

# FY21 Artist Relief Grant

Supporting Nevada's individual artists impacted by COVID-19



## HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS

The Artist Relief Grant (ARG) from the Nevada Arts Council (NAC) provides financial assistance for artists in Nevada who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The large-scale shutdown that was needed to slow the spread of COVID-19 has continued to put the entire arts sector on hold, effectively disrupting artists' ability to earn income. Individual artists are the backbone of arts and culture in Nevada, and they need financial help to remain in our communities and contribute to making the state artistically and culturally vibrant. Grants will be one-time emergency relief payments that must be expended by June 30, 2021.

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Must be a current full-time Nevada resident and have been in residence for at least one year prior to the date of the application
- Must be a U.S. citizen or have legal resident status
- Must be at least 21 years old
- Must not be enrolled as degree-seeking student
- Must be a practicing, professional artist with a sustained commitment to their art form:
  - The term "artist" applies broadly across disciplines, including performing, visual, literary, media, and multi-disciplinary artists who devote a significant portion of their time to the creation of artwork
  - The professional artist is likely paid for performances, sells their artwork, or shares their body of work with the public on a regular basis
- Not Eligible: artist groups (individuals within an artist group may apply independently), ensembles, curators, organizers, producers, full-time educators/faculty at colleges or universities
- Funding cannot be administered through a fiscal agent or through a non-profit
- Current NAC staff members, board members, and immediate family members or individuals sharing the household of current NAC staff or board members are not eligible for NAC grants

## APPLICATIONS OPEN:

January 1, 2021 (9:00 am PST)

## APPLICATION DEADLINE:

January 29, 2021 (5:00 pm PST)

## GRANT AMOUNT

\$1,000 (no match required)

## ELIGIBILITY SNAPSHOT

Individual artist, NV resident, 21 years or older, non-student

## STAFF CONTACT

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If you are trying to determine if you meet the definition of "artist" for this grant, consider the following questions:

- Is your job/income **primarily** grounded in, or focused on, one or more of the following artistic disciplines? Dance, Music, Opera/Musical Theatre, Theatre, Visual Arts, Design Arts, Crafts, Photography, Media Arts, Literature, Folklife/Traditional Arts, Performing Arts, or Interdisciplinary Arts
- Is your job/income directly connected to the creative production and/or presentation of an artistic product related to one of the above disciplines?

If the answer to **both** questions is yes, then you are likely eligible and should consider applying.

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## FINANCIAL NEED SELF-ASSESSMENT

Applicants will be asked to describe their financial needs and are requested to only apply if facing immediate and significant financial strain. If you have alternate sources of income, a financial safety net, or are able to meet your most basic needs, we ask that you refrain from applying so that we may serve those who are most vulnerable.

## GRANT AMOUNT: \$1,000 (no match required)

The funds will be unrestricted and can be used toward any personal expenses that alleviate financial pressures due to the COVID-19 federally recognized qualified disaster. Examples include rent, food and basic supplies, medical expenses, etc. Again, we ask that artists who are able to meet their basic needs refrain from applying. Receiving support does not require that the recipient is contracted or obligated to perform any work for NAC or the state of Nevada.

*Grants to individuals may be considered taxable income. Applicants who need further information are encouraged to consult a tax preparer.*

## EVALUATION

As a public agency, the Nevada Arts Council will strive to ensure that grant funds are distributed as broadly and widely as possible throughout the state of Nevada. The selection process for the Emergency Relief Grant presupposes value and need as fundamental conditions and does not rank applications according to subjective merit or persuasiveness.

Applications will be reviewed for eligibility and completeness, then entered into a process for randomized selection. If more application requests are received than funding allows, NAC will prioritize geographic diversity and underserved populations and will use a randomization system that is weighted to prioritize applicants within the following demographic groups:

- Individuals who reside in a state-designated rural area (population of less than 50,000)
- Individuals who identify as: American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Black/African American, Hispanic/Latino, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, or two or more races
- Individuals with disabilities
- Military veterans/active duty personnel
- Individuals below the poverty line (based on 2019 income, see more details [HERE](#))

## GRANTEE RESPONSIBILITIES

- Grantees will receive 100% of the awarded funds immediately (upon receipt of the signed grant paperwork). In order to stay in compliance and be eligible to apply for future NAC grants, grantees must complete a required online survey about the impact and use of the funds. The survey responses will provide important information about how to help those in the arts.
- Complete a State of Nevada Vendor Registration Form (required to receive grant funds)
- Send thank you letters to your state/federal elected officials (via mail or email using [VoterVoice](#))

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## APPLICATION

Applicants may only submit one application and may receive no more than one grant. All required materials must be submitted online with your completed application.

1. Provide a legible photo of your valid Nevada Driver's License or ID for proof of NV residency only (*if you do not have a Driver's License/ID or if your NV Driver's License was renewed in the past 12 months, contact NAC staff to discuss other residency verification material*).
2. Provide a one-page artist résumé OR bio that includes descriptive information about your artistic practice (click [HERE](#) for details and samples of Artist Résumés and Biographies).
3. Provide examples of artistic engagement or work samples in one to three links or attachments.
4. Describe your current financial situation and your immediate financial needs.
5. List total amount of lost income due to COVID-19 since March 1, 2020 (list only lost income related to your arts and/or culture practice). The amount must equal or exceed \$1,000 in order to be eligible for funding.
6. Provide a brief description of the total lost income listed in question #5 (i.e. describe all cancelled events/gigs/jobs/contracts/residencies).
7. Proof of lost income (optional): Applicant is encouraged to include more evidence of lost income (i.e. cancelled contract/notification letter or email).

*At this time, we do not require applicants to submit detailed documentation of the specific jobs/gigs/sales lost. However, we reserve the right to request documentation as needed and as part of the grant eligibility review.*

## HOW TO APPLY

Please review the [FY21 GRANT POLICIES](#) before applying. Then complete application questions and submit all required support material online\* at: <https://nevadaartscouncil.submittable.com/submit>

Click [HERE](#) to access additional resources for NAC grant applicants including a guide to submitting applications online.

*\*If you are unable to apply online due to lack of computer or internet access, you may request a paper application form by emailing [grants@nevadaculture.org](mailto:grants@nevadaculture.org). Paper applications must be received no later than the stated deadline.*