



Louisiana Project Grants

FY27 Grant Guidelines

Program Overview

The Louisiana Division of the Arts (LDOA) is statutorily responsible for promoting the arts, supporting artistic creativity, and providing cultural enrichment for the people of Louisiana (La. R.S. 25:894).

Program Purpose

LDOA administers Louisiana Project Grants to support arts projects that benefit communities throughout the state. In partnership with nine Regional Arts Councils (RACs), the program provides funding for nonprofit organizations, schools, colleges and universities, and government agencies to support projects that address local needs by utilizing the arts.

Program Goals

Louisiana Project Grants support projects that contribute to one or more of the following goals:

- Showcase regional artistry, creativity, and identities
- Address a community need or issue utilizing the arts
- Increase public access to the arts for all

Program Administration

The Louisiana Division of the Arts allocates grant funds to nine Regional Arts Councils based on regional population using the most recent U.S. Census data. Each RAC administers the program within its region, including applicant assistance, panel review, and grant monitoring.

The Louisiana Project Grants program is administered by the following RACs:

- Region 1: Arts Council New Orleans
- Region 2: Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge
- Region 3: Bayou Regional Arts Council
- Region 4: Acadiana Center for the Arts
- Region 5: Arts & Humanities Council of Southwest Louisiana
- Region 6: Arts Council of Central Louisiana
- Region 7: Shreveport Regional Arts Council
- Region 8: Northeast Louisiana Arts Council
- Region 9: St. Tammany Parish Government Commission on Cultural Affairs

See Attachment A to find your parish and the Regional Arts Council that serves your area.

Each region establishes its own schedule for workshops, draft reviews, and panel meetings. Contact the Community Development Coordinator at your Regional Arts Council for additional information.

Grant Period and Key Dates

- **Grant Period:** October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2027
- **Application Deadline:** Friday, June 12, 2026, at 4:00pm, CT

Applicant Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Apply in the region where their organization is domiciled and incorporated. The official domicile is the address registered with the Louisiana Secretary of State.
- Be a Louisiana nonprofit organization registered with the Louisiana Secretary of State

OR

- Be a nonprofit arts organization domiciled in Louisiana with IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter dated at least one year prior to the application deadline

OR

- Be a local, parish, or state governmental agency

OR

- Be a public or private school or school board (each school is considered a separate entity)

OR

- Be a college or university, proposing a project intended for public participation rather than academic credit or curriculum (each department is considered a separate entity)

All nonprofit applicants must:

- Be in good standing with the [Louisiana Secretary of State](#) by the application deadline

All applicants must:

- Possess a valid [Unique Entity Identifier \(UEI\)](#)

Chapter Organizations / Federal Group Tax Exemption

Applicants applying with a chapter organization or federal group tax exemption must submit:

- The IRS nonprofit designation letter for the central organization
- IRS documentation confirming the chapter's inclusion under the central organization
- A letter of support from the central organization
- Be registered in the System for Award Management (SAM.gov)

Ineligible Applicants

The following entities are not eligible to apply:

- Organizations receiving line-item support from the Louisiana Legislature for the same arts programming
- Regional Arts Councils
- Individual Artists
- Current grant recipients not in compliance with grant requirements
- Non-profit organizations not in good standing with the Louisiana Secretary of State or

- Legislative Auditor
- Applicants without a valid Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)

Funding Information

Applicants may request grant funding within the minimum and maximum amounts set by each Regional Arts Council.

Region 1: Arts Council New Orleans — Min. \$2,500 / Max. \$5,000

Region 2: Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge — Min. \$2,500 / Max. \$7,500

Region 3: Bayou Regional Arts Council — Min. \$2,500 / Max. \$5,000

Region 4: Acadiana Center for the Arts — Min. \$2,500 / Max. \$7,500

Region 5: Arts & Humanities Council of Southwest Louisiana — Min. \$2,500 / Max. \$5,000

Region 6: Arts Council of Central Louisiana — Min. \$2,500 / Max. \$5,000

Region 7: Shreveport Regional Arts Council — Min. \$2,500 / Max. \$7,500

Region 8: Northeast Louisiana Arts Council — Min. \$2,500 / Max. \$5,000

Region 9: St. Tammany Parish Commission on Cultural Affairs — Min. \$2,500 / Max. \$5,000

Eligible Use of Funds

Projects must focus on one or more of the following artistic disciplines and demonstrate artistic merit, public engagement, and relevance to the community.

