



Creative Project Grants

2026 Application Guidelines | Part I

Eligibility & Letter of Intent to Apply (LOI)

Table of Contents

2	Letter from the Executive Director
3	Are We the Right Funder for You?
5	Ineligible for Creative Project Grants
6	Before Reading Further: First Steps for All Prospective Grantees
7	Eligibility: Criteria for Organizations Creative Project Grants
8	Eligibility: Criteria for Projects Grant Types and Amounts
9	Maximum Grant Requests
10	Eligibility: Review of Financial Health
12	Grant Deadlines for 2026 Creative Project Grants
12	Grant Periods and Notification Dates
13	Application Process Map: Creative Project Grants
14	Submitting the Letter of Intent to Apply (LOI)
15	LOI Form Contents and Required Uploads:
15	<u>LOI Page 1 - Applicant Overview</u>
15	<u>LOI Page 2 - Project Overview</u>
16	<u>LOI Page 3 - Mission and Narrative</u>
17	<u>LOI Page 4 - Work and Site Samples</u>
18	Who Evaluates LOIs, and How?
19	Applicant FAQs
22	Applicant FAQs <i>For fiscal sponsors and fiscally sponsored organizations (sponsees)</i>
25	Contact Us

Accessibility

The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage is committed to providing accessibility to all applicants.

Staff members at The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage are available to offer guidance throughout the process and can assist applicants who require special accommodation.

Some translation services may be available.

For accessibility accommodations, please contact apply@pewcenterarts.org or call 267.350.4900 for assistance.

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear colleagues and Center constituents:

It is my pleasure to introduce The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage's Creative Project Grants guidelines for the 2026 LOI stage of our cycle. The Center's signature grantmaking program continues to support ambitious creative projects in the Greater Philadelphia region. As the funding landscape continues to change, the Center is proud to affirm our commitment to supporting this region's cultural community.

2026 Creative Project Grants will again be offered through our Exhibitions & Public Interpretation and Performance tracks. Compelling ideas come from organizations of all scales and focuses. At the Center, we hope our funding can help support the bold programs dreamed up by this region's practitioners.

The Center's track record of support for the full ecosystem of organizations and creative practice drew me to this role as executive director. I am excited to build on this legacy and to continue strengthening the conditions in which meaningful projects can thrive.

We are proud that our grants help bring distinctive projects to life that engage diverse public audiences and reflect the richness of this region. As you consider whether a Creative Project Grant is right for your organization, our staff look forward to learning what you envision and whom you hope to inspire.

These guidelines cover the initial stages of the Creative Project Grants cycle. My colleagues and I look forward to discussing your ideas with you in more detail in the coming weeks.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CV', with a stylized, looping design.

Christina Vassallo
Executive Director

Are We the Right Funder for You?

Our Grantmaking Strategy

At The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage (the Center), we make panel-adjudicated grants in support of the Philadelphia region's cultural organizations and artists. We envision Greater Philadelphia as a widely recognized hub for dynamic, distinctive, and inclusive cultural experiences.

The Center is dedicated to fostering a thriving cultural ecology. We invest in substantive work that showcases our region's artistic vitality and enhances public life.

The projects we support grow directly out of mission and demonstrate excellence, care, and conceptual rigor. Funded projects reflect our grantees' commitment to multiple perspectives, inclusive practices, and meaningful engagement with multicultural audiences.

We also engage in a robust exchange of ideas on evolving artistic and interpretive practices with a local, national, and international network of creators and cultural leaders. These exchanges provide inspiration for cultural practice in our region and beyond and help the Center and its constituents to build new relationships and audiences.

Our Creative Project Grants: What do they support?

Creative Project Grants support artistically and programmatically excellent, distinctive, and substantive projects designed for diverse publics in Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, and Montgomery counties. 2026 Creative Project Grants are open to both independent and fiscally sponsored organizations that meet all eligibility criteria.

