Administering Organization -
California Creative Corps Grant Webinar
Q&A

Arts Program Specialist Josy Miller reviewed the following submitted questions and provided responses to general questions below. Send an email to creativecorpsgrant@arts.ca.gov to get answers to your organization-specific application questions.

How many awards will be awarded?
A minimum of 9 and a maximum of 27 Administering Organization grants will be awarded (1-3 per service area).

June 16 deadline for projects will go through AO? Same timeline?
Administering Organizations will decide and publish timelines for application according to the needs and opportunities of the communities they are serving. Applications will open no earlier than the beginning of their grant activity period, which is October 1.

You have copy of the application in pdf or word? Not the one online as it's good to see ahead of the questions and answering them before typing them in the online application
All of the application questions and required documents are listed in the program guidelines, beginning on p. 8.

Can an applicant be listed as a partner in a second application? Would this hinder either of the applications?
An applicant organization should not also be listed as a compensated parter in a second application.

Ideally, how many of the quantitative outcomes would an organization meet through their proposal?
An applicant organization should speak to as many of the outcomes as they feel it reasonable for them to achieve over the course of the grant period.

Are partnerships eligible to apply?
An eligible lead applicant may include partner organizations in its application to support geographic reach, community engagement, and/or program design and implementation. If the lead applicant intends to work with partnering organizations, the narrative sections of the application should be clear about the role of the partners, and their work should be appropriately compensated as discrete line item(s) in the budget table. If awarded, the lead applicant will be the official grantee of the CAC and will hold the responsibility for completing the contracted Scope of Work.
Can AO’s contract with artist to meet the 60% salary support requirement?
Aos can certainly contract with artists, but if that work is to support the administration of the program, that should come out of the 20% for admin. If the funds are for project support, that should be subgranted and included in the 60%.

can an applicant apply in all three categories?
Applicant organizations may only submit one proposal and must indicate which service area they tend to support.

the guidelines are not consistent in terms of eligibility re: arts org non-profit and non-profits are eligible does this include a foundation?
Applicants must be California-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations or arts-based units of government or tribal groups with a minimum two-year history of arts programming.

Are methods other than open call for selecting subgrantees considered eligible and competitive - and/or a mix of open call and selection by other means (direct invitation, etc)?
Applications should be open to all artists and eligible nonprofit or government entities. That said, AOs should certainly plan to make sure that community members are aware of the opportunity.

If we were selected as an AOR, could we limit the funds we regrant to the discipline of our expertise (writers/literature), or would be expected to support multiple disciplines?
Artists and culture bearers working in all disciplines will be eligible to apply to an AO for project grant funds.

How will issues of equity be addressed with various regions who have different regranting capacities? For example, what if a region receives a handful of AO applicantions who only ask for 1 million dollars. And another region has three AO fully funded at
Award decisions will be made based not only on request, but on panel ranking, and taking service area, constituency, and program focus area into account.

Will CCAC be involved in selection of grantees or standardizing process across all administering organizations?
CAC will not be involved in the selection of subgrantees but will support the entire AO cohort in developing guidelines and award procedures that are in line with the program goals and guidelines.

Could you give a few examples of the types of arts projects the funds the AO’s regrant might support? Specifically, examples of how arts projects might address the program goals stated in your guidelines.
Examples might include a muralist working in community to design and install a mural to communicate messaging around one of the program outcomes; performance installation

Has the CAC ever thought of advocating or supporting fiscal sponsors? State of CA is currently experiencing a nonprofit certification delay due to limited staff/COVID. I believe this is an equity issue for cultural leaders outside of institutions to parti
Fiscally sponsored organizations are eligible to apply for project funds from the AOs. Since
fiscal sponsors typically take their own administrative fees as a percentage of all grant funds, only nonprofit orgs are eligible to apply for the regranting funds.

I have a fiscal sponsorship (based in San Diego, CA and work with the Riverside County as well) I am under a nonprofit based in New York City, are there any exceptions since I am serving Southern California?

For organizations applying with a fiscal sponsor, both the organization and the fiscal sponsor must be based in California.

What responsibility would the administering org have to ensuring the successful implementation/completion of the project?
If awarded, the AOs will each have a contracted Scope of Work that it is their responsibility to adhere to. This will include successful implementation and completion of the project in their service area.