Culinary

Projects exploring the preparation, presentation, and cultural traditions of food. Projects may involve trained culinary professionals or community practitioners. Food provided solely as refreshments is not eligible.

Dance

Projects involving the creation, presentation, or teaching of dance forms such as ballet, modern, jazz, or traditional dance.

Design

Projects related to architecture, landscape architecture, urban design, historic preservation, interior design, industrial design, graphic design, or fashion design. Eligible activities may include exhibitions, research, publications, or public programs. Construction materials and landscaping supplies are not eligible.

Folklife

Projects that document, preserve, or present traditional cultural practices passed down informally within communities. These may include music, dance, storytelling, crafts, and foodways traditions. Participation by trained cultural specialists is encouraged.

Literature

Projects involving poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, or literary criticism. This category also supports nonprofit literary presses and magazines engaged in publishing and distribution.

Media

Projects involving film, video, radio, or related media that emphasize artistic experimentation, technique, and creative processes.

Music

Projects supporting the creation, performance, or presentation of music in any genre, including work by musicians, composers, ensembles, and orchestras.

Theater

Projects involving dramatic or musical theater, including professional or community theater, puppetry, mime, and storytelling.

Visual Arts and Crafts

Projects involving drawing, painting, printmaking, sculpture, photography, ceramics, fiber arts, glass, wood, metal, mixed media, and public art.

Ineligible Uses of Funds

Grant funds may **not** be used for the following:

Activities Outside the Grant Period or Scope

- Activities or expenses outside the grant period (October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2027)
- Activities taking place outside the applicant's funded region
- Projects not open to the public or intended primarily for organizational membership
- Re-granting funds to other organizations

Fundraising, Financial Obligations, or Legal Costs

- Fundraising activities or events
- Debt reduction, accumulated deficits, or contingency funds
- Fines, penalties, litigation costs, or loan interest
- Lobbying or advocacy activities

Capital or Equipment Expenses

- Capital improvements, building restoration, or construction
- Purchase of equipment or long-term equipment rentals
- Purchase of property, library holdings, or entire art collections

Academic or Institutional Expenses

- Academic coursework, tuition, or curriculum development
- Activities for academic credit or degree programs
- Normal school activities or salaries for school personnel
- Operational costs for colleges or universities

Awards, Scholarships, or Payments to Minors

- Scholarships, purchase awards, or cash prizes
- Fees paid to individuals under the age of 18

Non-Arts or Restricted Activities

- Non-arts programming or exhibitions
- Historical reenactments or exhibits focused primarily on historical interpretation
- Activities serving primarily religious or social purposes
- Licensing fees
- Travel

Food and beverages are not eligible except as part of **Culinary Arts projects**.

Application Review Process

Applications are reviewed by a community panel selected by the Regional Arts Council using the evaluation criteria below. Panelists evaluate the application narrative, and all submitted materials.

Applicants will receive the date of their panel discussion, to be held either in-person or virtually, and may listen to the review of their application. Panel scores and comments may be requested following the review process.

Evaluation Criteria

1. Artistic Merit (35 points)
2. Need and Impact (35 points)
3. Planning and Design (20 points)
4. Administration and Budget (10 points)

Disbursement

Louisiana Project Grants are disbursed as follows:

- **75%** upon execution of the grant agreement and submission of required documentation
- **25%** upon approval of the final report with documented proof of eligible expenses incurred, totaling the full grant award

How to Apply

All applications must be submitted through the LDOA grant management system in [Submittable](#) by Friday, June 12, 2026 at 4:00pm CT. Applicants must create an account to access the application. A link to the system is available on the [LDOA website](#).

Regional Arts Councils offer grant workshops to assist applicants. Workshops cover eligibility requirements, application components, and tips for preparing a competitive proposal.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to work with the **Community Development Coordinator** in their region, who can provide guidance and review draft applications prior to submission. Contact your Regional Arts Council for draft review deadlines and workshop schedules.

Before You Begin Your Application

Before starting the application, consider the following:

- Review the program goals and evaluation criteria to determine if this grant aligns with your project.
- Identify the needs of your community and how your project will address them.

- Ensure that your project activities are accessible to your intended audience.
- Confirm participation with artists, partners, and collaborators in advance.
- Develop a realistic budget, timeline, and staffing plan.
- Plan how the project could be adjusted if partial funding is awarded.
- Consult with your Regional Arts Council for guidance during the application process.

