

# ARTIST SUPPORT GRANT

## Guidelines for

## 2023-2024

**Funding Period: December 1, 2023 – December 31, 2024**

**Apply Online at: <https://www.theartscouncil.com/grants>**

***Or by going to our website and clicking the “Grants & Allocations” tab and click “Artist Support Grants”***

### **What Is Funded**

The Artist Support Grant was created to provide direct support to individual artists. The initiative will fund professional and artistic development for emerging and established artists to enhance their skills and abilities to create work or to improve their business operations and capacity to bring their work to new audiences. Artists representing visual, craft, performing, traditional, and interdisciplinary art forms are encouraged to apply. Applicants should demonstrate a commitment to spend a significant portion of their time on their work as artists.

**Artist Support Grants projects are funded from December 1, 2023 to December 31, 2024. Awards may range from \$500.00 to \$2,000.00. Applicants may receive full or partial funding.**

### **Eligibility**

The Artist Support Grant is intended to support a board range of talented artists in the genres of visual arts, performing arts, literary arts, music composition, choreography, and interdisciplinary arts. Eligible candidates may be either emerging or established artists. Applicants should demonstrate a commitment to spending a significant portion of their time on their work as artists.

- **Individuals and Artist Collectives** — Both individual artists and small, unincorporated groups of collaborating artists are eligible to apply.
- **Residency** — Artists should have lived continuously in the counties of **Cumberland, Hoke, Robeson, Sampson, and Scotland** for at least one year before the application deadline. An applicant must be at least 18 years old and either a U.S. citizen or a permanent resident alien. Proof of residence and status may be required at the time of application. Artists who live in more than one region should apply only where they spend most of the year. All members of a collaborating team must be North Carolina residents, live in the region in which they are applying, and meet the other eligibility requirements. Resumes documenting residence for all team members should be included with the application.



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- **Multiple Awards** — Artists who are sole proprietors of organizations that have already received funding for FY 2023-2024 from the N.C. Arts Council are ineligible to apply. Individuals who received an Artists Support Grant in FY 2022-2023 are ineligible to apply for funding in FY 2023-2024.
- **Conflict of Interest** — Current board and staff members of the consortium partner organizations and their family members are not eligible to apply for the award.
- **Student Status** — The Artist Support Grant is intended for adult, nonstudent artists. Artists enrolled full-time in undergraduate or associate degree-granting programs may not apply for the grant. Artists in certificate programs are generally eligible. Artists pursuing graduate degrees in subjects other than their art form may be eligible if they meet the other eligibility criteria. Other questions and special circumstances should be discussed with Arts Council staff.

### Eligible Projects and Costs

In project year 2023-2024, applicants may use up to 50% of their grant request to pay artist fees to themselves.

- **Completion/Presentation of a New Work** — Cost of resources necessary to complete or present a significant new work (e.g., purchasing art supplies or equipment (digital may qualify) or space rental).
- **Career Promotion** — Projects aimed at advertising artists' works and/or demonstrating their skill level (e.g., websites, portfolios, audio-visual documentation, and online presentation).
- **Training** — Costs to attend a class or workshop (in-person or virtual) aimed at either enhancing the artist's skill level or professional development (e.g., a master class or workshop taught by acknowledged authorities in the applicant artist's medium).
- **Travel** — Costs of transportation, lodging, and food for training, professional conferences, or research.

### Ineligible Projects and Costs

The following items/projects are ineligible for Artist Support Grant funding:

- Tuition for undergraduate- or graduate-level education.
- Projects that support or oppose a candidate for public office.
- Projects that are exclusive to members of a religious faith group or other exclusive populations.
- Projects that do not have a direct effect on the applicant's growth as an artist (e.g., the promotion of other artists' work).

- “Other” or “Miscellaneous” costs that lack budget documentation.



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#### **Evaluation Criteria**

##### **Artistic Merit**

- Demonstrated talent in an art form and overall excellence of the artist’s work.
- Clear commitment to a career as a practicing professional artist

##### **Project Merit**

- Benefit of the proposed project to the artist’s professional growth.
- Feasibility of the proposed project.

#### **Application Process**

**All applications must be submitted to the Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County through our online portal** which can be found at: [TheArtsCouncil.com/grants](http://TheArtsCouncil.com/grants). On our website, click the “[Grants & Allocations](#)” tab and go to the “[Artist Support Grants](#)” page.

#### **Review Process**

All completed Artist Support Grant applications will be judged by a multi-county panel of established artists, arts professionals, and arts educators and administrators who will review and evaluate the applications based on the criteria above and allocate funds for selected projects.

#### **Application Requirements**

**An application without all required attachments is incomplete and will not be presented to the grants panel.**

**All applications MUST be submitted through the online grants portal by 11:59 PM on– Friday, October 6, 2023.**

**Narrative** - Your Project Narrative should explain your proposed project and how it will have an impact on your career as an artist. The narrative section includes three questions. **(required)**

1. Describe your project and the proposed use of funds (500 words).
2. Explain what this project will enable you to do that you are unable to do now (500 words max).
3. Summarize how this project will advance your career or development as an artist (500 words max).



