



Photo credit: South Bay Center for Counseling

2025-26 Community Impact Arts Grant Application Workshop

Download program guidelines, sample application and instructions at:
<https://www.lacountyarts.org/funding/community-impact-arts-grant-program/grantseekers/grantseekers-apply>

Online application portal:
<https://www.apply-lacdac.smapply.io>

@LACountyArts
#CIAGArts





LA County Land Acknowledgment

The County of Los Angeles recognizes that we occupy land originally and still inhabited and cared for by the Tongva, Tataviam, Serrano, Kizh, and Chumash Peoples. We honor and pay respect to their elders and descendants past, present, and emerging as they continue their stewardship of these lands and waters. We acknowledge that settler colonization resulted in land seizure, disease, subjugation, slavery, relocation, broken promises, genocide, and multigenerational trauma. This acknowledgment demonstrates our responsibility and commitment to truth, healing, and reconciliation and to elevating the stories, culture, and community of the original inhabitants of Los Angeles County. We are grateful to have the opportunity to live and work on these ancestral lands. We are dedicated to growing and sustaining relationships with Native peoples and local tribal governments, including (in no particular order) the

Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians
Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council
Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians
Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
San Fernando Band of Mission Indians

To learn more about the First Peoples of Los Angeles County, please visit the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission website at lanaic.lacounty.gov.



PHOTO BY: MONICA ALMEIDA

Overview

CIAG recognizes and supports the complex arts ecology of Los Angeles County by increasing access to and strengthening the quality of arts programming wherever it happens.



Overview

CIAG provides support for exemplary arts projects to nonprofit social service and social justice organizations, municipalities, and tribal governments whose primary mission is outside the arts.



Organizational Eligibility Requirements

- ✓ Tax exempt 501(c)(3) status OR Fiscally-sponsored with a comprehensive (Model A) agreement, sponsor located in CA OR Municipality OR Tribal Government
- ✓ Principal offices in LA County
- ✓ Primary mission to provide services other than arts programming
- ✓ 50%+ of organization's budget is dedicated to non-arts programming and activities
- ✓ Organizational operating budget is over \$25,000 annually
- ✓ Functioning Board of Directors with 50%+ members residing in CA
- ✓ At least 2 consecutive years of arts-based programming during 2022-24 (virtual is ok)
- ✓ At least 4 arts-based programs per year



Not Eligible to Apply

- Arts organizations (please see OGP application)
- LA County and Federal departments/agencies
- Local and municipal arts agencies
- Primary mission to raise funds
- Educational institutions
- Individual artists
- Non-Model A Fiscal Sponsors (Model C or other)
- Not open to the public



Eligible Projects

- ✓ **Arts-based and taking place in LA County**
- ✓ **Occurring between July 1, 2025 and June 30, 2026**
- ✓ **Projects with a combination of arts activities are okay**
- ✓ **New or existing projects seeking to expand in scope that support communities with limited access to arts programming**
- ✓ **Arts education related projects taking place outside of school or after school hours**
- ✓ **Municipal projects by departments or programs providing services other than arts programming**



Ineligible Projects

- Scholarly research
- Projects held, performed or exhibited outside of LA County
- Programs for private member communities or clubs
- Purchase of major equipment or other capital expenditures
- Travel outside of LA County
- Hospitality or food costs
- Funding for trusts, endowments or cash reserves
- Projects with religious or proselytizing purposes
- General funding for a university presenting series, museums or galleries



What's New This Year?

Tribal Government Eligibility

- Tribal governments located within LA County that are either federally recognized, as listed in the Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of Federal Acknowledgement, or California Native American Tribes, as listed by the State of California Native American Heritage Commission, are now eligible to apply.

Levine Act

- Applicants will be required to complete an additional online form (“Agent Contribution Declaration Form”) as a task in the SurveyMonkey Apply portal to comply with new state law SB1439, also known as the Levine Act.

Letters of Recommendation

- Maximum two (2) letters of recommendation or reviews written in the past **twelve months** that speak directly to your **arts programming** are **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED**.

