Purpose

The Arts and Culture Grants are intended to provide operating funds to eligible organizations that contribute to the artistic vitality of the St. Petersburg community and its varied citizenry as part of the Mayor’s priority focus on arts and culture. The Arts and Culture Grants, along with supporting established organizations, will encourage the fostering of new or emerging art expressions and the preservation of diversity throughout the City of St. Petersburg.

Eligibility Requirements

Organizations applying to the City for funding shall:
A. Be registered with the Florida Secretary of State as a non-profit organization
B. Be a Tax Exempt 501(c)3 organization whose primary mission, as identified by a mission statement or articles of incorporation, is arts or culture programming, arts or culture support, or arts or culture services unless applying under F(iii) below.
C. Be in existence and providing services to the residents of the City for at least one year from the date of registration with the Secretary of State.
D. Provide more than 50% of its programming within the City of St. Petersburg and have over 50% of its attendance taking place within the City of St. Petersburg for the organization’s most recently completed fiscal OR calendar year.
E. Have no outstanding debts to the City of St Petersburg; unless prior payment arrangements are in place and are current.
F. The organization must:
   (i) present arts/cultural programming, performances, or exhibitions primarily for the benefit of St. Petersburg residents and its visitors;
   (ii) have a history, science, or children’s museum that provides on-going arts/cultural programming, performances, or exhibitions primarily for the benefit of St. Petersburg residents and its visitors; or
   (iii) be a non-profit organization that (1) has a facility specifically dedicated to the Arts and Culture Programming Unit and have at least one paid full-time permanent staff dedicated to that Arts and Culture Programming Unit and (2) presents arts/cultural programming primarily for the benefit of St. Petersburg residents and its visitors on an on-going, year-round basis for which the Arts and Culture Programming Unit has actual operations in excess of $100,000 for the most recently completed fiscal year at the time of the application.
**Second year option**

Organizations that were successfully funded in the prior fiscal year and whose grants scored a 90 or above are eligible for a second year option grant update without having to submit a complete application packet. This is optional and your score from the prior year will be used in the funding calculations for the current year.

You must submit to the Mayor’s Office of Cultural Affairs a letter stating that your application from the prior fiscal year is true and correct and that you wish for your score to be used for funding in FY18. You will be required to submit current year financials (the same documents that you would have to submit with the grant under Required Financial Statements) and a one page update on your organization along with a current Certificate of Insurance. This is due to the Office of Cultural Affairs under the same deadline requirements for the Technical Review. If this is incomplete you will be advised under the same guidelines as the Technical Review and have until full grant applications are due to submit a revised packet.

You will be ineligible for second year option if you do not qualify for a grant (i.e. owe the City of St. Petersburg money, your IRS determination has been revoked, etc.).

**Funding Policies**

Arts and Culture Grants will provide funding to assist underwriting general allowable operating expenses of art/cultural organizations during the specified fiscal year. Applications will be accepted annually.

**Grant Request Limits**

Operating budget thresholds are determined by actual (cash) operating revenues for the most recently completed fiscal year. Non-profit organizations that are not primarily arts/cultural organizations must base the grant request level on the actual operations expenses of the last completed fiscal year of the Arts and Culture Programming Unit within the larger parent organization.

**Funding Level**

**Level 3.** Organizations with budgets of $500,000 or more are eligible to receive up to $20,000

**Level 2.** Organizations with budgets of $150,000 to $499,999 are eligible to receive up to $14,000

**Level 1.** Organizations with budgets of 149,999 or less are eligible to receive up to $6,000 or a maximum of 10% of the most completed fiscal year’s operating budget.

The amount of each category award will be determined by the Arts Advisory Committee following the final budget allocation determined by City Council in September 2020. The Arts Advisory Committee’s award and funding recommendations are subject to City Council approval.
Allowable Costs

Grant funds may be expended for the purposes of activities that occur or are obligated within the grant period of October 1, 2020 – September 19, 2021, and they are solely for the purpose of the operating expense(s) and can readily be identified as such.