Our Creative Project Funding Areas

The Center offers Creative Project grants through two funding areas: **Performance** and **Exhibitions & Public Interpretation** (“EPI”). These grants are primarily designed for eligible Philadelphia-area organizations whose mission and defining purpose is the presentation of art and public history programs for public audiences. Both funding areas support projects that are multi- or interdisciplinary, as well as those based in a specific discipline.

Performance

The Performance funding area considers projects that include original works or new treatments of existing works in all forms of performance. Works may be live performances in public spaces and venues; may feature or be drawn from film, video, and other moving images interpreted through performative intentions; or may be installations of performance that use experimental media or include technological innovation, archival sources, or virtual programming. We welcome use of participatory strategies that benefit audiences.

Exhibitions & Public Interpretation (EPI)

The EPI funding area considers projects that include public display and/or interpretation of artworks, historical artifacts, scientific objects, living collections, archives, buildings, stories, or ideas; film, video, or other time-based media presentations and technology platforms; and all other forms of exhibitions and public cultural interpretation. Projects may take place live or virtually and may make use of participatory strategies to explore and deepen audience experiences.

Ineligible for Creative Project Grants

The following cannot be supported by a Creative Project grant:

- Projects that are not primarily presented for public audiences
- Individual exhibitions of private collections
- Acquiring artworks, collections, or property
- Ongoing seasonal support or festivals
- A series of events that is not unified by a single curatorial premise
- Curricula or programming primarily rooted in arts education, or projects whose primary audience is K–12 students
- Capital improvements or real estate expenditures; debt service or retirement; endowment funds; receptions and parties.
- Projects that are managed by current employees of The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage, The Pew Charitable Trusts, or the Barnes Foundation; by members of such employees' households; or by people closely related to such employees through blood, marriage, or domestic partnership.

For artists nominated for a Pew Fellowship in 2026: Nominated artists may not be commissioned artists or key personnel for projects proposed for support by a 2026 Creative Project grant.

- Artists nominated for a 2026 Pew Fellowship who are also identified as a commissioned or key featured artist in an application for a Creative Project grant may defer their Pew Fellowship nomination for one year if they choose to participate in the Creative Project grant proposal.
- If awarded a Pew Fellowship, Fellows may not participate in a Creative Project grant application for one year after the start of their Pew Fellowship grant period.

The Center reserves the right to determine eligibility in all instances.

Before Reading Further: **First Steps for All Prospective Applicants**

Whether you're a grantee, returning applicant, or new to The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage ("the Center"), please—

- **Read Are We the Right Funder for You? and our eligibility criteria.**
- **Submit an Inquiry form by March 16, 2026**
to let us know you're interested in applying for a Creative Project grant.
- **Also by March 16: Upload financial documents**
to the "My Financials" tab of the Center's digital application portal. Take this step after completing the Inquiry form.

Eligibility: Criteria for Organizations

Creative Project Grants

All applicants, including those serving as a fiscal sponsor, **must be organizations that have a 501(c)(3) designation and be incorporated and located in the five-county Philadelphia region of Pennsylvania** (Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, or Philadelphia county). Individual artists are not eligible for Creative Project grants.

Organizations applying for funding must—

- Have minimum annual expenses of \$150,000.
- Primarily serve public audiences.
The Center does not fund K–12 educational programming, curricula at any academic level, projects primarily rooted in education, or projects where the primary audiences are students and educators.
- Have adequate, paid, professional, artistic/curatorial and managerial staff to realize the project.
- Have a minimum of two years of experience presenting professional public programs in the areas encompassed by the Creative Project program areas (i.e., arts and public history).
Fiscal sponsors must have a demonstrable record of arts and culture sponsorship. Fiscally sponsored organizations must offer year ‘round programming. The Center does not fund organizations that primarily present one-time annual programs, events, or festivals.
- Provide three years of financial audits/reviews to determine financial eligibility for funding.
Fiscal sponsors must submit their own financial audits, as well as records to confirm the minimum annual expenses of the sponsee. Fiscal sponsors and their sponsees must have an established agreement in place at the time that the Letter of Intent to Apply (LOI) is submitted.
- Not have an open grant in the project-funding area from which they seek funding in the 2026 cycle.
- Not be managed by current employees of The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage, The Pew Charitable Trusts, or the Barnes Foundation; members of such employees’ households; or people closely related to such employees through blood, marriage, or domestic partnership.

