie Giovanini, [impactgrant@arts.ca.gov](mailto:impactgrant@arts.ca.gov)

# PROJECT SUPPORT

## ARTS and YOUTH (AAY)

**Program purpose:** The Arts and Youth Program supports meaningful arts participation and learning in diverse settings and contexts for infants, children, and youth ages 0-25 by prioritizing programs that directly bridge barriers to access and participation.

**Maximum request amount:** \$25,000

**Matching Funds:** Matching funds are not required for this grant.

### **Total Revenue Restrictions:**

- Organizations with total revenue below \$5 million can apply

**Other Restrictions:** Can apply to Arts and Youth OR Impact Projects, not both

**Program Specialist:** Emily Taggart, [artsyouthgrant@arts.ca.gov](mailto:artsyouthgrant@arts.ca.gov)

# NEW CAC FUNDED OPPORTUNITIES



**Individual artists can now apply to CAC's statewide fellowship program!**

**Region 1: Upstate**  
Nevada Arts Council

**Region 2: Capital**  
Teatro Nagual

**Region 3: Bay Area**  
Kala Art Institute

**Region 4: Central Valley  
& Eastern Sierra**  
Kern Dance Alliance

**Region 5: Central Coast**  
Arts Council Santa Cruz

**Region 6: Los Angeles County**  
Los Angeles Performance Practice

**Region 7: Inland Empire  
& South Coast**  
Arts Orange County

**Region 8: Far South**  
City of San Diego



# CAC FUNDED OPPORTUNITIES

## Alliance for California Traditional Arts (ACTA) - Living Cultures Grants 2025-2027

**Program Purpose:** Funded by the California Arts Council the Alliance for California Traditional Arts has developed the *Living Cultures Grants* for 2026-27. The Grants support California Folk and Traditional arts through support of individual artists, community groups, organizations, and Tribal Nations in California. These grants help communities carry forward, strengthen, and share their traditions.

### Who Can Apply:

- Individual artists and culture bearers
- Community groups and organizations
- Tribal Nation cultural programs

### Contact:

Betty Marín, Associate Program Director  
grants@actaonline.org  
213-346-3257

Learn more at  
ACTA online!



# PARTNERSHIP SUPPORT

## State-Local Partners Program

The State-Local Partners (SLP) program provides support and technical assistance for county-designated local arts agencies.

**Maximum request amount:** \$75,000

**Matching Funds:** This program requires a 1:1 match for organizations with total revenues (TRs) of \$1,000,000 or more in their most recently completed fiscal year.

**Program Specialists:** Charlie O'Malley and Natalie Peeples, [slpgrant@arts.ca.gov](mailto:slpgrant@arts.ca.gov)

# PARTNERSHIP SUPPORT

## State-Local Partners Program Mentorship

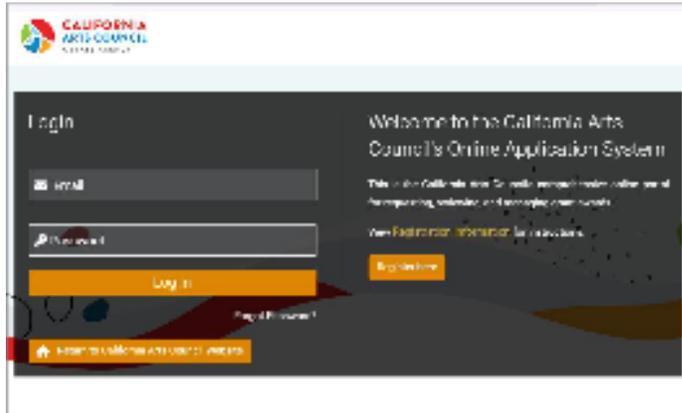
**Program purpose:** Support for the establishment by an existing State-Local Partner of a county-designated local arts agency in counties in which no such agency has currently been identified.