Support Materials Checklist

Required of all applicants

- Agent Declaration Form information (**NEW – Levine Act compliance**)
- Artistic Documentation
- Federal Form 990 for most recently completed fiscal year ending on or after 12/31/2022

Required of applicants with budgets of \$2M or more

- Financial audit for most recently completed fiscal year ending on or after 12/31/2022

Required of Fiscally Sponsored Organizations

- Revenue and Expense report of most recently approved annual operating budget
- Model A fiscal sponsorship agreement

Required of Municipalities and Tribal Governments

- Approved operating budget for most recent fiscal year

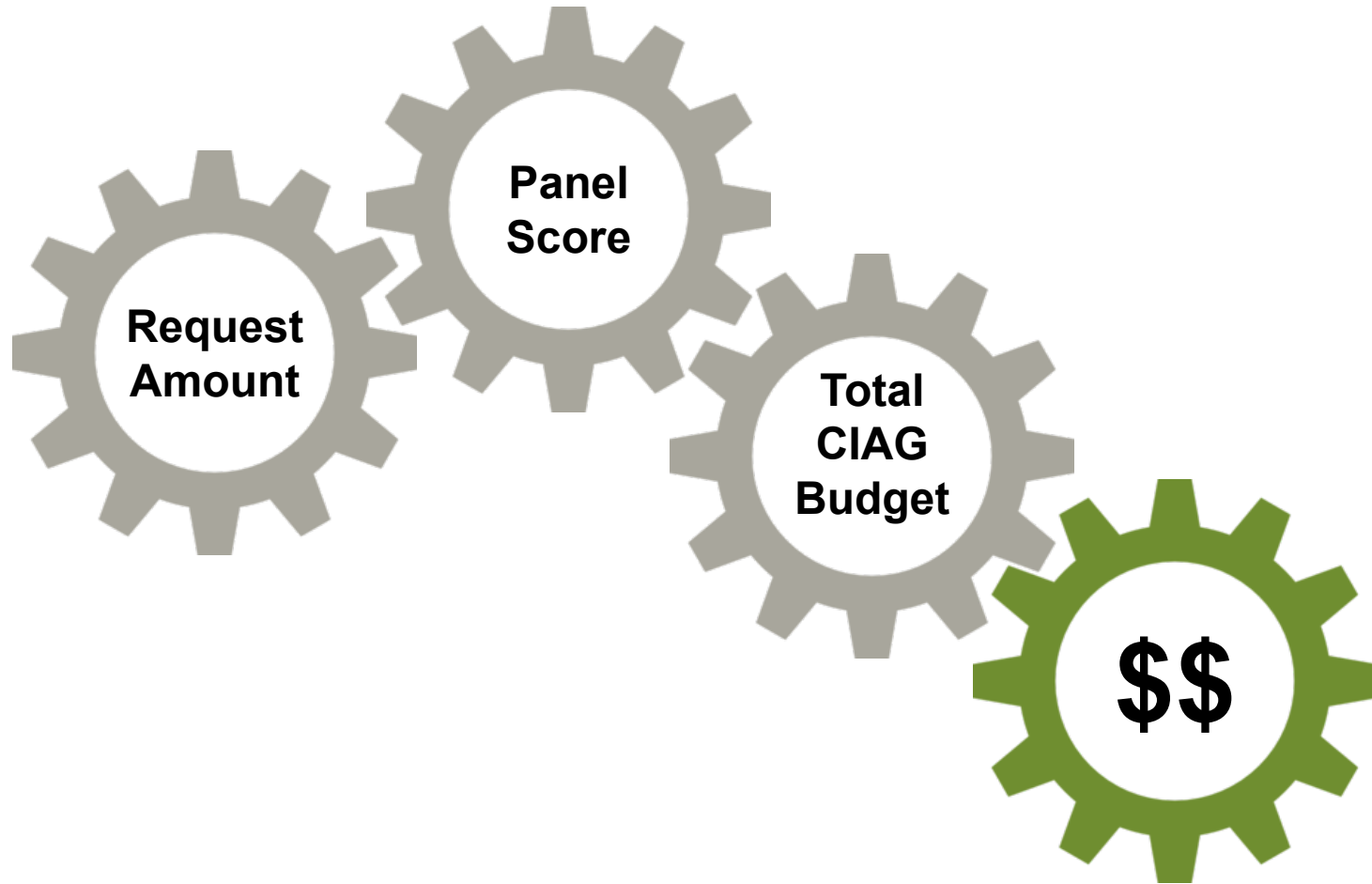
Optional and HIGHLY ENCOURAGED

- Maximum 2 letters of recommendation or reviews written in the past 12 months that speak directly to your arts programming
- Sample lesson plan/agenda outlining the activities planned and scheduled (for arts ed projects)