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### Uploads:

**Budget** – Provide your Project Budget (both Expenses and Income). For your Project Expenses, please be sure to list each expense as its own line item. Be as specific as possible. **(required)**

**Budget support** – Provide support information for your budget that clearly displays the cost of each line item, i.e. screenshots or web addresses showing equipment costs, quotes from suppliers, brochures from conferences, etc. Budget items that do not have appropriate documentation will not be considered for funding. **(required)**

**Artist Statement** – Provide an artist statement that describes your work and the key ideas, goals, or cultural practices that drive you to create. Your artist's statement should help your audience access or understand your artist's philosophy. (500 word maximum) **(required)**

**Artist Résumé** – Attach an artist résumé that includes education, employment, public presentations of your work, publications, commissions, honors, grant/fellowship awards, and relevant experience. (Two pages maximum) **(required)**

**Work Samples** - Applicants must provide high-quality, digital work samples (links or attachments –jpg, mp3, pdf, etc.). Samples must be of artist's work only. Hard copies will not be accepted. Work must be completed within the past three years. **(required)**

Applicants must attach an inventory list with the following descriptions for the applicable discipline:

- **Dance and Performing Arts:** Documentation of up to three recorded performances. Videos uploaded may not exceed a total time of ten minutes.  
Description: include date and location of performance, title of piece, names, and roles of key people, including directors, choreographers, lead performers/actors, etc. A short summary may also be included. Please indicate if the work sample is professionally mastered.
- **Music:** Documentation of up to three recorded performances, live or studio. Audio or video uploaded may not exceed a total time of ten minutes.  
Description: include date and location of performance, title of piece, names, and roles of key people, including directors, choreographers, lead performers/actors, etc. A short

summary may also be included. Composers and songwriters should also submit scores, lyrics, and/or lead sheets, as appropriate. Please indicate if the work sample is professionally mastered.

- **Writing:** Fiction, creative nonfiction, and playwrights may submit no more than 12 pages each of one to two manuscripts. Poets may submit five to seven poems. Playwrights may also submit documentation of a recorded performance or staged reading of their plays (videos, clip not to exceed five minutes.)
- **Visual Art and Craft:** Up to 10 images of your work.

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Description: date of completion, medium, and dimensions. Time-based work can be documented with video, up to five minutes.

- **Film:** Documentation of one or more completed films. (Video clips not to exceed five minutes.)

Description: include date and location of performance, title of piece, names, and roles of key people, including directors, choreographers, lead performers/actors, etc. A short summary may also be included. Please indicate if the work sample is professionally mastered.

\*For video and audio work samples: please note that due to file sizes, YouTube and Vimeo links are preferred for video. **Do not upload MP4s directly to the application.**

**Letters of Recommendation** – Letters of Recommendation are not required but can help your application greatly. All Letters of Recommendation should be on letterhead and signed with contact information. Recommendations should be recent and from individuals familiar with your work and/or project. Recommendations must be professional recommendations and not personal recommendations. You may provide **no more** than three letters. **(Optional)**

**Incomplete applications will not be presented to the panel.  
Late applications will not be accepted.**

### Information and Assistance

Contact your local arts council or the Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County at (910) 323-1776 or e-mail [Sarahb@theartscouncil.com](mailto:Sarahb@theartscouncil.com) for further information regarding information sessions or assistance with your application.

**Grant application information sessions: Applicant information sessions will be held via ZOOM and/or in-person. Additional In-Person information sessions in Hoke, Robeson, Sampson, and Scotland Counties are TBD.**

**Please check [www.TheArtsCouncil.com](http://www.TheArtsCouncil.com) for the most up-to-date information and registration link.**

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### **LOCAL ARTS COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Cumberland County**  
Arts Council of Fayetteville/  
Cumberland County  
P O Box 318  
Fayetteville, N C 28302-0318  
  
Phone: 910-323-1776  
  
Email:  
[SarahB@theartscouncil.com](mailto:SarahB@theartscouncil.com)  
  
Web Site:  
[www.TheArtsCouncil.com](http://www.TheArtsCouncil.com)

**Hoke County**  
Contact the Arts Council of  
Fayetteville/Cumberland  
County  
**Robeson County**  
Robeson County Arts  
Council P O Box 2189  
Lumberton, NC 28359  
  
Phone: 910-847-2787  
  
Email:  
[rcaclumberton@gmail.com](mailto:rcaclumberton@gmail.com)

Web Site:  
[www.RobesonCountyArts Council.org](http://www.RobesonCountyArtsCouncil.org)  
**Sampson County**  
Sampson County Arts  
Council Kara Donatelli,  
709 College Street  
Clinton, NC 28328  
  
Phone: 910-596-2533  
  
Email:  
[director@sampsonarts.org](mailto:director@sampsonarts.org)  
  
Web Site:

[www.SampsonArts.net](http://www.SampsonArts.net)  
**Scotland County**  
Arts Council of Scotland County /  
Storytelling & Arts Center Dora  
Sharber  
PO Box 2154  
Laurinburg, NC 28352  
  
Phone: 910-277-3599  
  
Email:  
[sacs.officemanager@gmail.com](mailto:sacs.officemanager@gmail.com)  
  
Website:  
[www.StoryArtsCenter.org](http://www.StoryArtsCenter.org)

*The Artist Support Grant Program is administered by the Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County and the Arts Councils of Robeson County, Sampson County, and Scotland County with generous support from the North Carolina Arts Council, a division of the*