**Maximum request amount:** \$50,000

**Matching Funds:** No match is required.

**Program Specialists:** Charlie O'Malley and Natalie Peeples, [slpgrant@arts.ca.gov](mailto:slpgrant@arts.ca.gov)

# GRANTS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM



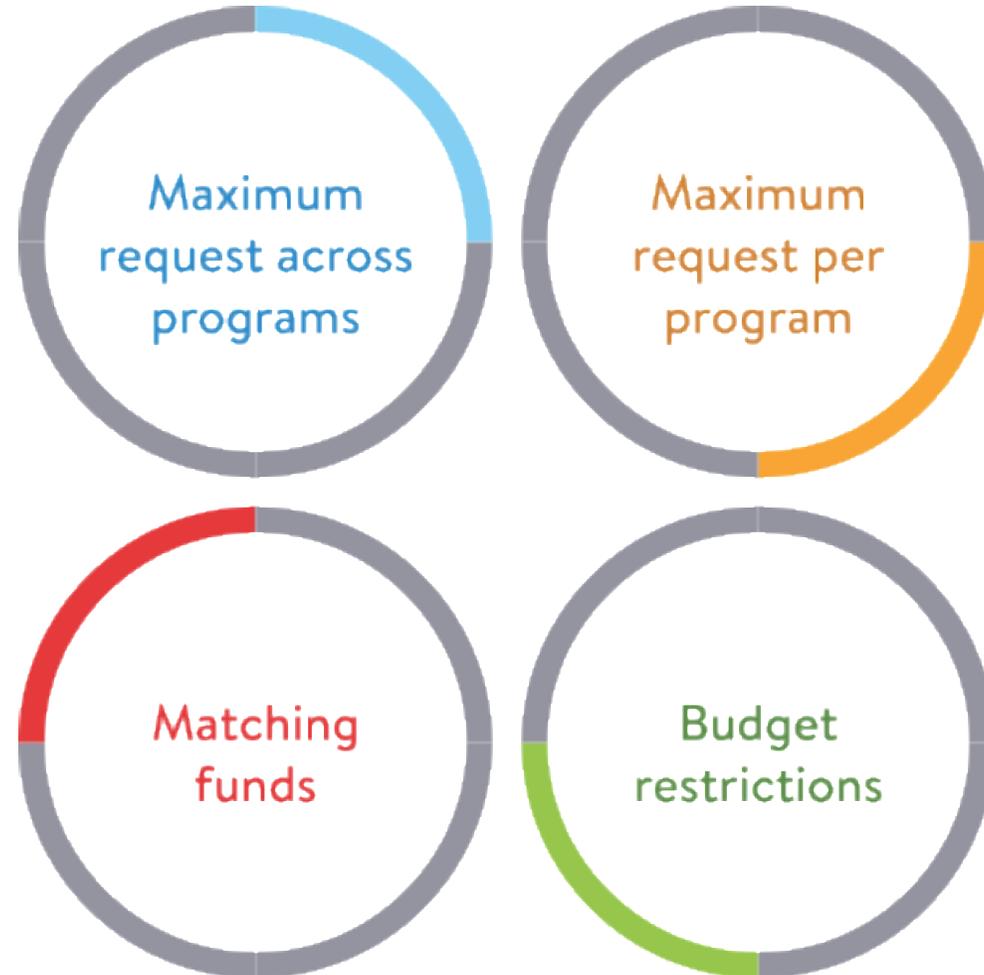
# GRANT APPLICANT & AWARDEE MANUAL



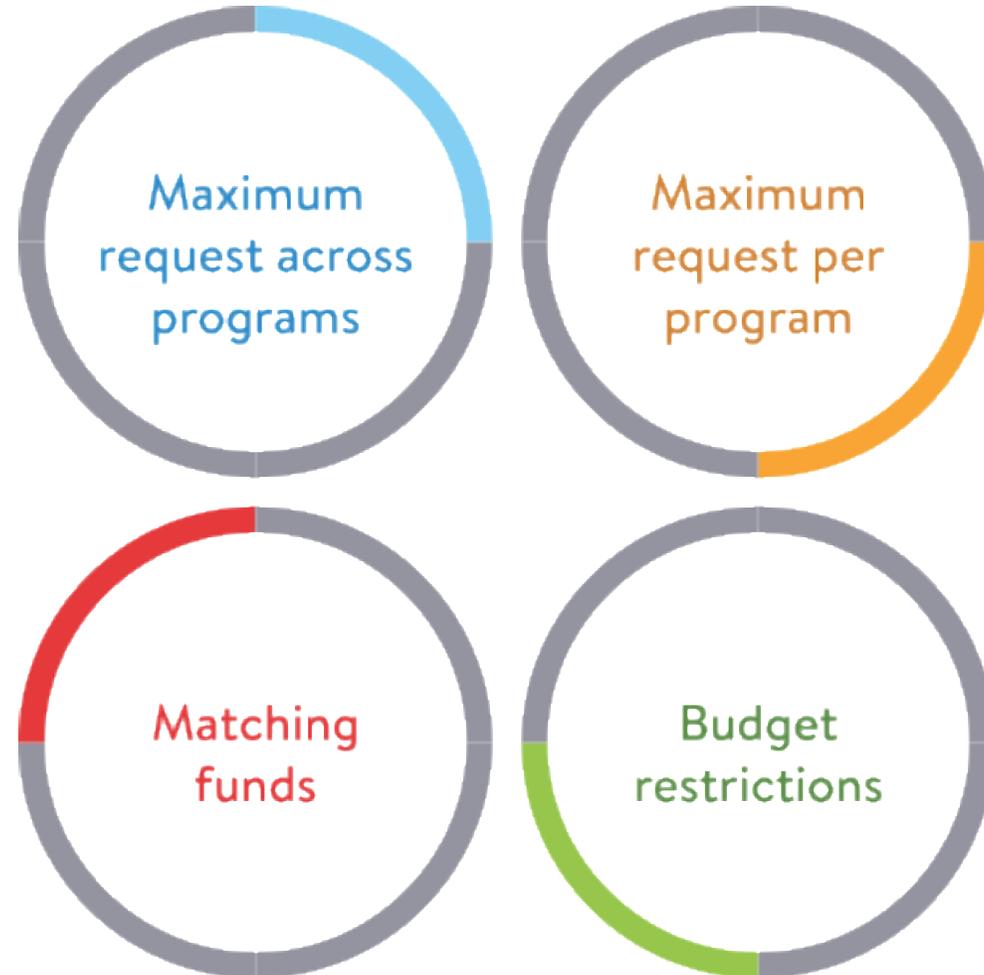
# GUIDELINES

- Program Timeline
- Eligibility Requirements
- Eligible Request Amounts
- Funding Restrictions
- Matching Funds
- 2026-27 Funding Priorities
- Background & Purpose of Program
- Program Goals
- Project Requirements
- Grant Application Questions
- Review Criteria
- Staff Assistance

# GENERAL BUDGET REQUIREMENTS



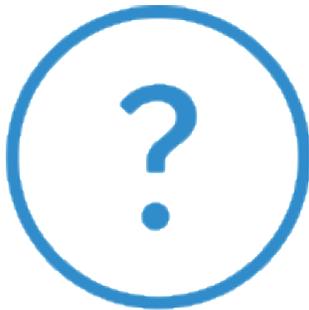
# GENERAL BUDGET REQUIREMENTS



# APPLICATION ELEMENTS



ORGANIZATIONAL  
INFORMATION



NARRATIVE  
QUESTIONS



BUDGET TABLES



SUPPORT  
MATERIALS

# PROJECT SUPPORT

## BUDGET SNAPSHOT

**Revenue**

*i* Please note that the Total Revenue for the most recent fiscal year in this section must be equal to the amount inputted in the "Total Revenue from last completed fiscal year (TR)" field under the Applicant Information Tab.

	2023-2024 or 2024	2024-2025 or 2025
Earned		
Contributed		
Total Revenue		

**Expense**

	2023-2024 or 2024	2024-2025 or 2025
Personnel		
Operating/Production		
Total Expense		

**Total Surplus(Deficit)**

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**Budget Snapshot Notes**

*i* Address significant changes in line items from one year to the next and explain anticipated surpluses or deficits in the Budget Snapshot Notes. Once Budget Snapshot Notes have been provided, select "Save" and then "Close" to return to the application Budget tab.

# APPLICATION ELEMENT

## MATCHING TABLE

### Matching Funds - Cash

Source Type	Identify source (name of contributor, donation, etc.)	Applicant Matching Funds	Status
		\$0.00	

### Matching Funds - In-Kind

Source Description	Identify source (name of contributor, donation, etc.)	Applicant Matching Funds	Status
		\$0.00	

### Total Matching Funds

Total Matching Funds		\$0.00
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### Source of Match Notes