Glossary of Terms

Admissions - revenue from the sale of admission, tickets, subscriptions, memberships, etc., for events attributable to the project. If an admission is charged for this project, applicants are encouraged to include price of admission in the budget section of the application.

Applicant - the organization registered as a Louisiana nonprofit corporation with the Secretary of State's office and/or the IRS under section 501(c), government agency, school or school board, college or university. The applicant assumes legal and financial responsibility for administering a grant-funded project.

Artistic Merit - the perceived quality, value, and significance of an art project, evaluated through creativity, technical execution, and original vision of those involved.

Artistry – creative skill or ability

Authorizing official - the person with authority to legally obligate an organization, usually the president of the board of directors or executive director.

Cash - funds from applicant's present or anticipated accumulated resources that will be used on the proposed project.

Community Arts Project – arts activities that are participatory and emphasize collaborations between artists and other members of the public

Community Development Coordinator (CDC) – the LPG administrator for the Regional Arts Council.

Contracted services revenue - revenue derived from fees earned through sales of services (for example, sale of workshops to other community organizations, contracts for specific services, performance or residency fees, tuition, etc.).

Corporate support - cash support from businesses, corporations or corporate foundations allocated to this project or programming.

Current fiscal year (FY27 or 2026-2027) - the organization's present, active fiscal year at the time of application. Current year financial figures are estimated amounts based on active budgets.

Discipline - the primary focus of an arts activity as defined among the following nine fields: culinary, dance; design arts; folklife; literature; media; music; theater; visual arts and crafts. See also Multi-disciplinary and Inter-disciplinary.

Equipment – tangible personal property having a useful life of more than one year

Evaluation criteria - standards by which an application will be evaluated. Evaluation criteria are used to evaluate the total application, including the narrative, provider of services form, budget, and required attachments.

Evaluation methods – a tool to monitor the effects of the goals, purpose or intent of a project or programming.

Expenses - costs required to implement a project or programming.

Federal Employee Identification Number - an account number identifying an applicant for purposes of reporting wages and taxes to the Internal Revenue Service.

Final Report – the report due at the conclusion of the project or grant activity period in which the grantee provides documentation of activities, grant expenditures, and tracks performance indicators.

Foundation support - cash support derived from grants given for this project by private foundations.

Grant Contact - the person to contact for additional information about an application.

Grant period – The period of time when grant-funded activities must take place. The grant activity period for the FY27 LPG grant period is October 1, 2026 through September 30, 2027.

Income - present or anticipated funds and resources required to accomplish the proposed activities (for example, revenues which are earned income, support which is unearned income, such as cash contributions and grants).

In-kind – the monetary value of time, materials and other tangible goods or services contributed free of charge by businesses and individuals.

Innovation – a new idea or method. The practice of developing and introducing new things.

LDOA – Louisiana Division of the Arts

Marketing costs - publicity or promotion costs specifically for the project. Includes costs of newspaper, radio and television advertising; printing and mailing of brochures, flyers and posters; publicity or advertising.

Performance Indicator – numbers and statistics reported to the Louisiana State Legislature and Division of Administration to evaluate the effective use of State of Louisiana tax funds, and to the National

Project director - person with immediate responsibility for implementing project activities.

Provider of Services Form – The form which seeks information on the 1) project director, and 2) artistic and other person(s) being hired or engaged to implement the grant, the services to be provided, the fee for those services and the qualifications of the individual/group. A separate form should be completed and attached for each individual or group involved in implementation or production of the Project Assistance grant activities.

Regional Arts Council (RAC) - a regional arts agency that has been designated by the Louisiana Division of the Arts to administer the DAF Grant Program for a multi-parish region of the state.

Submittable - online grants management platform used to apply for funding and submit a Final Report. A free account is needed to access the application and final report forms.

Supplies – supplies and materials include consumable supplies, raw material for the fabrication of project items.

Target Audience – the specific group of people or organizations the applicant aims to engage, support, or mobilize to advance its mission such as patrons, artists, educators, or community members.

Travel - costs directly related to travel specifically identified with a project (for example, fares, lodging, food, tolls, auto rental, mileage allowance for private vehicles, tips and per diem) Please note, this is not an allowable expense for grant funds, but should still be shown on the project budget as either a cash or in-kind expense.

