



2023 Grant Guidelines

Art courtesy of Marsha Rollinger

DEADLINES

Applications are reviewed on a quarterly basis. Applications **MUST** be submitted electronically by 4:30pm on the day of the deadline or they will not be considered in that quarter.

Q1 - October 13, 2022
Q2 - February 3, 2023
Q3 - April 21, 2023
Q4 - July 21, 2023

GET HELP

We are on hand to answer your questions and assist with your application. Call during regular business hours.

Arts@rentonwa.gov
425.430.7271

SUPPORT FOR THE ARTS IN RENTON

Funding for arts, cultural and heritage projects that serve residents and visitors in Renton, Washington

We encourage innovative projects by artists and communities that showcase cultural diversity, increase understanding, and inspire new forms of creative participation and opportunities for growth, particularly for under-served groups.

Historically, grants have been awarded in amounts between \$500 and \$10,000. Projects must take place during 2023 and should be completed by December 15, 2023.

Program Overview

Purpose

The City of Renton, through the Renton Municipal Art Commission, offers grants to individuals, organizations and community groups for arts and culture projects and events that serve the general public in Renton.

Public Funding = Public Benefit

Projects should provide public benefit. Examples of public benefit are:

- Free public performances, exhibitions, workshops, screenings, or readings.
- Scholarships to ongoing, fee-based arts educational or training programs.
- Services that expand access and inclusion to individuals with limited physical or English-speaking abilities.

Application Review Process

Commission reviews and approves awards for projects. Approvals are based on recommendations from the Arts Commission Grants Committee. Applications are reviewed on a competitive basis according to the overall purpose of the program and the criteria for eligible organizations. Incomplete applications submitted after the deadline may not be reviewed.

2023 Timeline (quarterly review)

Applications MUST be submitted by 4:30pm on the day of the deadline or they will not be considered in that quarter.

Aug 19	Online application available
Oct 13	Applications due
Oct 24	Grants Committee Review
Nov 14	Applicant interviews and Committee Recommendation to Commission
Dec 6	Arts Commission review of recommended applications
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Quarter 2	
Feb 3	Applications due
Feb 13	Grants Committee Review
Feb 27	Applicant interviews and Committee Recommendation to Commission
Mar 7	Arts Commission review of recommended applications
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Quarter 3	
Apr 21	Applications due
May 8	Grants Committee Review
May 22	Applicant interviews and Committee Recommendation to Commission
Jun 6	Arts Commission review of recommended applications
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Quarter 4	
Jul 21	Applications due
Aug 7	Grants Committee Review
Aug 28	Applicant interviews and Committee Recommendation to Commission
Sept 5	Arts Commission review of recommended applications

Grant Awards have been used to:

- Produce one-time performances, exhibits, special events or programs that bring arts or cultural experiences to Renton residents.
- Provide opportunities for independent artists to develop and present new work in all mediums.
- Improve arts and cultural opportunities for artists and audiences from diverse communities.
- Participatory and educational opportunities for youth, multicultural, seniors, and special populations.
- Increase access to arts and cultural events by providing discount tickets and/or free educational programs.

Funding Restrictions include:

The following types of projects are NOT eligible for funding:

- Projects that are not: located in Renton; primarily benefit Renton residents; or are not offered free of charge, or at reduced rates to the extent possible;
- Projects that are not open to the public;
- Projects that have already been completed;
- Projects that support or oppose a specific interest such as a particular business, political, or religious viewpoint or organization;
- Capital construction projects;
- Projects that use the Grant funds to provide cash awards to individuals;
- Projects which preclude reasonable access by the general public, such as in a location not open to the general public, or for which membership is required, or admission charges cannot be reduced or waived for access

Funding

Generally, the maximum award is \$10,000 and the minimum award is \$500. However, the Arts Commission may recommend greater or lesser amounts.

Timing of Projects

Projects must take place during 2023 and should be completed by December 16, 2023.

Payment

Payment for reimbursable expenses will be made at the end of the project. Exceptions may be made, depending on circumstances and City policy. The funding recipient will turn in invoice(s) and a final report to the Arts Commission for reimbursement. Invoices and final reports are due by December 19. Checks are normally mailed within 30 days of the invoice date and receipt of completed paperwork.

Eligibility

Who May Apply

- Individuals, groups of people (all ages), neighborhood or business organizations seeking funding for an art project or cultural event
- Independent Artists, Arts and Cultural organizations, including professional and community-based groups
- IRS not-for-profit status – 501 (c)(3) – is not required.
- A City of Renton business license may be required.

Application packet

The application is available at rentonwa.gov/rmac, and is due according to the schedule above. Please complete the form in its entirety and submit it along with all supplemental materials online. Incomplete applications will delay funding consideration. Additional information or clarification may be requested by the Grants Committee.

Evaluation Criteria

Artistic Innovation

- Quality and promise of the proposed arts, cultural, and heritage project to meet the cultural needs of an audience and/or constituent group.
- Innovative approach to foster creative and civic participation by Renton's diverse residents and visitors, particularly underserved people and communities.
- Fills a gap in art, cultural, or heritage offerings and opportunities not regularly available to Renton residents and visitors.

Public Access and Benefit

- Proposed projects must take place in Renton.
- Proposed projects must serve and be accessible to residents of Renton.
- Proposed projects must present new works to the public.
- Priority will be given to projects that involve Renton-based artists and organizations.

Project Feasibility

- Demonstrated experience of project leaders to accomplish the scope and scale of the project.
- Evidence of thoughtful planning including clearly articulated goals and process for evaluation.
- Realistic budget and timeline.

Application Instructions

- Complete the application available on rentonwa.gov/rmac, including supplemental materials
- Incomplete and/or inaccurate applications will result in return of application, delaying funding consideration or potential denial of funding consideration.
- Start the application process as far in advance as possible **at least three months before your project start or event date**
- Submit completed application to arts@rentonwa.gov
- You may be asked to present your proposal to the Arts Commission
- For additional information or clarification, please call (425) 430-7271, or email arts@rentonwa.gov