

Courtney Granger Memorial Award

2025-26 Guidelines

Awards Up to \$1,000

Funding Cycle – May 1, 2025 to April 30, 2026

This program is dedicated in memory of Courtney Granger to help preserve South Louisiana’s traditional music and culture. This award is financially supported by Granger’s family and friends, individual donors and the Acadiana Center for the Arts (AcA). Courtney believed that our culture will only survive a generation at a time and always said, “why should I charge anyone for lessons when my lessons were given free to me”.



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Courtney Granger Memorial Award (CGMA) provides young traditional musicians in Acadiana an opportunity to apply for financial assistance to attend local and national camps for traditional music, provide mentors for private and small group music lessons, and instruments or instrument repairs to aspiring traditional musicians — all opportunities that were so very important to Courtney. In addition, this program also aims to:

- Increase opportunities for participation in the arts, especially in a traditional South Louisiana music discipline for short-term arts educational opportunities, and arts administration for local (Acadiana) high school, college students and aspiring traditional musicians, especially those with limited resources.
- Assist in the artistic growth of the youth in Acadiana through professional development arts opportunities, beyond those available in their present school based programs particular in music
- Contribute to building more diverse, equitable, inclusive and accessible participants and audiences for arts activities related especially to music in Acadiana
- Introduce standard grant-writing practices to student/artists, while providing them experiences and support with customary arts grants administration

AcA and the Granger Family recognizes the value of diverse representation in arts and culture and strongly encourages women, people of color, LGBTQIA+ individuals, people with disabilities, members of ethnic minorities, foreign-born residents, and veterans to apply for all relevant opportunities.

IMPORTANT DATES

Funding Cycle: May 1, 2025 to April 30, 2026

Submissions open: February 24, 2025

Application deadline: March 21, 2025 submitted via the online form by 4:30pm

Notification date: Week of April 28, 2025

AWARD

Up to \$1,000

Things to consider, if funded:

- Funds will be disbursed after submission of agreement and payment request form
- A Final Report, along with applicable receipts/documentation of expenses is due fifteen (15) days after the completion of the project, but no later than May 15, 2026
- Credit must be given to the AcA on all printed materials, etc.

ELIGIBILITY

To be considered for this program, the applicant must:

- Be a US citizen or permanent resident and a resident of Acadiana's 8-parish region (Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary, or Vermilion), and remain a resident for the duration of the grant period.
- Have the goal of furthering their development as a traditional South Louisiana artist
- Be enrolled in a public or private high school, community college or university and is a practicing artist, defined as one who is dedicated to producing artwork on a regular basis.
- Have a parent or guardian's signed letter of support giving a student/artist under the age of 18 permission to participate in this program.

INELIGIBILITY

The applicant will be deemed ineligible if:

- The applicant is applying for the Jean Breaux Award in the same cycle.
- The applicant is a current board member, honorary committee member, major funder, current panelist/committee member, AcA staff member or immediate family member of such a person
- The applicant is applying on behalf of another person or organization
- People who have recently received an award from this program. Returning applicants must wait two (2) full cycles before reapplying.
- This is not a scholarship program to pay for high school or college classes/courses, tuition or school supplies/books.

SUGGESTED MUSIC CAMPS

Listed below are some camps that Courtney was fond of attending and are examples of the types of opportunities applicants can consider. This is a brief list and the CGMA Committee welcomes applicants to explore other opportunities.

- Augusta Heritage Center
- Dewey Balfa Cajun and Creole Heritage Week
- The Ashokan Center
- Fiddle Tunes

SUGGESTED MASTER MUSICIANS/MENTORS

The CGMA Committee has compiled a list of potential mentors and teachers for applicants if they are interested in opportunities in private tutoring or small group lessons. Applicants are not limited to select from this list.

Megan Brown Constantin	megan.constantin@louisiana.edu
Blake Miller	blakemiller10ta@gmail.com
Maegan Bernard Rankin	mlberard84@gmail.com
Wayne Singleton	josephsingleton29@gmail.com
Jason Harrington	jasonharringtonmusic@gmail.com
Dave Trainer	davetrainerman@gmail.com
Brazos Huval	bezzohvl@gmail.com
Chad Huval	cchuval@yahoo.com
Steve Riley	jsriley2@hotmail.com
Christine Balfa	christinebalfa@mac.com
Corey Ledet	corey.ledet@gmail.com
Wilson Savoy	wilsonsavoy@gmail.com
Kelli Jones	Kcjones87@gmail.com
Chas Justus	smeckledtrout@yahoo.com
Anya Burgess	anya@solaviolins.com
Chris Segura	chrismesg@gmail.com

APPLICATION PROCESS

All applications must be completed and submitted via the online form found on [this webpage](#). Hand delivered, mailed or emailed applications are ineligible and will not be accepted.

REVIEW PROCESS

Your application will be reviewed by the Courtney Granger Memorial Award Committee, who will make funding recommendations to the AcA Board of Directors for final approval.

Applications will be assessed on:

- Eligibility criteria
- A well thought out and written application
- Artistic merit
- Appropriate budget

Note: This is a competitive program. An application may or may not be funded, depending on the number of applicants, the amount of award money available and the strength of the proposals presented. The acceptance of an application does not intend to imply that it will be automatically funded. Applicants will be notified prior to the beginning of the funding cycle about the results of their applications.

PROPOSAL WRITING TIPS

- Thoroughly read the guidelines
- Write specifically, in simple, clear language
- Assume the reader of your application knows nothing about your project except what is presented in the application
- Present concrete plans, specific goals, and evidence of adequate research and planning
- The budget, narrative, and provider of services should all relate and be consistent
- Be sure to proofread. Have another person read your draft. Does it make sense to them?

For assistance please contact Anna Kojevnikov, Community Engagement Director, and/or Audrey de Mahy, Community Engagement Coordinator at Community@AcadianaCenterfortheArts.org or call 337-233-7060.