Optional

- Promotional Material (one piece max)

How Grant Awards are Calculated



How Grant Awards are Calculated

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Request:} \\ \$20,000 \end{array} \times \begin{array}{l} \text{Score:} \\ 94\% \end{array} = \begin{array}{l} \text{Fundable} \\ \text{request:} \\ \$18,800 \end{array}$$

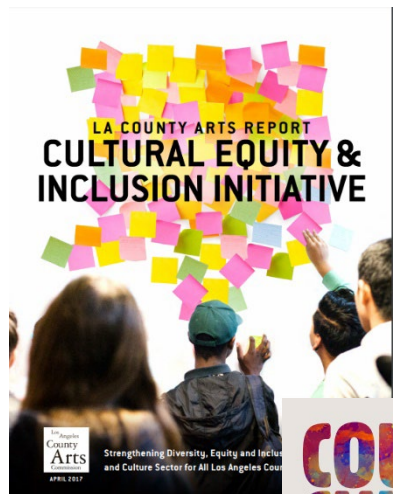
Requesting the maximum amount is recommended

Fundable Request is then reduced by total available funds for CIAG program:

\$750,000 / ~85 Grantees

In 24/25 cycle, grantees received 56% of their Fundable Request (\$10,528)

Cut off scores are determined annually by the Arts Commissioners.
Cut-off score was 75 for the 24/25 CIAG cycle.



Timeline:

2015 – Motion passed by BOS to construct a “countywide conversation”

2016 – 18-month public process including townhalls, focus groups, advisory committee and research.

2017 – Report released, recommendations approved by BOS.

2020-23 – A new Cultural Policy and Antiracism, Diversity and Inclusion Strategic Plan for the County.

Links to read more:

<https://www.lacountyarts.org/ceii-report>

<https://www.lacountyarts.org/about/cultural-equity-inclusion-initiative>

<https://www.lacountyarts.org/CEIICulturalPolicy>

<https://www.lacountyarts.org/article/statement-antiracist-la-county-policy-agenda>

<https://ceo.lacounty.gov/antiracism/>

“...improved educational outcomes, better physical and mental health care and outcomes, increased housing and housing stability, meaningful employment opportunities, and an equitable and fair criminal justice system.”

CIAG Review Criteria

CIAG REVIEW CRITERIA	Maximum Point Value
<p>CRITERION 1: Artistic Merit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -engages qualified and diverse arts or cultural professionals -provides arts experiences that expose participants to new perspectives -provides opportunities for engagement in the creative process -demonstrates cross-sector understanding -supporting the arts and advancing community priorities 	35
<p>CRITERION 2: Organizational Readiness/ Managerial Excellence/Fiscal Responsibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -engaged, diverse and qualified board, staff, contractors and/or volunteers -accumulated deficit less than 20% of total operational expenses over two or more years -steps in place to integrate and reflect the values of cultural equity and inclusion: internally and externally -address all application questions and provide complete information 	20
<p>CRITERION 3: Quality of Project Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -outline all aspects of the project with significant detail -include a clear, detailed project timeline -realistic project budget -detailed income and revenue anticipated/confirmed sources 	15
<p>CRITERION 4: Quality of Project Evaluation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -highlights the goals and objectives -clear, appropriate assessment plan to measure project impact and success 	5
<p>CRITERION 5: Knowledge of Target Constituents and Needs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -detailed description of the applicant organization's community, including demographics -responsive to the needs of the community served -demonstrates understanding of communities where arts and culture are not accessible -integration of cultural equity and inclusion into outreach and engagement efforts 	25
<p>TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS</p>	100

Examples of CIAG Projects



Little Tokyo Service Center Community Development Corporation utilizes the arts as a strategy for community building and engagement. CIAG supported the +LAB Artists Residency program developed to build partnerships between artists and community members to address issues of self-determination and anti-gentrification.

