

# Guidelines for Grassroots Arts Program Subgrants for FY 2019-2020

## Arts Council of Carteret County

Since 1977, the North Carolina Arts Council's Grassroots Arts Program has provided North Carolina citizens access to quality arts experiences. The program distributes funds for the arts in all 100 counties of the state primarily through partnerships with local arts councils. The Arts Council of Carteret County (ACCC) serves as the NC Arts Council's partner in awarding subgrants to local organizations for arts programs in Carteret County.

### Eligibility for Application

- All organizations must have been in operation for at least one year. While nonprofit 501(C)(3) status is preferred, organizations that are nonprofit in nature may also apply.
- All organizations must reside and carry out projects within Carteret County.
- Individuals are not eligible to apply for Grassroots Arts funds.
- Applications and support materials must be completed and received by the due date.

### Application Submission & Deadline

Application forms may be downloaded from the ACCC website at [www.artscouncilcarteret.org](http://www.artscouncilcarteret.org). All projects must take place between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020.

All applications must be postmarked by ACCC by June 30, 2019. Applications must be mailed. Fax or email submissions will not be considered. The mailing address is:

Arts Council of Carteret County  
PO Box 2294,  
Morehead City, NC 28557  
Attention: Mark Kelly

### What the Grassroots Arts Program Funds

Grassroots Arts Program funds may be used for expenditures to conduct quality arts programs or operate an arts organization. Typical uses of Grassroots money include:

- program expenses such as artists' fees and travel, space rental, advertising, marketing and publicity, scripts, costumes, sets, props, music and equipment rental
- operating expenses such as salaries, telephone, office supplies, printing, postage, rent, utilities, insurance and equipment rental or purchase

## Priorities for Funding

1. The first priority of the Grassroots Arts subgrant program is to provide operating or program support to qualified arts organizations including theaters, symphonies, galleries, art guilds, choral societies, dance companies, folk arts societies, writers' groups and arts festivals, among others. Organizations (State Arts Resources, Outreach-Sustaining, and Statewide Services) that receive general operating support directly from the NC Arts Council must get written approval from NC Arts Council staff before applying for Grassroots funds.
2. The second priority of the Grassroots Arts subgrant program is to support arts learning and arts in education programs conducted by qualified artists. These can be artist residencies in schools, afterschool or summer camps or adult arts learning classes.
3. The third priority of Grassroots Arts subgrants is to support arts programs in community, civic and municipal organizations. These programs must be conducted by qualified artists.

## Funding Policies

- Tribal organizations that receive Grassroots funds must represent state- or federally-recognized tribes.
- Colleges, universities and libraries may receive grants for arts programs that are community-based or generate regional arts involvement. Grants may not support their internal programs, administration or operation expenses (library books, band boosters, equipment purchases).
- Grassroots funds may not be used for art supplies or equipment.
- Subgrants may not be awarded to individuals or to organizations for prizes, competitions, tuition, or financial rewards.
- Religious organizations or churches may not receive Grassroots funds unless the programs are presented outside regular church services, engage the larger community and do not contain religious content.
- Grassroots funds may not be used for activities associated with a school's internal arts programs such as in-school student performances, the purchase of art supplies, or student arts competition and publications.
- Municipalities (city/county governments) may receive grants for arts programs which use qualified artists to conduct programs that involve the greater community. Grants may not support internal programs, administration or operating expenses.

Grassroots Arts Program money may not be used for the following kinds of expenditures:

- Art, music, and dance therapists
- Artifacts
- Purchase artwork
- Capital expenditures
- Contingency funds
- Deficit reduction
- Fundraising events
- Food or beverages for hospitality or entertainment functions
- School band activities or equipment
- School choral activities
- Lobbying expenses
- Oral history and history projects
- Tuition for academic study
- Interest on loans, fines, or litigation costs
- Art supplies or equipment purchase
- Awards, prizes, competitions, scholarships, tuition or financial awards
- School art programs

## Grassroots Arts Program Subgrant Requirements

### **Matching Requirement**

All subgrantees are encouraged to match their grant amounts dollar for dollar. The funds must come from other public or private sources. Other NC Arts Council funds cannot be used as a match.

### **North Carolina Arts Council Recognition**

Subgrantees must acknowledge the NC Arts Council's support of their event or projects by including the NC Arts Council's logo, and funding credit line in all print and promotional materials related to the grant. The NC Arts Council's website offers information and downloadable logos, at <http://ncarts.org/Resources/LogoUse.aspx>.

## **Arts Council of Carteret County Recognition**

Subgrantees must acknowledge the Arts Council of Carteret County's support of their event or projects as a credit line in all print and promotional materials related to the grant.

## **Reporting Requirements**

Each subgrantee is required to submit a final report providing a detailed description of the funded project, participation statistics and demographics, sample marketing and program materials using the NC Arts Council credit line and logo, and copies of their legislative letters. The Subgrant Final Report form will be made available on the Arts Council of Carteret County website at [www.artscouncilcarteret.org](http://www.artscouncilcarteret.org) or mailed to you via USPS. Final reports must be mailed to the Arts Council of Carteret County by June 28, 2020.

The ACCC may impose penalties for poor subgrantee reporting practices. No subgrantee should be awarded Grassroots funds for a fiscal year unless the ACCC has received a complete final report for the previous year. A late report or an incomplete or inaccurate report for one fiscal year is grounds for delayed payment of a subgrant in the following year. For organizations with a record of reporting violations, the ACCC may adopt a policy denying such a group Grassroots funding.

## **Legislative Letters**

Applicants are not required but encouraged to write their state representatives to thank them for appropriating Grassroots funds. The letter should provide information about how Grassroots funds were used to support your program or project, and the community impact of the event. A copy of all letters to legislators should be included in the subgrantee's final report.

## **How Subgrant Applications are Evaluated**

Subgrant applications are reviewed by a diverse panel of community members including artists, county and public officials and board members of the Arts Council of Carteret County among others. The panel evaluates each application based on the subgrant guidelines and the following criteria (DCPs may include additional evaluation criteria, but these are the minimum):

- Artistic quality of proposed project or programs
- Community impact of project or programs
- Ability to plan and implement project
- Stability and fiscal responsibility of the organization

Panelists discuss and score the grant using an established rating system. The subgrants panel's funding decisions are then presented as recommendations to the Arts Council of Carteret County Board of Directors. The Board then votes and gives final approval to the subgrant panel's recommendations.

## Questions and Assistance

Mark Kelly  
Grassroots Grant Coordinator  
Arts Council of Carteret County  
PO Box 2294  
Morehead City, NC 28557  
Email: [markkelly8@hotmail.com](mailto:markkelly8@hotmail.com)  
248-842-1724