Do I apply directly or through the organization I am working with?
If you are an individual artist, you will be able to apply directly to an administering organization for funding. Nonprofit organizations will also be eligible to apply to fund artist-led projects.

Hello, can a community group in the SF Parks Alliance Community Network apply for a grant to program community building events?
If your organization meets the eligibility criteria as listed in the guidelines, you are welcome to submit an application. Again, this phase of the program is to administer regranting funds. If you are seeking project funds, you should plan to apply directly to an AO in your region or one that is serving statewide.

there is limited space in the application to upload supporting documents. where would be upload letters of support from partner organizations?
No letters of support are required for this application. If you so choose, you may upload a letter of support as one of your two examples of grantmaking outreach and capacity.

Does the 2 years of arts history also apply to individual artists and non-profit organizations?
No, a history of arts programming is not required for subgrantees.

Is this grant intended for media outreach or are events/workshops/other programming eligible?
Other forms of engagement are definitely eligible, as long as they are impacting one or more of the program focus areas.

Are there systems you can recommend for those seeking to acquire effective application management systems?
Our agency uses SmartSimple as a grants management system, but there are many options available. You can request quotes from vendors based on your needs and the volume of applications that you anticipate fielding.

From what portion of the budget does the partner organization support come from?
Partner support would come from the 20% of the funds that can be used for program design and implementation.
I would like to partner with agencies in my region. How can we get contact information on the present network in our region?
Please reach out to me directly, as I am unsure to which network you are referring.

Will AO’s be required to collect all of the Data that the CAC has listed in the application for evaluation?
Please reach out to me directly, as I am unsure to which specific data set you are referring.

One of our programs educates school teachers through artistic means, would we be able to compensate these educators for that time they spend during the training?
Please refer to our Arts Integration Training guidelines, posted on our website.

is San Francisco defined separately from Bay Area other? This is indicated on the map but not in other places in the guidelines.
San Francisco is included as part of the Bay Area for the purposes of this grant program.

The map of regions/counties presented in the slide deck does not line up exactly to the Otis Report region/county classifications. Specifically, Placer and Nevada counties. Can you advise if they fall within the Capital Region or Northern Ca? Thank you.
Thank you for this question! We have made some adjustments to the county breakdown that is utilized in the Otis Report, based on current regional partnerships and granting infrastructure that is supported by the CAC. In the Creative Corps regional breakdown, Placer and Nevada counties are included in the Upstate region.

Our nonprofit organization started an artist fund during the pandemic for local artists doing new works. Would we apply during this portion to be an AO or would that be a nonprofit subgrant from the AO later on?
That depends on what you see your role as being in terms of artist engagement. If you see your organization’s mission being aligned with the field-wide support that the AOs will be responsible for (including mentorship, outreach, visibility, etc.), that would be the best place to apply. If you have a specific project in mind that would engage local artists, applying to one of the AOs in the fall would be the best bet.

I understand that 60% is to be granted out, a max 20% can go towards administrative costs and staff time, what about the remaining 20%?
That percentage can be re-granted to nonprofit organizations to implement Creative Corps Projects, including providing working and living space and project supplies.

If an organization has a stated regional focus, but also regrants to special projects in other regions, should they apply as “regional” or “statewide”?
That really depends on the scale. If 90% of your grantmaking is done regionally, I would recommend applying as a regional service area. If your grantmaking covers multiple, but not all regions of the state, I would probably recommend applying as a statewide service area and identifying local outreach partners.

What is the expected size of grants to artists?
That will be determined by the individual AOs in collaboration with the CAC, depending on the needs of the specific communities they are serving.
To meet the 2 year of arts programing requirement, is the fiscal sponsor/applicant required to have the two years of arts programming or can they apply with a partner that has the 2 years of experience?
The applicant organization must have two years of arts programming history. There is no arts programming history requirement for sub-grantees.

If you want to be a subgrantee agency, how will we know what AOC to contact
The CAC will publish and publicize a list of all awarded AOs by service area as soon as they are confirmed.