Artist Susu Attar leading a community workshop

Vista Del Mar Child and Family Services engages youth in their Residential Facilities through an afterschool Therapeutic Music Program as a compliment to other services being provided in Intensive Treatment.

Artist Josh Patterson working with youth in the music group session



Levine Act Compliance

As of 2024, the County of Los Angeles will require all applicants to grant programs to complete an Agent Contribution Declaration Form to comply with the Levine Act (SB1439)

What this means for your CIAG Application

- Connect with your staff and board members to collect information about financial contributions made to any LA County Officials BEFORE beginning the application
- Prepare the information so that you have it to complete at the time of application
- Fill out the form to the best of your ability providing information requested

Levine Act Compliance

RESOURCES FOR GETTING STARTED:

- Attend one of our Levine Compliance workshops or office hours
- Watch the recording of informational workshops
- Contact an attorney or the Fair Political Practices Commission for further guidance at 1-866-ASK-FPPC (1-866-275-3772) or advice@fppc.ca.gov

UPCOMING LEVINE ACT COMPLIANCE INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOPS:

- **Thursday, September 5** [this session will be recorded]
- **Tuesday, September 24**

IMPORTANT NOTE:

- This requirement will not affect applicant scores or funding.
- Panelists will not have access to the form you submit, it will be hidden during panel review.

Who are CIAG Panelists?

Community members who are familiar with LA County arts and social services sectors.

Artists, educators and social service providers.

Arts and nonprofit professionals with knowledge and professional qualifications in the arts and social services/cross-sector work.

A staff member of an org submitting a CIAG application this cycle cannot serve on a CIAG grant panel, but CAN serve on an OGP grant panel.

To nominate a panelist, visit our website:

<https://www.lacountyarts.org/funding/panelists/panelists>

Before We Jump In... Any Questions?



<https://www.apply-lacdac.smapply.io>

Opportunities for Organizations

Opportunities for School Districts

Log In

Register



Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture

Welcome to the LA County Department of Arts and Culture's online application system!

This system is used for submitting grant applications and solicitations (Artist Open Calls, Requests for Proposals, and Requests for Service Qualifications).

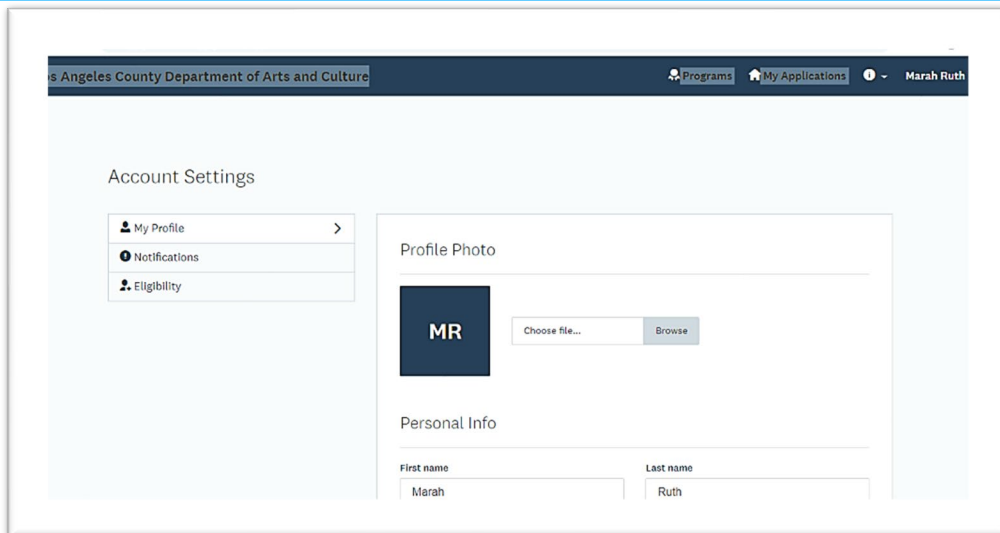
Please log in to see all current opportunities.

New user?

If you're new to our application system, please register using the green Register button at the top right corner of the page to get started. Your registration will confirm your eligibility and display the appropriate application(s) to you.

Please explore the program pages at the top for contact information and information about specific opportunities.