Applicants may choose between Creative Project grants and Evolving Futures grants but can only apply for one grant in the 2026 cycle.

Eligibility: Criteria for Projects

Grant Types and Amounts

Please review our [“Our Grantmaking Strategy”](#) and [“Our Creative Project Grants: What do they support?”](#) to be sure your project is a fit for Center funding.

Grants are made in amounts ranging from \$37,500–\$300,000 for single organizations whose projects—

- ☐ will be presented publicly to audiences in the five-county Philadelphia region of Pennsylvania (*Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, or Philadelphia county*).
- ☐ have adequate administrative structure, staff, and expertise to realize the project to its maximum public impact.
- ☐ reflect a commitment to multiple perspectives and inclusive practices in program design, development, and impact.
- ☐ demonstrate awareness of leading practices in the field and provide inspirational models for cultural practice in our region and beyond.

The maximum amount of grant funds you may request is based on your organization’s annual expenses and history of funding with the Center. See below, [Maximum Grant Requests](#), for detail.

Special Opportunity Grants are available up to **\$400,000** for single organizations with minimum annual expenses of \$1 million, and up to **\$600,000** for eligible co-applying organizations whose projects *additionally—*

- ☐ represent a demonstrably new level of ambition in content, scope, and scale for applicants;
- ☐ are driven by artist/creative practitioners and include new commissions;
- ☐ include one major creative contributor from outside the United States; and
- ☐ consider audience experience as integral to the design, realization, and impact of the project.

Before applying for a Special Opportunity Grant, you must consult with Center staff to confirm that this category is appropriate for your project.

Organizations must have minimum annual expenses of \$1M to apply for a Special Opportunity grant. See [Maximum Grant Requests](#), below, for detail.

See our [related FAQs](#) on what it means to “co-apply” for a Special Opportunity grant.
Fiscally sponsored organizations are not eligible for Special Opportunity grants.

Maximum Grant Requests

The maximum amount of grant funds you may request is based on your organization's 1) annual expenses and 2) history of successfully implementing a Center-funded project. Required review of your financial documents by accounting professionals hired by the Center will determine this figure. Organizations without prior grants from the Center will be limited in their maximum request.

All Creative Project grantees will receive an additional 20% for unrestricted general operating support.

For Subsidiaries of a Nonprofit

Maximum grant requests for subsidiaries of a nonprofit (*such as independent cost-centers parented by a university or college*) are based on the annual expenses of the applying subsidiary, not of the parent. Please see our [related FAQs](#) on applicants of subsidiaries.

For Fiscally Sponsored Organizations

Maximum grant requests for organizations that are fiscally sponsored will be limited to 25% of their annual expenses. Please see our [related FAQs](#) for fiscally sponsored applicants.

When will I know how much I can apply for?

Should you be invited to submit a full application, the Center will inform you of your maximum funding request at the time you are notified of LOI approval (*May 28, 2026*). Please note that this notification of your maximum funding request may be delayed, dependent on your timely response to questions that may arise during your organization's financial review. (See following page, [Eligibility: Review of Financial Health](#).)

All grant requests are subject to review and approval by Center staff.

Applicants are encouraged to begin the Center's financial eligibility review process as early as possible—but no later than March 16, 2026—to ensure that the Center may communicate your maximum grant request in a timely manner.

Eligibility: Review of Financial Health

The Center conducts financial reviews of all applicants. Eligibility for a Creative Project grant is contingent upon sound finances and tenable evidence of organizational stability.