Does an applicant need to commit to covering an entire geographic region? Or can an AO commit to covering just a portion of a geographic region?
The intention is for each AO to serve the whole geographic region. If your organization does not have strong relationships in particular parts of the service area, that might be a good place to identify a community partner(s).

Does the application have to identify what social issues they will address or can the regranting process be open to all issues identified?
The regranting process should include support for all four of the Creative Corps focus areas.

We have strong regional regranting experience and capacity involving BIPOC yet only one year of arts programming grant making through our Equity communities, can the two-year arts programming requirement be waived?
The two-year arts programming experience is not able to be waived, as it is the CAC's Code of Regulations.

Who determines the eligibility of the partnering organization
There are no eligibility criteria for partner organizations, only the applicant organizations. The only aspect of partnership to be aware of would be the list of "What the CAC Does Not Fund" (e.g. lobbying, fundraising) as you are identifying appropriate partners.

Is the entire (100%) or primary (80%) focus of this program on getting more funds to rural and suburban areas? If 100%, does CAC have a percentage in mind to develop equity in rural versus suburban areas of the state? If the primary purpose (80%) is r
There is no minimum amount of funding that is required to go to rural and suburban versus urban areas. The focus of the program funding is towards the lowest quartile tracts in the California Healthy Places Index. The only other geographic mandate is that the program serve all 58 counties.

Where to find the proposal writing requirement? Such as page numbers? Contents? Font? Thanks!
This information begins on p. 8 of the guidelines under "Online Application Portal."

Have school organizations or districts applied and have been awarded in the past?
This is a pilot program, so no one has applied yet! That said organizations must be eligible entities as listed above in order to apply.
Regarding our Program design - ea AO will be setting our own re-granting qualifications and requirements. Is the CAC more interested in lots of smaller grants to artists? or jobs for artists (i.e. salaries with benefits)? Or both?
This program is designed to facilitate localized response to community values, needs, and opportunities.

Will there be a subgrant applicant application template?
We are not currently planning to develop a template. One of the key goals of this program is localizing support mechanisms, so we will be actively working with the AO cohort to craft appropriate application materials.

Is the School of Arts in a public hispanic-servering institution an eligible applicant?
Yes!

Are “Teaching Artists” considered “artists” for purposes of the 60% distribution?
Yes!

So this is designed for an org to apply to receive funds and then create sub-grants and distribute funds to the orgs/artists to whom you award sub-grants…?
Yes!

The college of the arts at State University is eligible as adminstrative organization?
Yes, but please note that university applicants must secure a waiver of AB20 indirect costs.

Does the fiscal sponsor required to be located in California?
Yes, fiscal sponsors must be based in California.

If our org goes over the $250,000 cap and recives funding as a sub-grantee that puts us over the $250,000 cap will that effect our ability to apply for regular CAC programs?
Yes, grants for project funding (from CAC or other funders) should be included as revenue and will contribute to your Total Operating Revenue for the current fiscal year.

Does a independent nonprofit public access TV organization qualify? We have contracts with three cities to broadcast their government activities, but our facility functions as a community resources. We operate a “Community Producers Program” that offers
Yes, media arts programming definitely counts as having the required history.

If an organization has a history of regranting (for example as a non-profit Foundation) by invitation only, but is just now implementing an application process, would the organization be eligible to apply?
Yes. The guidelines do not define history with any particular grantmaking process. That said, you would want to outline very clearly in the narrative your plans for developing and implementing this new process in a timely manner.

Where can we get assistance to apply for individual artist grants
You are invited to attend the May 12th Council meeting where the Council will continue their discussion on the future of that program. The Zoom link, agenda, and full Council book are posted here: https://arts.ca.gov/about/council-meetings/ The Council will be voting on draft guidelines, including timeline. Once that vote is made, updated information will be available on the Individual Artist Fellowships grant page.
Our address in San Francisco and our service target are in the central valley prisons. Are we penalized for our San Francisco address?
You may apply to serve any region no matter your physical address. You will want to be very clear in the narrative how you are intending to connect broadly with communities that are not in geographic proximity to you.

You mentioned that you will give 1-3 “Statewide” awards to NGOs that identify as serving the whole state. If we have the capacity to serve the state, but have not identified as such, how might that affect our application?
You will have the opportunity to indicate your intended service area in the narrative portion of the application.