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## American Rescue Plan

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (“Rescue Plan”) is designed to fuel the nation’s recovery from the devastating economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Funds allocated to New Mexico Arts via the National Endowment for the Arts (“Arts Endowment”) in this historic legislation represent a significant commitment to the arts and recognition of the value of the arts and culture sector to the nation’s economy and recovery.

New Mexico Arts will competitively award Rescue Plan funds to eligible organizations in New Mexico. The funds are intended to help support jobs in the arts sector, keep the doors open to arts organizations statewide, and assist the field in its response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

New Mexico Arts intends to make awards that will impact a broad constituency. We encourage applications from eligible organizations including organizations that reach populations historically underserved by the arts due to ethnicity, economics, geography, or disability, etc.; organizations with small and medium-sized budgets; and organizations from rural and urban communities.

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## Grants to Organizations

American Rescue Plan funds will offer one-time grants to eligible organizations including, but not limited to, nonprofit arts organizations, local arts agencies, arts service organizations, units of state or local government, federally recognized tribal communities or tribes, and a wide range of other organizations that can help advance the goals of this program.

Unlike other New Mexico Arts funding programs that offer project-based support, Rescue Plan funds are intended to support specific operating costs only. Matching funds are not required. Although the funds are not project-based, due to New Mexico’s Anti-Donation Clause, funded organizations will provide “Arts Services” to the state of New Mexico via public programming. Applicants will be required to list arts activities and programming to be provided as a result of the funding.

Rescue Plan Support is limited to any or all of the following:

- Salary support, full or partial, for one or more staff positions. Staff positions funded may not conduct work independent of the organization receiving funds.
- Fees/stipends for artists and/or contractual personnel to support the services they provide for specific activities as part of organizational operations.
  - Artist fees/stipends should be related to work with a tangible outcome, such as performances, presentations, workshops, etc. This is considered a stipend to the artist for the work undertaken during the contract period. Such work must not be performed independently of the organization receiving funds.
- Facilities costs such as rent, and utilities. (Not to include upgrades to HVAC/ventilation systems or other renovation/construction costs.) Note: Costs related to home offices are unallowable.
- Costs associated with health and safety supplies for staff and/or visitors/audiences (e.g., personal protective equipment, cleaning supplies, hand sanitizer, etc.).
- Marketing and promotion costs.

Rescue Plan funds may be used to support existing jobs, new jobs, or to restore jobs that were furloughed or eliminated due to the pandemic.

New Mexico Arts does not fund direct grants to individuals.

**Applicants may request a fixed grant amount of \$10,000.** Matching funds are not required. A grant period of one year is allowed through June 30, 2023.

New Mexico Arts encourages applications from a variety of eligible organizations including:

- Organizations that reach populations historically underserved by the arts due to ethnicity, economics, geography, or disability, etc.
- Organizations with small and medium-sized budgets.
- Organizations from rural and urban communities.

New Mexico Arts is committed to diversity, equity, inclusion, and fostering mutual respect for the diverse beliefs and values of all individuals and groups, including:

- Tribal Colleges and Universities,
- American Indian and Alaska Native tribes,
- African American Serving Institutions,
- Hispanic Serving Institutions,
- Asian American and Pacific Islander communities, and

- Organizations that support the independence and lifelong inclusion of people with disabilities.

Proposals may focus on reaching a particular constituency; however, they may not be exclusionary under national civil rights laws and policies prohibiting discrimination. This extends to hiring practices and audience engagement activities.

Grantees will be required to report on funding received through the American Rescue Plan program. See “Award Administration” for more information.

We understand the financial needs of the field far outweigh available funds for the program and we anticipate making approximately 70 awards. Grants will not be awarded on a “first-come first-served basis.”

Please contact [New Mexico Arts](#) for questions about the American Rescue Plan Grants.

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## **Eligibility**

Nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c) (3), U.S. organizations; units of state or local government; or federally recognized tribal communities or tribes may apply.

Eligible applicants must:

- Be limited to one application per organization/institution.
- Have received a New Mexico Arts award within the past six years (awards made from FY2018-FY2023.) When using FY2023, to determine eligibility, an organization's application must have been approved by the New Mexico Arts Commission no later than the June 2022 meeting of the Commission.
- Comply with state and federal legal requirements including nonprofit, tax-exempt status at the time of application. (All organizations must apply directly on their own behalf. Applications through a fiscal agent are not allowed.)
- Have completed a three-year history of arts programming prior to the application deadline. In defining eligibility, "three-year history" refers to when an organization began its programming and not when it incorporated or received nonprofit, tax-exempt status. Programming is not required to have taken place during consecutive years.
- Have previously submitted complete Final Invoices and Reports by the required receipt deadline(s) for all New Mexico Arts grant(s).