Registration and Account Profile



Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture

Programs My Applications Marah Ruth

Account Settings

- My Profile
- Notifications
- Eligibility

Profile Photo

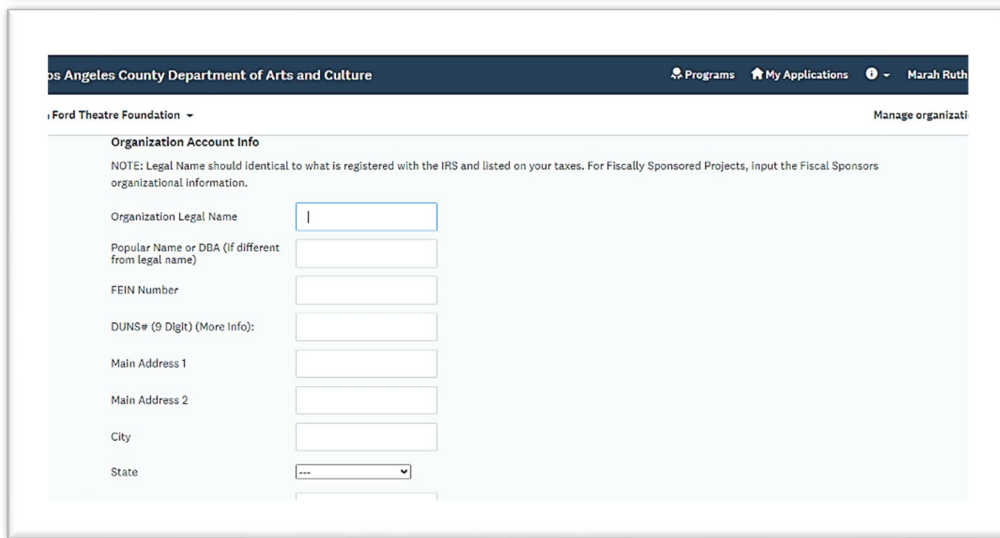
MR

Choose file... Browse

Personal Info

First name Last name

Marah Ruth



Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture

Programs My Applications Marah Ruth

Ford Theatre Foundation Manage organization

Organization Account Info

NOTE: Legal Name should be identical to what is registered with the IRS and listed on your taxes. For Fiscally Sponsored Projects, input the Fiscal Sponsors organizational information.

Organization Legal Name

Popular Name or DBA (if different from legal name)

FEIN Number

DUNS# (9 Digit) (More Info):

