

Small Grants Guidelines for Tuscaloosa County Individual Artists

The Arts and Humanities Council of Tuscaloosa County announces its annual Small Grants Program, awarding projects by Tuscaloosa County artists and non-profit organizations. Since the advent of the program in 1986, local artists and organizations have received more than \$140,000. **As of July 2023, the 1:1 matching requirement does not apply to those applying for the Individual Artist Grant.** The grants are awarded to special projects of high artistic quality which cannot be self-supporting.

Professional artists may apply for small grants for pilot or short-term projects or opportunities such as seminars, workshops, conferences, or apprenticeships with master artists.

The maximum grant available to individual artists is \$750.

Program Guidelines

Purpose

Small grants primarily provide limited support to small or pilot arts activities or to special projects of high artistic quality which cannot be self-supporting but meet one or more of the Council's goals. **Grants are for Tuscaloosa County artists only.**

For professional artists, support for pilot or short-term projects or opportunities. May include but is not limited to such possibilities as special projects, travel, registration fees, educational experiences (seminars, workshops, conferences, apprenticeships with master artists) or other costs directly connected with the project.

Applications in support of the following are discouraged:

1. Deficit financial and debt retirement
2. Fraternal organizations, societies, or orders
3. Political organizations or political campaigns
4. Lobbying legislators or influencing elections
5. Fundraising events
6. Surveys

7. Food or drinks
8. Undergraduate student projects from colleges and universities

Funding

Priority will be given to projects or artists that have not been previously funded by the Council and to individuals that are not ASCA grant recipients. For artists, grants will not exceed \$750 and the minimum is \$100.

As of 2023 Individual Artists are no longer required to meet the 1:1 matching funds portion of the grant program.

Eligibility

An individual must be a professional artist who resides in Tuscaloosa County and has exhibited prior artistic excellence in the community. The artist does not have to be an affiliate or member of the local arts council to be eligible for funding.

Project Dates

The period required to plan, implement and complete the proposed project or activity must fall from October 1-May 15. If October 1 falls on a weekend, the date will shift to Monday or the following business day.

Grant Payment

In general, half of the granted funds will be paid to the grantee in advance, if requested, and the balance paid after the project has been completed and the final evaluation report has been received and approved.

Final Reports

Within 30 days of the conclusion of the project, and/or before May 15, grantees are required to submit a final evaluation report with financial and other documentation.

Application Procedure

Grants will be awarded once in the Fall. Those seeking a grant must submit a completed application form and requested support materials on or before October 1. Incomplete applications will be disqualified. All applicants will be notified of the disposition of their requests by October 31.

Activity Narrative (Section C, Organizations)

1. Address the specific project or need.
2. Significance of the project to the community.
3. Goals and objectives of the project.
4. The extent to which educational benefits will be generated.
5. The evidence of broad-based community support, planning, participation and collaboration.
6. The potential for long-term impact within a school, school system, a community, and/or the state in general.
7. The extent to which professional artists are utilized and benefit.
8. Evidence of an appropriate venue for the activity.