

Jean Breaux Award 2026-27 GUIDELINES



Awards Up to \$1,000

Funding Cycle – May 1, 2026 to April 30,
2027

The Jean Breaux Award (JBA) program is administered by the Community Engagement Department of the Acadiana Center for the Arts (AcA) and is financially supported by Jean Breaux family and friends, the AcA, individual donors and AcA Board fundraising efforts.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- Increase participation in the arts by providing support for short-term arts educational opportunities or arts administration, which encourage the creation of art by local (Acadiana) high school and college students proposing arts productions/activities, which involve and benefit high school and/or college students with their artistic pursuits.
- Assist in the artistic growth of the youth in Acadiana through professional development arts opportunities, beyond those available in their present school based programs through such recognized arts disciplines as dance, design, folklife, literature, media arts, music, theater, visual arts and crafts.
- Contribute to building more diverse audiences for arts activities, in Acadiana art communities and especially providing opportunities to those with limited resources.
- Introduce standard grant-writing practices to students with artistic goals, while providing them experiences and support with customary arts grants administration.

IMPORTANT DATES

Funding Cycle: May 1, 2026 to April 30, 2027

Submissions open: February 23, 2026

Application deadline: March 20, 2026 submitted via the online form by 5:00pm

Notification date: Week of April 27, 2026

IF FUNDED

Mandatory Compliance Meeting: May 6, 2026 at 4:30 PM online via Zoom

AWARD

Up to \$1,0000

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, 2027
- Credit must be given to the AcA on all printed materials, etc.
- Awardees may be asked to make a brief presentation to the AcA Board of Directors about the activity/project/performance/workshop, etc., at the conclusion of the cycle.

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
- 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. Preference will be given to students who have an overall grade point average of "B" or higher on their high school or college transcripts.
- Have a signed letter from a parent or guardian giving the student/artist permission to participate in this program (if applicant is under 18 years of age)

INELIGIBILITY

The applicant will be deemed ineligible if:

- The applicant is applying for the Courtney Granger Memorial Award in the same cycle.
- The applicant is a current board member, honorary committee member, major funder, current panelist, AcA staff member or immediate family member of such a person
- Applying on behalf of any organization, collective, company, band, group, and/or ensemble, or part of a collaborative team
- Students who have already received an award from this program must wait two (2) full cycles before reapplying. For example, applicants who received funding in 2023 can apply again in 2026.
- This is not a scholarship program to pay for high school or college classes/courses, tuition or school supplies/books.

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 Jean Breaux Award Committee who will make funding recommendations to the AcA Board of Directors.

Applications will be assessed on:

- Eligibility criteria
- Exhibition of a well thought out and written application
- Artistic merit of the proposal
- 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
- Use facts and not necessarily opinions. 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? Does it address the evaluation criteria?

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.