Main Address 1

Main Address 2

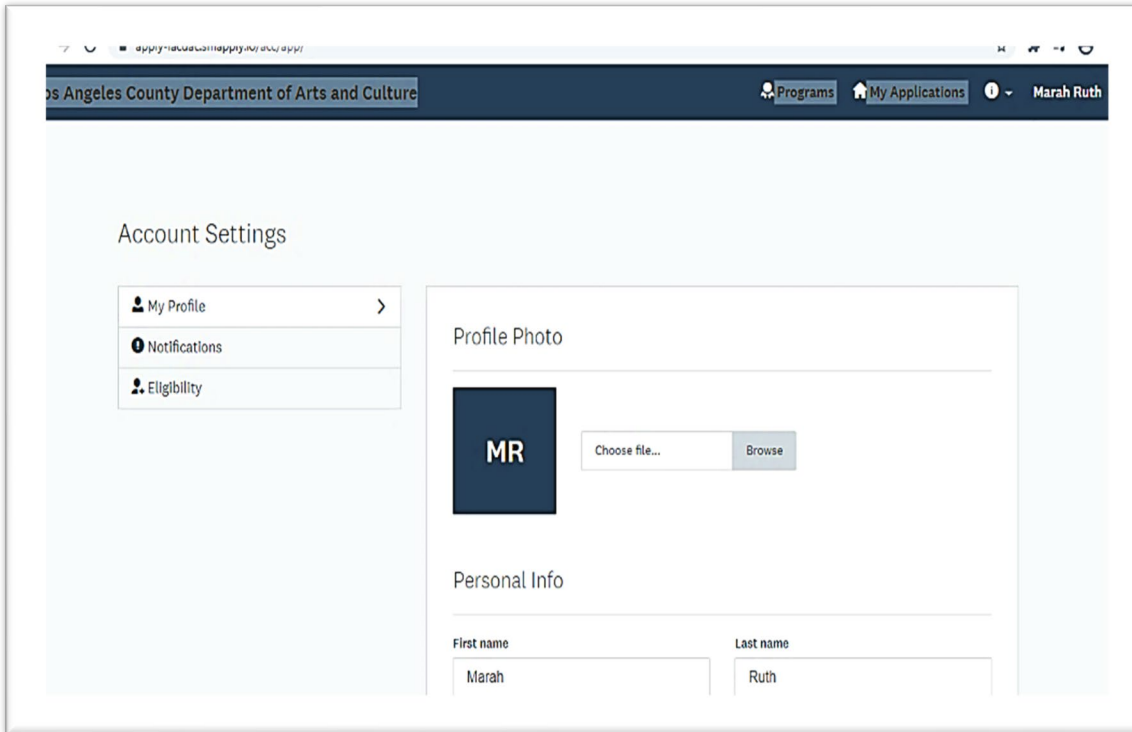
City

State

TIPS:

- Create a user profile for your organization – not an individual
- Copy + Paste from a Word document to avoid losing work
- **Recommend submitting at least 5 days prior to deadline**
- Make sure to save your username and password, we recommend sharing within organization
- Grants staff can help you with any issues with online system: ciag@arts.lacounty.gov

Correcting the Time Zone



TIPS:

- Please make sure to update your time zone so that the deadline for submitting your application is synced correctly.
- Under Account Settings, go to Preferences and select the option from the list that ends in “Los Angeles”

Beginning an Online Grant Application

All grants you may be eligible for will appear after completing the *eligibility profile* and *user setup*

All Applications ▾

2025-26 Community Impact Arts Grant (CIAG)
CIAG25-26-0000000011

Deadline: Oct 1 2024 11:59 PM (PDT)

0 of 12 required tasks complete

START

Last edited: Aug 23 2024 01:35 PM (PDT)

Return to the Grant Application

To return to the grant application later:

- Log in and find the application in your list of applications,
- Then click the **“CONTINUE”** button in green

All Applications ▾

Organizational Grant Program (OGP)
OGP2022-0000000606

Deadline: Oct 5 2022 11:59 PM (PDT)

STATUS: Application Round

2 of 15 tasks complete

CONTINUE

Last edited: Aug 23 2022 03:10 PM (PDT)

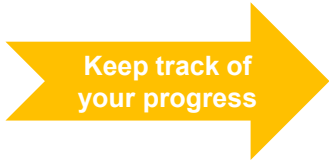
2022 LA County Arts Internship Program
AIP2022-0000000003

SUBMITTED

VIEW

Last edited: Aug 31 2021 01:23 PM (PDT)

Application – Tasks / Forms



0 of 8 required tasks complete

Last edited: Sep 2 2020 03:43 PM (PDT)

REVIEW **SUBMIT**

Deadline: Oct 7 2020 11:59 PM (PDT)

Social Service Organization

LG Laura Test Account Guer...
 lguerrero-nieto+123@art...
 View & edit

Add Member or Team

Community Impact Arts Grant (C... [🔗](#) 👁 Preview ...

CIAG21-22-0000000075

Social Service Organization

APPLICATION ACTIVITY

- Your tasks
- 🕒 📄 2021-22 Community Impact Arts Grant Main Page ➤
 - 🕒 📄 2021-22 CIAG Project Request ➤
 - 🕒 📄 2021-22 CIAG Narrative Part 1 - Organizational Information ➤
 - 🕒 📄 2021-22 CIAG Project Budget ➤
 - 🕒 📄 2021-22 CIAG Narrative Part 2 - Proposed Arts and Culture Project ➤
 - 🕒 📄 2021-22 CIAG Arts and Culture Partner(s) Information - Optional (optional) ➤
 - 🕒 📄 2021-22 CIAG Project Primary Staff & Artists Profiles ➤
 - 🕒 📄 2021-22 CIAG - Board of Directors ➤
 - 🕒 📄 2021-22 CIAG Finalizing and Submitting your Application ➤

