



## GRANTS FOR ORGANIZATIONS

# Thrive

### PURPOSE

To support organizations led by and serving people of color through unrestricted funding and resources.

### THIS GRANT IS OPEN TO:

Arts and culture organizations that are led by and serving people of color.

### AWARD AMOUNT:

\$10,000 unrestricted award.

### EVALUATION/NEXT STEPS:

Competitive – up to three organizations selected annually.

Community panel review.

### STAFF CONTACT

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**DEADLINE:**  
**October 1, 2021**  
**5:00 p.m.**

## Thrive - Purpose

To support organizations led by and serving people of color through unrestricted funding and resources.

## Description

This program is intended to address disparities in inequitable funding in the arts and its impact on arts and cultural organizations led by and serving people of color. Thrive will provide unrestricted funding and resources to organizations of color that historically have experienced barriers to capital and resources.

## Who is eligible to apply?

Applicants must meet **ALL** of the following criteria to be eligible:

- Registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations who:
  - Have a mission that is focused on arts and culture;
  - Serve the city of Columbus through the majority of events/programs within city limits;
  - Demonstrate at least one year of arts programming open to the general public; and
  - Engage and compensate local professional artists
- Organizations led by and serving people of color/ALAANA communities
  - *ALAANA (African, Latinx, Asian, Arab and Native American)* is an acronym used nationally by arts sector leaders such as Grantmakers in the Arts and Americans for the Arts. It is intended to be inclusive of any arts organization from a historically underfunded racial or ethnic identity group.

## Who is NOT eligible to apply?

- Organizations who receive Operating Support from the Arts Council
- Organizations with the majority of programming dedicated to:
  - Arts education or youth programs
  - Therapeutic arts programs
  - Using arts as a tool for raising awareness about other issues

**NOTE:** If you are unsure if your organization meets the eligibility requirements, please contact Grants & Services Director, Alison Barret, before starting the application.

## How much is the award?

Up to three organizations will be selected annually to be part of a three-year engagement program.

### Year One:

- Organizations are awarded an unrestricted grant of \$10,000.
- Organizations are connected to helpful business resources and subject matter experts in the community and at the Arts Council.
- Organizations will gather as a group for peer exchanges.

### Year Two:

- Organizations are eligible for a second \$10,000 unrestricted grant based on progress report. No additional application is required.
- Organizations are given an opportunity to work with a consultant paid by the Arts Council (up to \$5,000 value) on an assessment, strategy or specific plan, as identified by their board.

### Year Three

- Each organization has the option to serve as a mentor to a new group awarded Thrive and will receive \$5,000 stipend for their time.

## How often can I apply?

Awarded organizations will only be selected for the multi-year program once. Organizations who apply and are not selected may reapply each year.

## When are applications due?

Application Due	October 1, 2021
Applicants Notified	End of November
Year 1 Progress Report Due	October 1, 2022
Final Report Due	October 1, 2023

## What are the application questions?

Below you will find the current narrative questions to assist you in your grant preparation.

### SECTION 1: ORGANIZATIONAL QUESTIONS

- Briefly describe your organization’s annual activities. Which programs are most successful?

- Other than funding, what resources and tools could be helpful to you in creating or executing a long-term plan for organizational growth and sustainability?
- What are your organizational goals for the next three years? Define at least three specific, measurable goals with timeline for completion of each goal.
- What do you need to accomplish your three goals? What would prevent you from reaching the goals?

### SECTION 2: DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

Beginning in 2021, basic demographic information will be collected as part of the grant application process. Organizations will be required to report on the demographics of their staff and board of directors. We view data collection as an essential tool to our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion. The data collected will serve multiple purposes: to help us understand how we reflect the communities we serve, to utilize data to better serve the needs of our artistic community, and to track progress with our Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access (I.D.E.A.) efforts.

### What are the required Supplemental Materials (uploads)?

- Most recently filed 990
- Current fiscal year Profit & Loss statement with budget and year-to-date actuals (also known as: statement of activities, income and expense statement)
- Past fiscal year Profit & Loss statement with budget and year-end totals (also known as: statement of activities, income and expense statement)
- Board of directors, staff, and key volunteers list

## AFTER SUBMITTING – NEXT STEPS

### Review, evaluation, and selection

Following the deadline, applications and supplemental materials will be reviewed by Grants & Services staff members for completeness and eligibility. Applications are evaluated on organizational leadership, community engagement, progress to date, vision/goals and sustainability of the organization. Grants are reviewed and ranked by the Thrive Committee, which include an Arts Council Trustee and community leaders of color. Additional materials or application clarification may be requested by staff or committee members to assist in the evaluation process. The strongest applications (up to three) will be recommended to the Board of Trustees for approval.

### Notification

Grant approvals are based on evaluations and available funding. Following a vote from the Board of Trustees, applicants will be notified by email of the application award status (approved, approved with contingencies, or declined). Emails are sent to the primary grant contact and the authorizing official, as listed in the GoArts organizational profile.

## AFTER YOU ARE AWARDED

### Grant Agreement

Following the approval of a grant, a grant agreement specifying the terms of the grant will be available in GoArts under the “Requires Attention” heading. To accept the award, review the grant agreement and digitally sign by the date indicated. No major changes in the grant can then occur, either in activities, key leadership, or finances, without prior written approval from the Arts Council.

### Publicity/Donor Acknowledgement

Once you are awarded, say “Thanks!” in a public way. The Arts Council requires that all organizations and artists receiving funding demonstrate the public value of the arts by making others aware of awards received and acknowledging public funders.

Thrive awardees should credit the Arts Council broadly for **ALL** of the activities of the organization on an on-going basis, where feasible. This includes acknowledgement utilizing all channels available, such as: website, social media, press releases, print materials, curtain speeches, special events, e-newsletters, on-location signage, and on specific exhibitions or projects within a given year. Where possible, please include the following phrase “<Your Organization Name> is a proud recipient of the Greater Columbus Arts Council’s Thrive grant. The Thrive program is intended to address disparities in inequitable funding and provides unrestricted funding and resources to arts organizations led by and serving people of color.” Refer to [APPENDIX A](#) for more details of the contractual publicity requirements.

### Payments

Awarded applicants will receive 100% of their Year One grant award following the receipt of a digitally signed Grant Agreement. A Year Two grant award will be awarded and disbursed in full after the completion of a satisfactory Progress Report. As of 2021, all payments will be issued through ACH Direct Deposit.

**NOTE:**  
Payments may take up to three weeks to be processed.

### Assessment and On-Site Visits

The Arts Council makes its most informed funding decisions using documentation of an organization’s activities, including final reports. Also, organizations should be prepared to make available up to four complimentary tickets for all performances, exhibits, or events funded at the request of the Grants & Services department so that staff or trustees can experience your programming live.

### Required Reporting

A Progress Report is due 10 months after the initial award date; a Final Report is due 12 months after the Progress Report. To complete your reports, login to GoArts, scroll down to “Requires Attention” and click on the “Reports” tab. Extensions may be requested in writing before the final report due date. Failure to submit a report within 90 days of the due date may result in the cancellation in participation in the program. Overdue or failure to submit final complete reports may affect eligibility and impact grant awards in future applications.