Financial reviews occur concurrently with the first phases of the application process (*Inquiry Form & Letter of Intent to Apply*). Financial audits or reviews, prepared by an independent (outside) CPA or public accounting firm, must be uploaded to the Center's digital portal no later than March 16, 2026. Analysis may take up to six weeks depending on 1) if you are a first-time applicant; 2) the availability of your FY24 financial reports; 3) the complexity of your organization's financial situation; and 4) your response time when we make inquiries.

Financial eligibility, and the review process, differs for fiscal sponsors and sponsees.

Fiscal sponsors and sponsees must each have minimum annual expenses of \$150,000 (as of FY24 at least and continuing into FY25 for sponsees). Please read our [related FAQs](#) for additional details.

Our goal is to inform your organization of the outcome of the financial review when we notify you that your LOI has been approved or declined (*May 28, 2026*). To help us meet this goal, **please begin our financial review process as early as possible.**

How to begin the Center's financial review process

Applicants with an established Application Portal account should log in and navigate to the "My Financials" tab to upload financial reports. New applicants must first complete the Inquiry form, then register at <https://apply.pewcenterarts.org/register>.

Questions? Please contact apply@pewcenterarts.org.

Financial Report Submission Requirements

All applicants must submit official financial reports for the **three most recent years available**. The oldest acceptable report is fiscal year 2022 (FY22).

Acceptable Reports

Financial reports must be prepared by an independent (outside) CPA or public accounting firm and must be one of the following:

- Audited financial reports
- Reviewed financial reports
- Compilation financial reports*

**Important exception: Evolving Futures applicants and fiscal sponsors may not submit a compilation financial report.*

How the Center determines financial eligibility

All financial reports will first be analyzed by financial professionals hired by the Center. Financial ratios are assessed to determine organizational health and sustainability, with a focus on positive or improving trends across three years.