Project Budget - Expenses

← Back to application

Community Impact Arts Grant (CIAG)
CIAG21-22-0000000075
ID: CIAG21-22-0000000075

- 2021-22 Community Impact Arts Grant Main Page
- 2021-22 CIAG Project Request
- 2021-22 CIAG Narrative Part 1 - Organizational Information
- 2021-22 CIAG Project Budget
- 2021-22 CIAG Narrative Part 2 - Proposed Arts and Culture Project
- 2021-22 CIAG Arts and

0 of 8 required tasks complete

Last edited: Sep 2 2020 03:53 PM (PDT)

REVIEW SUBMIT

Deadline: Oct 7 2020 11:59 PM (PDT)

2021-22 CIAG Project Budget

PROJECT BUDGET

Complete the table with the projected budget for proposed arts project during the grant period: July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022.

Enter projected budget for proposed arts project during the grant period. Only include income and expenses that are specific to the arts project; do not enter your organization's total annual budget. Indicate how your organization will match grant funds in the CASH MATCH column. We do not require a match across categories/line items.

For example, the full CIAG fund request could be placed in the Artistic Personnel and Fringe Benefits line items, while the Cash Match could be reflected in Production/Exhibition Costs. [Criteria 2, 3]

IMPORTANT NOTE: CIAG funds cannot be used for catering and hospitality, lodging, meals or travel outside of LA County. These types of expenses, however, can be included as part of the matching funds. Please see [2021-22 CIAG Guidelines](#) for a full list of unqualified expenses.

FORMATTING NOTE: Please enter plain non-formatted numbers into the table below. This form will not accept dollar signs (\$), commas (,) or cents (i.e. "0.50"). Please round figures to the nearest dollar.

CIAG Project Budget Expense Detail

	CIAG Fund Request	CIAG Required Match
Request/Match Amount	20000	20000

Personnel/Salary Expenses

	GRANT EXPENSES	MATCH EXPENSES
Artistic	\$	\$
	\$	\$

Meets or Exceed Explanations	error	error
------------------------------	-------	-------

Project Budget - Income

CIAG Project Budget Income Detail

Identify income sources of Matching Funds

LACDAC Grant Request Amount: 20000

Government (Federal, State, City) \$

Foundation Contributions \$

Corporate Contributions \$

Trustee/Board Contributions \$

Other Individual Contributions \$

Earned Income \$

Other** \$

Grand Total Project Income

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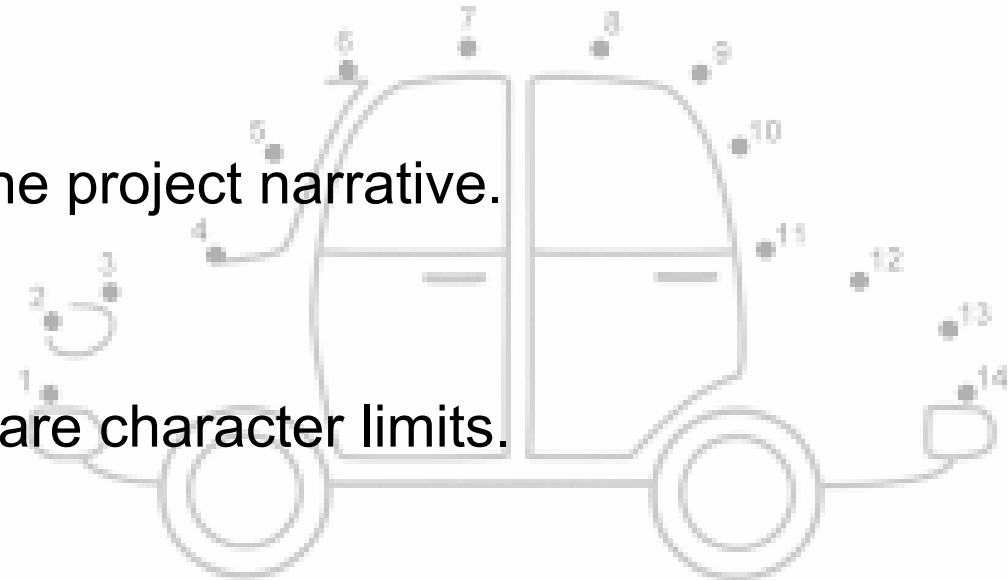
Meets or Exceed Requirements

