

Should arts organizations cancel or postpone our events, exhibits, and/or performances?

Programming decisions are at the sole discretion of the organizations, groups, and artists. We encourage all grantees to follow the Ohio Department of Health, State of Ohio, and City of Columbus recommendations about gatherings and events. Please visit the following page for additional information, resources and updates: [GCAC Resources for COVID-19](#).

Have any GCAC events been cancelled/postponed?

GCAC workshops or other gatherings may be impacted – please check the [GCAC Resources for COVID-19](#) page for updates. If needed, grant workshops may be conducted via live stream or posted in video form so that learning may occur from the comfort of your own home.

Will any deadlines for grants, fellowships, or other calls to artists be changed?

The Operating Support deadline has been delayed two weeks; the new deadline is April 20 at 5:00 p.m. The rest of the grant deadlines remain in place. Please see the [Grant Guidelines](#) for details. The entire grant application process can be completed online. GCAC staff will continue to be available via phone and email to guide applicants through the process.

How will the impact of COVID-19 impact currently funded organizations, projects and artists?

Please see the appropriate section below and reach out to grants@gcac.org or the main grant contact (listed below by program) with any questions not covered in this document. We are committed to supporting our artists and arts organizations during this time.

Operating Support and BOOST - Alison Barret, abarret@gcac.org, 614-221-8406

Project Support and Fellowships - McKenzi Swinehart, [mswinehart@gcac.org](mailto:mwinehart@gcac.org), 614-221-8746

Support for Professional Artists: Big Ideas, Individuals/Groups, Resource, Professional Development, Marketing Support and Band/Ensemble - Stevi Knighton, sknighton@gcac.org, 614-221-8569

Operating Support Grantees

When is the 2020 Operating Support application deadline?

The Operating Support deadline has been delayed two weeks; the new deadline is **April 20 at 5:00 p.m.** The rest of the timeline (interviews and notification) remain unchanged.

Event/Program Cancellations – will this impact my grant award?

Operating Support grants are intended to provide a stable source of financial support through unrestricted dollars. Event cancellations or change in daily operations will not impact Operating Support grant agreements.

Can we get our next quarterly payment early to help with cash flow?

Yes! Please make the request in writing to Alison Barret (abarret@gcac.org) by March 19 at 5:00 p.m. Note that this is **not** additional funding – you may request your June 30 quarterly payment early (payment amount will be based on 2019 score and adjusted after 2020 awards are made).

We have an event listed on ColumbusMakeArt.com that is now cancelled – what should we do?

If your organization has upcoming events that have been canceled or postponed out of precaution for COVID-19, we recommend deactivating (rather than deleting) them in the Ohio Event Finder. This way the events will be removed from the online calendars we feed, but will be easily accessible if they are rescheduled at a later date. To do this, simply select the event listing in the Event Finder and click the "Deactivate this event" link under the title. Please contact the Event Finder administrator if you need assistance or have any questions: nick@ohioeventfinder.com.

Project Support Grantees

Event/Project Cancellations – will this impact my grant award?

Project Support grants are awarded for a specific project, event, or season of activities. We recognize that upcoming events may need to be cancelled, postponed, or reimaged and we are committed to supporting our local organizations during this time. At this time, we do not intend to rescind any Project Support funds.

- All Project Support funding will be released from restrictions. This means that you may spend the funding on the most pressing costs including administration, personnel, rent, cleaning supplies, or other day-to-day operational costs. In the final report, we will ask for organizations to explain the impact of COVID-19 on their operations and how grant funds were used for unexpected or operational expenses.
- Project Support grantees that are receiving support for an entire season of program or a large suite of multiple events **DO NOT NEED TO NOTIFY** the Arts Council of event cancellations.
- Project Support grantees that are receiving funding exclusively for a one-time event/program (such as festivals, weekend or weeklong events, etc.) **SHOULD NOTIFY** the Arts Council of cancellations.
 - Please notify McKenzi Swinehart (mswinehart@gcac.org or 614-221-8746) once the decision is made to cancel or postpone a Project Support funded event. We will work with each grantee on individual basis regarding their cancellation.

Can we get our final payment early to help with cash flow?

Yes! Please make the request in writing to McKenzi Swinehart (mswinehart@gcac.org) by March 19 at 5:00 p.m. Note that this is **not** additional funding and a final report will still be required.

We have an event listed on ColumbusMakeArt.com that is now cancelled – what should I do?

If your organization has upcoming events that have been canceled or postponed out of precaution for COVID-19, we recommend deactivating (rather than deleting) them in the Ohio Event Finder. This way the events will be removed from the online calendars we feed, but will be easily accessible if they are rescheduled at a later date. To do this, simply select the event listing in the Event Finder and click the "Deactivate this event" link under the title. Please contact the Event Finder administrator if you need assistance or have any questions: nick@ohioeventfinder.com.

Individual Artist Grantees

Professional Development – what if my conference/learning opportunity is cancelled or I feel uncomfortable traveling?

We know many of you are receiving notice that your conferences or other opportunities are cancelled. If you received a grant to travel to a professional development opportunity and it is cancelled OR you feel uncomfortable traveling due to health concerns, please notify us as soon as possible.

- If you are unable to attend your originally proposed professional development activity, please notify Stevi Knighton (sknighton@gcac.org or 614-221-8569). You will not be penalized for cancelling travel plans.
- Most conferences are offering full refunds or refunds with a small fee. We also recommend that you attempt to request a refund or credit for travel as well.
- If you receive a refund and/or have not yet spent your all of professional development grant dollars, you may request to use your funds for a different professional development opportunity or for [Support for Professional Artists](#) eligible items (click link to learn about eligible expenses). Send requests for changes to Stevi Knighton (sknighton@gcac.org).
 - **You MUST receive written approval** before spending the funds on items not in your original grant application.
- If you have nonrefundable expenses, please document these with the purchase receipts and cancellation documentation and upload to your final report. You will not be penalized for nonrefundable expenses due to health and safety concerns.

All other Individual Grantees – what if I need to change how I will spend the grant funds?

Our regular change policy remains in place: *No changes in the proposed expenses can occur without prior written approval from the Arts Council – send an email to grants@gcac.org if you need to request of change in spending or activities.*

- You **MUST** receive written approval before spending the funds on items not in your original grant application.