Grant Deadlines for 2026 Creative Project Grants

Application Process Deadlines

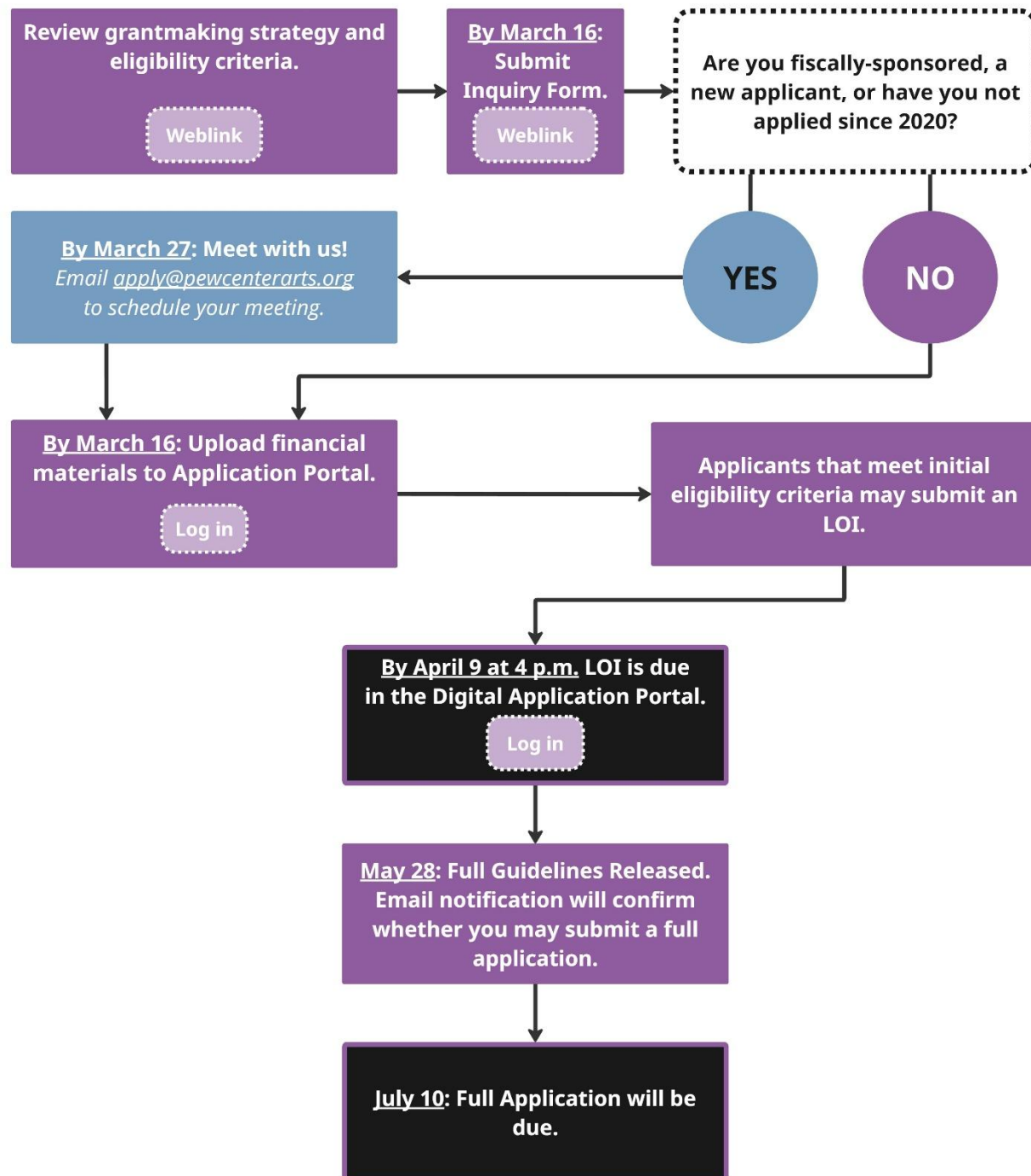
- **By March 16, 2026:** Your Inquiry Form must be completed, and required financial materials must be uploaded to the Center's application portal.
- **By March 27, 2026:** New applicants (*or organizations that have not applied since 2020*) and fiscally sponsored applicants and their sponsors must meet with Center staff.
- **April 9, 2026, at 4 p.m., EST:** LOI is due in the application portal.
- **May 28, 2026:** Applicants will be notified about whether they are invited to proceed to the full application. (*Part II of the Creative Project Grant application guidelines, which cover this stage in detail, will be published at that time.*)
- **July 10, 2026, at 4 p.m., EST.** The full application will be due.

View the map of our application process on the following page for specific steps.

Grant Periods and Notification Dates

- **By October 31, 2026:** Organizations that submit full applications will be notified of the status of their funding proposal.
- **November 1, 2026:** Grant period begins. Project expenses may be allocated to grant funds as of this date if they are part of your approved project budget.
- **Mid-December 2026:** The Center announces all grant recipients publicly.
- **April 1, 2027:** Public events that are part of a Creative Project grant may take place after this date.
- **June 30, 2029:** All 2026 grants must close.

Application Process Map: Creative Project Grants



Submitting the Letter of Intent to Apply (LOI)

Prospective applicants who submit an Inquiry Form, upload their required financial documents, and meet the Center’s initial eligibility criteria may submit an LOI on or before April 9, 2026, at 4 p.m. EST.

To begin, log in to the digital application portal and look for the “Start LOI” button. For help accessing the portal or questions about registering, email apply@pewcenterarts.org.

LOI Form Contents and Required Uploads

Narrative

The LOI form is your first opportunity to describe your project for evaluators. Below are details about the component parts of the LOI.