Budget Income Explanations

Provide a list of cash match sources specific to the project by entering both anticipated and confirmed sources of funding with the amount of each contribution. The total match amount must at least equal (1:1) the CIAG request. **Other: please provide a detailed list of "other" income. Also specify if there are multiple sources of income in the Government (City, County, State, Federal), Foundation or Corporate categories. You may also use this space to further explain the

Application Tips – Narrative Questions

- Copy + Paste from a Word document.
- START EARLY!
- **TELL THE STORY OF YOUR ORGANIZATION.**
- Detail in specific terms the goals of the project AND why they are important for the organization **LONG TERM.**
- Avoid hyperbole.
- Don't use marketing info for the project narrative.
- Connect the dots.
- Be **clear and concise**, there are character limits.



How do you describe your community/audience?

- Geography
- Demographics
- Economic Characteristics
- Cultural Characteristics
- Other
- Be SPECIFIC.
- Help the panelists get to know your organization!




Who do you serve and why?

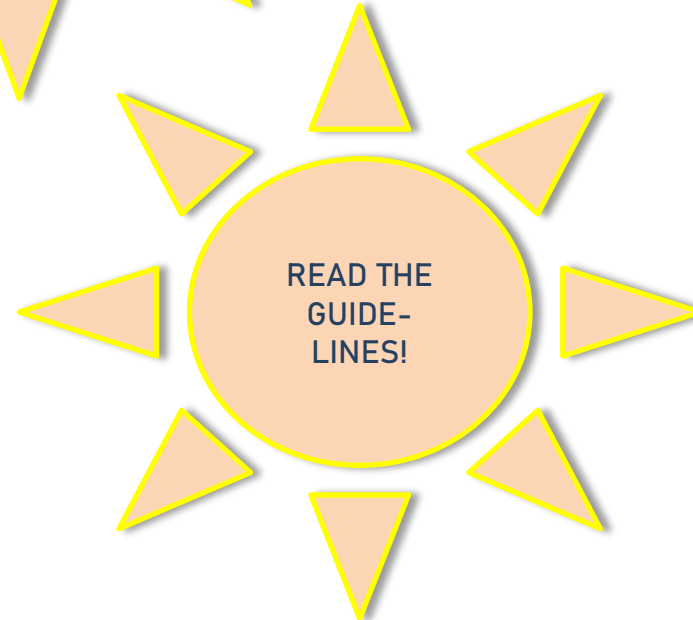
How do you understand their needs?

How are your arts programs developed to meet those needs?

How to Apply – PRO TIPS!

A stylized sun icon with a large orange circle in the center and several smaller orange triangles radiating outwards, all with yellow outlines. The text 'KEEP NOTES & PASSWORDS ACCESSIBLE' is centered within the large circle.

KEEP NOTES
&
PASSWORDS
ACCESSIBLE

A stylized sun icon with a large orange circle in the center and several smaller orange triangles radiating outwards, all with yellow outlines. The text 'READ THE GUIDELINES!' is centered within the large circle.

READ THE
GUIDE-
LINES!

- ❑ You are the subject matter expert.
- ❑ Use the application to make a lasting impression.
- ❑ Assume panelists do not know your organization or the importance of the work you do.
- ❑ Download program guidelines, sample application and instructions:
<https://www.lacountyarts.org/funding/community-impact-arts-grant-program/grantseekers/grantseekers-apply>

CIAG Timeline

CIAG
Application
Deadline

**OCT 1,
2024
11:59PM
PST**

**FEBRUARY
2025**

**~6 Panel
meetings,
roughly 30
panelists**

**JULY
2025**

**CIAG
Applicants
notified**

NO EXTENSIONS

Questions

Contact Department of Arts and Culture grants staff:

- CIAG@arts.lacounty.gov (email preferred)
- 213-202-5858

Download program guidelines, sample application and instructions at:

<https://www.lacountyarts.org/funding/community-impact-arts-grant-program/grantseekers/grantseekers-apply>

Online application:

<https://www.apply-lacdac.smapply.io>

Presenter:

Marah Morris, Assistant Division Director, Grants & Professional Development