Examples include

- Salary support
- Marketing (promotion and publicity)
- Production costs
- Publications
- Artistic salaries and/or consultant fees including travel expenses
- Honoraria
- Equipment rental and expendable materials
- Non-expendable equipment up to $1,000

Non-Allowable Costs

Grant funds may not be used for the following:

- Expenses incurred or obligated prior to or after the grant period
- Lobbying or attempting to influence federal, state or local legislation
- Contributions or donations
- Bad debts, contingencies, fines, penalties, interest or other financial costs of litigation
- Private entertainment, food/beverages, plaques, awards, or scholarships
- Projects which are restricted to private or exclusive participation
- Benefits and projects planned primarily for fundraising purposes
- Projects to reduce existing deficits
- Re-granting
- Capital expenditures including acquisitions, building projects or renovations
- Non-expendable equipment over $1,000

Application Review Timeline and Process

April 14, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. • Grant Workshop

Due to the Pinellas County “safer at home” resolution and other safety measures in place due to the current COVID-19 situation, the Grant Workshop has been cancelled. Most organizations have completed this grant in the past and there have been no changes to the grant since last year. Instructions have been posted online and if you would like to schedule a one on one session via phone or an online meeting method please email Lynn.Goodwin@StPete.org and we will be happy to schedule time to meet virtually.

May 29, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. Technical Review Deadline

It is highly recommended that you submit application for technical review. Any application that does not meet requirements or has incomplete information at time of application deadline (June 10), will not be forwarded for consideration.

June 10, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. • Application Deadline

All grants (on a single thumb drive) must be submitted in person to the acting City Hall (175 Fifth Street is expected to re-open in June, however it is possible City Hall will still be operating out of 1300 First Ave N) or postmarked by this date and time.
June 12, 2020 – July 8, 2020 • Staff Review of Grant Applications
Staff reviews applications and submits to Arts Advisory Committee

August 5, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. • Arts and Culture Grant Panel Review of Applications / Scores • City Hall, Room 100
Applicant organizations are strongly encouraged to attend given that panelist scores may reflect panel questions and applicant answers given during the process.

October 15, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. • City Council Meeting
City Council approves Arts Advisory Committee Recommendations

October 19-23, 2020 • Contracts available for signatures
Contracts will be emailed to grant recipient organizations when ready

Note: Grant-funded activities cannot begin before October 1, 2020 or extend beyond September 17, 2021

Arts and Culture Grant Panel Review / Scoring

Eligible grant applications are distributed to the Arts and Culture Grant Panel acting as a subcommittee of the Advisory Committee. The Arts and Culture Grant Panel will review eligible applications, score and make final funding recommendations. The Panel will review and score applications of Level 1 organizations (Operating budgets below $150,000) first, as one group and in the order of which the application was received. Level 2 and 3 applications will then be reviewed as one group and in the order of which the application was received.

The Arts and Culture Grant Panel meeting on August 5th is open to the public. Applicants will be invited to answer questions posed by panelists before their score is given by the panelists. Therefore, applicant organizations are strongly encouraged to attend given that panelist scores may reflect panel questions and applicant answers given during the process.

Scoring and Allocation of Awards

The Arts and Culture Grant Panel will evaluate applications and recommend a score for each application. After panel review and discussion final scores will be averaged. Applications must achieve an average point score of 80.0 of a possible 100 points to be eligible for funding. We strongly encourage applicants to download and view the Scoring Rubric that panelists will be using. This may be downloaded at:
http://www.stpete.org/assistance/grants_and_contracts/internal_grants_program.php

The average score will then be converted into a three digit percentage and multiplied by the award category to calculate the potential grant award. In the case where there are not enough funds or additional funds after the potential awards have been calculated, the panel will decide how to calculate the reduction or increase of the potential awards.

Evaluation Criteria

This year the City of St. Petersburg grant application is nearly identical to the State of Florida’s Division of Cultural Affairs grant application. The city strongly encourages applicants to apply to
the State of Florida for additional funding. It is for this reason that the city made its application nearly identical to the state’s application.