LOI Page 1 – Applicant Overview

Applicants are asked to provide—

- Organization name, founding year, and county
- Contact information of the primary contact and the project director (*may be the same person*)

For fiscally sponsored organizations only:

- Name and contact of fiscal sponsor
- Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement (**PDF upload**)
Upload the signed agreement with your fiscal sponsor. Terms of the sponsorship agreement must be clear and mutually agreed-upon between parties. Fiscally sponsored organizations that are invited to submit a full application may include a sponsorship fee of up to 12% in the project budget.
- Do you intend to apply for Technical Assistance funds? (See our [related FAQs](#))
(Yes or No question)

LOI Page 2 – Project Overview

This page asks you to share the following about your proposed project:

- Project Title (*or working title*)
- A one-sentence project description
Think of this as a quick reference for Center staff and LOI Evaluators to identify the main activities and purpose of your project.

The dates when your work on the project will start and end (no earlier than November 1, 2026 and no later than June 30, 2029).

LOI Page 3 – Mission and Narrative

This page will ask you to—

- Provide your organization’s mission statement (*in 175 words or fewer*)
- Answer the following three narrative questions (*in one combined answer of 1000 words or fewer*):
 1. *Describe your project and its focus. What will you create, produce, or present?*
 2. *With whom will you work, as far as you know?*
 3. *Given what you know now, what about this project would interest your intended audiences, including a diversity of communities?*

Questions for Special Opportunity Grant Applicants only:

Additionally answer these questions (in one combined answer of 300 words or fewer):

- *Who is your major creative contributor from outside the U.S.? How did you arrive at the selection of this contributor?*
- *How is the intended experience of your audience incorporated into the project design from its inception?*
- *How are artists and creative practitioners driving this project?*

For Special Opportunity, co-applying organizations only:

Additionally answer (in 150 words or fewer):

- *Please outline how creative and administrative responsibilities will be assigned and how decisions will be made.*

LOI Form Contents and Required Uploads

Work and Site Samples

When choosing samples, do your best to reflect the aesthetic and creative quality of the project and the site where the public will encounter it. Evaluators do understand that your samples cannot reflect work you have not yet made.

LOI Page 4 – Work and Site Samples

This page will ask you to—

- Provide **five recent samples** that illuminate your proposed project.
*The five samples can be made up of any combination of **images, audio, video, or text.***
- *Plan to include—*
 - Work samples for key artistic project personnel.
 - A sample of past work from your organization.
 - One or more images of the site(s) where project activities will take place.
For example, the theater, empty lot, gallery, garden, street, website, etc.
- *For each sample you will be given space to—*
 - Describe why the sample is relevant to the project (in 75 words or fewer).
 - Provide context for the sample (in 75 words or fewer).
For example, the location where sample takes place, the name(s) of artistic project personnel featured in the sample

The following are not acceptable samples:

- Promotional audio or video, trailers, samplers or montages
- Reviews, press, or marketing collateral
- Work created when a project collaborator/artist/curator was a student
- Work samples over five years old

Have questions or trouble choosing samples? We're here to guide you.

Contact us by emailing apply@pewcenterarts.org.

Who Evaluates LOIs, and How?

The Center recruits a diverse group of arts and culture professionals to evaluate LOIs. These Evaluators are chosen for their expertise in the areas of practice reflected by the projects in the applicant pool. Currently, all Evaluators come from outside of the Center’s funding region. LOI Evaluators change from year to year, though some may serve in multiple years. Staff of The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage, the Barnes Foundation, and The Pew Charitable Trusts do not serve as evaluators.

Evaluator names appear on our website once grants are publicly announced. [Visit our website](#) for names of past LOI Evaluators and Application Panelists.

How are LOIs evaluated?

LOI Evaluators review mission statements, narrative question responses, and work/site samples. They are then asked to consider the following questions that relate to the Center’s funding goals:

- *Does this project grow directly out of the organization’s mission?*
- *Does it demonstrate sufficient excellence, care, and conceptual rigor to recommend going forward to the full application?*

LOI Evaluators score each LOI using the ranking scale below:

3.0	Strong potential to address goals and to produce a competitive application
2.0–2.9	Moderate potential to address goals and to produce a competitive application
1.0–1.9	Weak potential to address goals and to produce a competitive application

Those applicants whose LOIs score highly will be invited to submit a full Application.