If utilizing in-kind donated services to support the match requirement, please describe your method for determining the fair market value of these services. You may also use this space to provide additional details for matching.

# APPLICATION ELEMENT

## PROJECT BUDGET



### Project Budget (No Match)



#### Instructions:

Provide details for each line item to be funded by this grant. List the expenses in the fields shown, selecting "+" to add additional rows under each category, as necessary. Include job title, number of staff, and rate of pay for personnel expenses.

Enter the planned allocation of CAC funds in the CAC Request Amount column. Totals will auto-calculate.

Verify that Total CAC Request Amount equals the Grant Request Amount provided on the Applicant Information tab. Provide Project Budget Notes, if applicable, and select "Save" to return to the application.

#### Personnel Expenses

Expense Type	Job Title	# of Staff	Rate of Pay	CAC Request Amount
				\$0.00

#### Operating/Production Expenses

Expense Description	CAC Request Amount
	\$0.00

## APPLICATION ELEMENT

### SUPPORT MATERIALS

- Share the best representation of your creative /cultural impact!
- Samples with purpose
- Format:
  - Video (links)
  - Images, text and audio (upload)

# WHAT WE DO NOT FUND



INELIGIBLE  
ORGANIZATIONAL  
TYPES



INELIGIBLE  
EXPENSES



**STRETCH BREAK**

# COUNCIL PRIORITY COMMUNITIES

- Applicants serving the lower quartiles of the Healthy Places Index
- First time CAC grantees
- Small organizations with annual Total Revenues (TRs) of \$250,000 or less
- Priority funding applies only to General Operating Support, Impact Projects, and Arts and Youth program





# GRANT WRITING TIPS



Know your audience



Give yourself lead time



Writing strong responses



We want you to succeed!!



# GRANT WRITING TIPS



Know your audience



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Writing strong responses



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# APPLICATION DEADLINE

- The deadline for all programs is **May 15, 2025**.
- We cannot accept any additional materials after the application deadline.
- No exceptions will be made.



# ADDITIONAL APPLICATION RESOURCES



Grant Application FAQs



Grant Resources





**QUESTIONS**

# HOW DID WE DO?

Please use this QR to provide feedback  
on the workshop.



**THANK YOU**