UEI (Unique Entity Identifier) - 12-character unique number assigned to all entities (public and private companies, individuals, institutions, or organizations) who must register to do business with the federal government in SAM. The Louisiana Division of the Arts receives funding from the National Endowment for the Arts and is therefore requiring ALL grant applicants to have a Unique Identifier (SAM) in order to apply for a grant opportunity.

Underserved population - The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) defines underserved populations as those whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, ethnicity, economics, or disability. These communities include tribal, rural, and low-income populations, as well as people with disabilities, veterans, and institutionalized individuals.

Attachment A

<p>Region 1 Arts Council of New Orleans PO Box 58379 New Orleans, LA 70158 (504) 374-1147</p> <p>Joycelyn Reynolds, Executive Director joycelyn@artsneworleans.org</p> <p>Collins Cox, Community Development Coordinator collins@artsneworleans.org</p>	<p>Parishes: Jefferson Orleans Plaquemines</p>
<p>Region Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge 233 Saint Ferdinand Street Baton Rouge, LA 70802 (225) 344-8558</p> <p>Jonathan Grimes, President and CEO jgrimes@artsbr.org</p> <p>Luke St. John McKnight, Executive Vice President lmcknight@artsbr.org</p>	<p>Parishes: Ascension East Baton Rouge East Feliciana Iberville Livingston Pointe Coupee St. Helena Tangipahoa West Baton Rouge West Feliciana</p>
<p>Region 3 Bayou Regional Arts Council 7910 Park Ave. Houma, LA 70364</p> <p>(985) 209-4404</p> <p>Genie Ardoin, Executive Director director@bayouarts.org</p> <p>Susan Price, Community Development Coordinator cdc@bayouarts.org</p>	<p>Parishes: Assumption Lafourche St. Charles St. John St. James Terrebonne</p>
<p>Region 4 Acadiana Center for the Arts 101 West Vermilion Street Lafayette, LA 70501 (337) 233-7060</p>	<p>Parishes: Acadia Evangeline Iberia Lafayette St. Landry</p>

<p>Samuel Oliver, Executive Director sam@acadianacenterforthearts.org</p> <p>Anna Kojevnikov, Community Development Director anna@acadianacenterforthearts.org</p>	<p>St. Martin St. Mary Vermillion</p>
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<p>Region 5 Arts & Humanities Council of Southwest Louisiana P. O. Box 1437 Lake Charles, LA 70602 (337) 439-2787</p> <p>Lee Ann Stevnick, Executive Director Executivedirector@ahcswla.org</p> <p>Olivia Mayo, Community Development Coordinator cdc@ahcswla.org</p>	<p>Parishes: Allen Beauregard Calcasieu Cameron Jefferson Davis</p>
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<p>Region 6 Arts Council of Central Louisiana 1101 4th St., Ste. 201 Alexandria, LA 71301 (318) 443-4718</p> <p>Matt Henry, Executive Director matt@louisiana-arts.org</p> <p>Amber Tate, Community Development Coordinator Amber@louisiana-arts.org</p>	<p>Parishes: Avoyelles Catahoula Concordia Grant LaSalle Rapides Vernon Winn</p>
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<p>Region 7 Shreveport Regional Arts Council 801 Crockett St. Shreveport, LA 71101 (318) 673-6500</p> <p>Rebecca Bonnevier, Executive Director rebecca@shrevearts.org</p> <p>Natorshau Davis, Community Development Coordinator natorshau@shrevearts.org</p>	<p>Parishes: Bienville Bossier Caddo Claiborne DeSoto Natchitoches Red River Sabine Webster</p>
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<p>Region 8 Northeast Louisiana Arts Council</p>	<p>Parishes: Caldwell</p>
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<p>2305 North 7th Street West Monroe, LA 71291 (318) 396-9520</p> <p>Barry Stevens, President and CEO barry@nelaarts.org</p> <p>Abigail Handy, Community Development Coordinator abigail@nelaarts.org</p>	<p>East Carroll Franklin Jackson Lincoln Madison Morehouse Ouachita Richland Tensas Union West Carroll</p>
<p>Region 9 St. Tammany Parish Government Commission on Cultural Affairs P. O. Box 628 Covington, LA 70434 (985) 898-5243</p> <p>Jeanne Marino, Director jmmarino@stpgov.org</p> <p>Jessica Madden, Community Development Coordinator JMMadden@stpgov.org</p>	<p>Parishes: St. Bernard St. Tammany Washington</p>