Invitations to proceed to the Application stage will be sent no later than May 28, 2026.

Applicant FAQs

My organization's primary mission supports something other than the presentation of arts and history projects for public audiences. Can we apply for a Creative Project Grant?

Organizations such as libraries, arboreta, zoos, science centers, community development and social service organizations may be invited to apply if they have a demonstrated record of producing work related to art and public history for public audiences. If you are new to the Center, and after you complete the Inquiry form, please be in touch to schedule a conversation with Center staff about the alignment between your mission, your arts and culture programming, and your presentations to public audiences. Our staff will also ask you if your organization has the appropriate artistic, curatorial, and producing personnel to realize the project you envision.

Applicants from within universities/colleges or that are subsidiaries of a nonprofit may be eligible if they are independent cost-centers with missions tied to the public presentation and the interpretation of art or public history.

What do you mean by “demonstrated record of producing work related to art and public history for public audiences”?

The Center looks for a record of your past programming that conveys organizational readiness illustrated by—

- Your organization has a minimum of 2 years of arts and culture programming.
- Your arts and culture programming for public audiences reflects professional standards of production and compensation.
- Your organization offers arts and culture programming on a regular basis.
- Your organization has produced arts and culture programming at a scale that demonstrates readiness to undertake the proposed project.

Am I required to meet with Center staff before submitting the LOI?

If your organization has never applied to the Center, or if it's been over five years since your last application, or if you are fiscally sponsored, you must schedule a meeting with Center staff. We'll want to talk with such applicants before March 27, 2026 to learn about your organization, your history of public arts and history programming, and your project idea. Set up your meeting now by emailing apply@pewcenterarts.org.

Meetings for recent, returning applicants are optional; however, it's always our pleasure to speak with you about your plans. Would you like to have a preliminary meeting to explore a project idea? If so, please send a meeting request to apply@pewcenterarts.org.

Applicant FAQs

Does the Center offer any monetary assistance to its applicants to support their work on the application?

Yes. The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage offers two types of capacity building grants to assist organizations with our application process:

- **Research and Travel grants** to help with your 2026 application: available now, and
- **Technical Assistance grants** available only after June 1, 2026.

Please review our [Capacity Building grant guidelines](#) for information on how to apply.

Can I apply for a Creative Project Grant and an Evolving Futures grant in the same cycle?

No. Applicants may choose between Creative Project grants and Evolving Futures grants but can only apply for one grant in the 2026 cycle.

I have an open grant with the Center. May I apply in 2026?

Applicants may not have an open grant in the project-funding program (*Performance, EPI*) from which they seek funding in the 2026 cycle. An applicant with an open grant in one program who wishes to apply to another Center funding program should schedule a conversation with Center staff. Please write to apply@pewcenterarts.org to request a meeting

I'm applying as a subsidiary of a nonprofit or a cost-center at a university/college. Is my parent organization the "official" applicant? What else should I consider?

Parent organizations will be the entity entering into the contractual grant agreement with the Center, but the subsidiary is the applicant. The total number of proposals that may be submitted by subsidiaries of a parent organization is limited. Before applying as a subsidiary, please speak with a senior member of your parent organization's development staff to confirm their commitment to your application. Center staff may also speak with that development team, when needed for clarification. LOIs and applications should make clear that the subsidiary is responsible for proposing and implementing the project.

At the next stage of the process, subsidiaries invited to apply will be required to provide a letter of commitment from a governing official of their parent organization. Dependent on how your subsidiary fits into the parent organization's structure, the annual expenses for the subsidiary are used to calculate your maximum grant request.

What does it mean to “co-apply” for a Special Opportunity grant?

