Creativity Grant Eligible Activities

Public Art
The Creativity Grant may support Planning - supporting the development of a public art concept/design; or Implementation - supporting the materials and fabrication of a public artwork. The public artwork may be temporary or permanent, and may include: murals/paintings, tile mosaics, sculpture, installation, streetscape elements such as gateways, lighting, benches and creative signage; and social practice projects. All work must submit documentation of the process and/or product.

Arts in Education
Creativity Grants in Arts Education may be used to support collaborative arts learning projects taking place outside of school in community settings (after school, weekends, summer) such as:
a) professional development for both teachers/arts educators AND teaching/community artists together;
b) sequential, hands-on learning in the arts for children/youth lead by arts educators AND/OR teaching/community artists;
c) developing or enhancing processes, procedures, or programs that build and support new resources for schools arts programs, the local system’s Fine Arts Strategic Plan, and increase arts learning that include both teachers/arts educators AND teaching/community artists;
d) supporting creative youth development that integrates creative skill-building, inquiry, and expression with positive youth development principles that build critical learning and life skills and fuel young people’s imaginations, in keeping with the Creative Youth Development National Action Blueprint.

Applicants must be one of the following: artist, arts organization, non-arts organization with an arts program.

Collaborations may take place between at least two of the following parties: a school (teachers, arts educators) OR school district fine arts leadership (supervisors/coordinators/specialists); an arts organization OR non-arts organization with an arts program; a county arts council; a teaching artist/community artist.

Folk and Traditional
Creativity Grants in the Folk and Traditional Arts category support community-based arts based on cultural practices and handed down by word of mouth or example. Typical genres within folk and traditional arts include but are not limited to traditional music, dance, costuming, craft, custom, and storytelling. Typical arts activities that could be funded through a Creativity Grant for folk and traditional arts include but are not limited to performances, demonstrations, exhibitions, festivals, workshops, or courses. Contact the MSAC folklorist Chad Edward Buterbaugh to talk more about your idea for a Creativity Grant in the Folk and Traditional Arts category.
Independent Artists
Creativity Grants support Maryland-based independent artists in all disciplines to create new work and support ongoing projects either on their own or in collaboration with other artists who also reside in Maryland. The application narrative should describe how the work is relevant to the artist's community (as they define it). Projects that could be funded by Creativity Grants include but are not limited to creation of a new work, exhibit, performance piece or installation; community-based projects or programs; or collaborative projects where the applicant independent artist is the lead. Independent artists may contact Steven Skerritt-Davis to talk more about applying for a Creativity Grant.

Arts and Entertainment Districts and Community Arts Development Partnership
Creativity Grants support management entities for state-designated Arts & Entertainment (A&E) Districts to meet their goals for community and economic development through the arts. Expenses that can be funded through a Creativity Grant to A&E District management entities (including Community Arts Development (CAD) grantees that manage an A&E District) include but are not limited to general operating (for A&E District activities only), arts-centered events within the district, or internal development of initiatives to attract arts businesses and artists to the district. Requests for marketing or promotion projects, professional development, or hiring of outside consultants should be submitted at A&E Technical Assistance Grants. Contact Steven Skerritt-Davis to talk more about your idea for a Creativity Grant that supports an A&E District.

Community Arts Development
Community Arts Development (CAD) grantees are eligible to apply for Creativity Grants of up to $2,000 to fund special projects. Contact the CAD Program Director for more information.

Accessibility
The Creativity Grant may support art projects that focus on increasing access to underserved and underrepresented populations, which could open existing programs and make the arts fully accessible to people with disabilities, the creative aging, veterans and people living in institutions. Activities that could be funded through a Creativity Grant under Arts Accessibility include but are not limited to project support, programming, workshops, conferences, assistive devices, festivals, artist fees, and more. Contact the Maryland State Arts Council Accessibility Coordinator Teara Booker to talk more about your idea for a Creativity Grant in the Arts Accessibility category.