**Completing the Application**

For the links to applications for all grant levels, please visit the Cultural Affairs Department website at:  

**Required Attachments**

IRS Letter of Tax Exemption

Certificate of Insurance – must be current at time of application submission naming the City of St. Petersburg as additional insured.

List of current board members with addresses, phone numbers and affiliations

**Financial Statements:**

Most recently filed 990 / 990-EZ / 990-N Year 2016

Statement of Position (Balance Sheet) – Most recently ended fiscal year 2017

Statement of Activities (Income Statement) – Most recently ended fiscal year 2016

*and if applicable*

Most Recent Audited Financial Statements

List of upcoming season – performances, exhibitions, etc. with dates and venues

List of past season – performances, exhibitions, etc. with dates and venues
Optional Support Materials

Support materials may be considered in the panel review and scoring so including them is highly recommended but is not required. We encourage all applicants to submit support materials.

Support materials may include, but are not limited to:

- a letter from the Executive Director;
- brochures, programs, catalogs, photographs or other printed materials (include those with accessibility symbols);
- materials crediting the City of St. Petersburg for recent grants;
- recent support letters or reviews;
- long range plan or status report;
- organizational chart;
- list of current board members;
- detail about in-kind; and
- video or audio work samples.

You may submit any combination of support materials. For example, you could submit:

- an organization chart;
- 2 video excerpts (less than 10 minutes each);
- 3 support letters;
- detail about in-kind;
- a long range plan;
- 2 reviews;
- a concert program; and
- an example of a study material.

Please submit only high quality materials that support your application and only as many as you need.

It is your responsibility to verify and receive permission for the use of any copyrighted materials. You are also responsible for considering accessibility of your materials.

File Formats and Size

Panelists are not required to own specific software and the Division makes no guarantee that panelists will be able to view your digital materials. To increase the chances of file compatibility, make sure files are in one of the following formats:

- .pdf, .txt (documents)
- .jpg, .gif, .pdf (images)
- .mp3 (audio excerpts)
- .mp4, .mov (video excerpts)

MAXIMUM FILE SIZE: 2 mg
Budget Definitions

**Applicant Cash ($)**
Funds from "Applicant's" present and/or anticipated resources.

For the Operating Budget purposes, this line-item represents withdrawal from savings. This line item is often used to "balance the budget" when expenses exceed other revenues. It shows the applicant's ability to "pay the bills" for all expense items. If there are excess revenues, reduce this line to zero or only the amount needed to balance the budget. Negative numbers cannot be used to balance the budget.

**Cash Reserves ($)**
For most organizations, this will be your savings account, other cash reserves or investments that are available to spend on general operations or programs. The "reserve" will usually increase when there are excess revenues for the year, and decrease if there was a deficit. This is more a year end accounting function than actual day to day activity.

**Government Support: Federal ($)**
Cash support derived from grants or appropriations given for this project (other than this grant request) by agencies of the federal government, or a proportionate share of such grants or appropriations allocated to this project.

**Government Support: Local/County ($)**
Cash support derived from grants or appropriations given for this project by agencies of the local or county government, or a proportionate share of such grants or appropriations allocated to this project.

**Government Support: State Regional ($)**
Cash support derived from grants or appropriations given for this project by agencies of the state government and/or multi-state consortiums of state agencies, or a proportionate share of such grants or appropriations allocated to this project.

**In-Kind Contribution ($)**
The documented fair market value of non-cash contributions provided by the grantee or third parties which consist of real property or the value of goods and services directly benefiting and specifically identifiable to the project.

**Matching Funds**
The portion of the project costs not borne by the City of St. Petersburg’s Office of Cultural Affairs.

**Outside Fees and Services: Programmatic ($)**
Payments to firms or persons for the programmatic services of individuals who are not normally considered employees of “Applicant,” but consultants or the employees of other organizations, whose services are specifically identified with the project or programming. Include artistic directors, directors, conductors, conservators, curators, dance masters, composers, choreographers, designers, video artists, filmmakers, painters, poets, authors,
sculptors, graphic artists, actors, dancers, singers, musicians, teachers, instructors, etc. serving in non-employee/non-staff capacities.