The *Special Opportunity* grant category allows two organizations (*each with minimum annual expenses of at least \$1M*) to submit a single application proposing a substantive collaborative effort. If awarded, the co-applying organizations enter into separate grant agreements with the Center. Each organization may request up to \$400k in project funds, not to exceed \$600k when combined.

Applicant FAQs

For fiscal sponsors and fiscally sponsored organizations (sponsees)

Who can serve as a fiscal sponsor for a Creative Project grant?

Fiscal sponsors must have a 501(c)(3) designation, minimum annual expenses of \$150k, and be incorporated and headquartered in the five-county Philadelphia region of Pennsylvania (*Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, or Philadelphia county*). Sponsors must also have a demonstrable record of arts and culture sponsorship.

How does financial eligibility, and the financial review process, differ for fiscal sponsors and sponsees?

Both the fiscal sponsor and their sponsee must have **minimum annual expenses of \$150,000** (*as of FY24 and, for sponsees, continuing into 2025*).

Fiscal sponsors supporting a Center grant must have sound finances and tenable evidence of organizational stability. **To complete the financial eligibility review, fiscal sponsors should send the following materials to apply@pewcenterarts.org by March 16:**

- The sponsor's board-approved financial audits, prepared by an outside CPA or public accounting firm, for fiscal years 2025, 2024, and 2023. If 2025 is not yet board-approved, audits for 2022 will be accepted.
- Statement of activities/financial position, or comparable report, that demonstrates the sponsee has annual expenses of at least \$150,000 for FY24 and continuing into FY25.

How many Center-funded projects can one fiscal sponsor support?

The Center does not place a strict limit on the number of projects that a single sponsor can support. Organizations with an open Center grant may serve as sponsors. However, the Center will discuss and consider capacity and equitable access to Center funds with the sponsor before confirming eligibility.

What role do fiscal sponsors play in the Creative Project Grant application process?

Sponsees must have an established agreement with their fiscal sponsor in place at the time that the LOI is submitted. Terms of the sponsorship must be clear and mutually agreed-upon between parties. Fiscal sponsors are also asked to approve the content of the sponsee's Letter of Intent to Apply (LOI) and application before submission.

Applicant FAQs

For fiscal sponsors and fiscally sponsored organizations (sponsees)

What responsibilities do fiscal sponsors have if my project is awarded the grant?

Should a sponsored project be funded, the fiscal sponsor is the organization entering into the contractual agreement with the Center. The sponsor assumes fiduciary and administrative oversight of the grant and of the required reporting. All grant funds will be paid to the fiscal sponsor.

Please note: *Fiscally sponsored organizations that are invited to submit a full application may include a sponsorship fee of up to 12% in the project budget.*

Contact Us

Contact us by emailing apply@pewcenterarts.org with questions or meeting requests.

Center staff members meet with all new and fiscally sponsored applicants and are available to offer requested guidance to any applicant throughout the process.

Center Program Staff

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Christina Vassallo *(she/her)*

INTERIM DIRECTOR OF PROJECT GRANT PROGRAMS

Luis Croquer *(he/him)*

PROGRAM OFFICERS

Zach Blackwood *(he/him)*

Community Connection and Audience Participation

Murph Henderson *(she/her)*

Performance and Program Administration

Alec Unkovic *(he/him)*

Visual Art and Creative Practices

PROGRAM ASSISTANTS

Alfiatul (Alfi) Nurdin *(she/they/dia)*

Jordan Garlic *(she/her)*

Program Modifications

As of their release date in February 2026, these guidelines represent the complete instructions for project eligibility and the Letter of Intent to Apply (LOI) process for Creative Project grant applicants. Initial eligibility criteria for all applicants appears online at <https://www.pewcenterarts.org/apply>. The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage and The Pew Charitable Trusts reserve the right to change and/or modify these guidelines at any future time in response to experience gained from operations, input from applicants and grantees, external evaluations, and the community. Prospective applicants will be alerted to updates to the guidelines in a timely manner