**Personnel: Administrative ($)**
Payments for salaries, wages, fees, and benefits specifically identified with the project or programming, for executive and supervisory administrative staff, program directors, educational administrators, managing directors, business managers, press and agents, fundraisers, clerical staff such as secretaries, typists, bookkeepers; and supportive personnel such as maintenance and security staff, ushers and other front-of-the-house and box office personnel.

**Personnel: Programmatic / Artistic ($)**
Payments for salaries, wages, fees, and benefits specifically identified with the project or programming for programmatic personnel including artistic directors, directors, conductors, conservators, curators, dance masters, composers, choreographers, designers, video artists, filmmakers, painters, poets, authors, sculptors, graphic artists, actors, dancers, singers, musicians, teachers, instructors, puppeteers, etc.

**Personnel: Technical/Production ($)**
Payments for employee salaries, wages, and benefits specifically identified with the project, for technical management and staff, such as technical directors; wardrobe, lighting and sound crew; stage managers, stagehands; video and film technicians, exhibit preparators and installers, etc.

**Private Support: Corporate ($)**
Cash support derived from contributions given for this project (other than this grant request) by business, corporations and corporate foundations or a proportionate share of such contributions allocated to this project.

**Private Support: Foundation ($)**
Cash support derived from grants given for this project or programming by private foundations, or a proportionate share of such grants allocated to this project or programming.

**Private Support: Other ($)**
Cash support derived from cash donations given for this project or a proportionate share of general donations allocated to this project. Do not include corporate, foundation, or government contributions and grants. Include gross proceeds from fund-raising events.

**Remaining Operating Expenses ($)**
All expenses not entered in other categories and specifically identified with the project. Include non-structured renovations, improvements, scripts and scores, lumber and nails, electricity, telephone and telegraph, storage, postage, photographic supplies, publication purchases, sets and props, equipment rental, insurance fees, trucking, shipping, and hauling expenses not entered under "Travel."
**Remaining Proposal Expenses ($)**

All expenses not entered in other categories that are specifically identified with the project or programming.

**Revenue: Admissions ($)**

Revenue derived from the sale of admissions, tickets, subscriptions, memberships, etc.

In the Proposal Budget the admissions must be for events attributable or prorated to the proposal.

**Revenue: Contracted Services ($)**

Revenue derived from fees earned through sale of services (other than this grant request). Include sale of workshops, etc., to other community organizations, government contracts for specific services, performance or residency fees, tuition, etc. Include foreign government support.

**Revenue: Other ($)**

Revenue derived from sources other than those listed above. Include catalog sales, advertising space in programs, gift shop income, concessions, parking, investment (endowment) income, etc. If this figure is unusual you may want to explain it in the comments.

**Space Rental or Rent ($)**

Payments for rental of office, rehearsal, theatre, hall, gallery, and other such spaces. Do not include rental of housing for guest artists or other persons traveling under the grant proposal (see definition for travel).

**Space Rental, Rent or Mortgage ($)**

Payments for rental of office, rehearsal, theatre, hall, gallery, and other such spaces. Do not include principal of mortgage, include interest only. Do not include rental of housing for guest artists or other persons (see definition for travel).

**Total Operating Income ($)**

Gross operating income for the organization’s last completed fiscal year. Governmental agencies may include all funds directly appropriated and administered by the applicant agency, as well as support services provided by the agency, that are directly attributed to the program. A detailed listing of these support services must be attached to the grant application operating budget and must be approved by and signed by agency budget officials. Do not include capital contributions or expenses in the operating budget.

**Travel ($)**

Include fares, hotel, and other lodging expenses, food, taxis, gratuities, per diem payments, toll charges, mileage, allowances on personal vehicles, car rental costs, etc.

For transportation not connected with travel of personnel and for trucking, shipping, or hauling expenses see "Remaining Operating or Proposal Expenses."