- If applying for other New Mexico Arts funding opportunities, ensure that the applications do not have any overlap of costs during the same period.
- Obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI). The federal government is transitioning from the use of Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) to a new Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) through the SAM.gov system as the primary identifier. The new UEI is required for all FY23 NM ARP applicants. Beginning in April 2022, all organizations who apply to New Mexico Arts will be required to have a Unique Entity ID (UEI) from SAM.gov in alignment with requirements from the National Endowment for the Arts. Please see [SAM.gov | Duns - Sam UEI: https://sam.gov/content/duns-uei](https://sam.gov/content/duns-uei)

An organization whose primary purpose is to channel resources (financial, human, or other) to an affiliated organization is not eligible to apply if the affiliated organization submits its own application. This prohibition applies even if each organization has its own 501(c)(3) status. For example, the "Friends of ABC Museum" may not apply if the ABC Museum applies.

Parent Organizations, such as universities via their grant offices, are eligible to submit one application per institution. The department on behalf of whom the university is applying must have been funded by New Mexico Art in the last five (5) years (Fiscal Years 2018-2022).

The Rescue Plan program does not support sub granting or regranteeing of funds.

Late, ineligible, and incomplete applications will not be reviewed. Applications with budgets that do not have costs at least equal to the requested grant amount will be deemed ineligible and will not be reviewed. Budget costs must be allowable to receive support.

## **General Funding Restrictions**

Funding from New Mexico Arts cannot be used for the following:

- Any events or activities already listed as part of another organization's application;
- Projects or organizations outside of the State of New Mexico;
- Investment or contingency funding (i.e., accounts earning interest);
- Direct aid to individuals, including fellowships, scholarships, cash prizes, or awards;
- Projects that have already occurred;
- Projects in which school, college, or university course credit is the primary purpose;
- Projects whose main purpose is recreational;
- Projects whose primary purpose is the re-staging of historical events, such as re-enactments, mountain men gatherings, etc.;
- Cost of parties, receptions, fund-raising events, and other social functions;

- Grant writing, solicitation of gifts/services, and donor appreciation programs;
  - Any food except when food is part of a per diem;
  - Deficit reduction;
  - Negotiated indirect costs;
  - Projects in which commissions/acquisitions of permanent works of visual art are the primary purpose;
  - Permanent acquisitions (i.e., buildings or land);
  - Capital improvements, new construction, renovation, or conservation;
  - Capital supplies and equipment such as copy machines, musical instruments, electronic equipment, computers, etc.;
  - Requests that fund other divisions, foundations, or employees and contractors of the Department of Cultural Affairs or members of the New Mexico Arts Commission.
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## **Award Information**

Applicants may request a fixed grant amount of \$10,000. Matching funds are not required.

A grant period of one (1) year is allowed.

Rescue Plan funds are intended to support the arts community, and grant funds must be allocated to the arts program/departments/section/office or arts-related activities of the grant recipient.

## **Contract Period**

The New Mexico Arts grant support may start no earlier than July 1, 2022. A grant period of up to one (1) year is allowed.

New Mexico Arts funding is on a reimbursement basis and costs that are included in your FY23 NM ARP proposal must be incurred during the contract period. No pre-award costs are allowed in the proposed budget. Costs that are incurred before the “Earliest Start Date for the Contract Period” will be removed from the contract budget.

A grantee may receive more than one New Mexico Arts Award (Annual Funding Cycle and Rescue Plan) during overlapping periods of performance; HOWEVER those grants must cover different costs and/or activities. If multiple grants are awarded, grantees will be required to keep documentation to show which employees are being paid from each funding source so that the federal government isn't paying more than 100 percent of a salary.

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## How to Apply

### Deadline: April 29, 2022, 5PM, MST

The FY23 NM ARP application can be accessed through our online grants management system: <https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=nmarts>

New Mexico Arts grantees please use existing accounts. Please do not create a duplicate account. If you are unsure of your organization's account information, please contact New Mexico Arts.

Please select FY23 NM ARP.

Contact [Anna Blyth](#) at New Mexico Arts with questions.

## Application Review

The following criteria are considered during the review of applications:

The **artistic excellence** and **artistic merit** of the proposal, which includes the:

- Significance of the proposal to the mission and core work of the organization. (25-points)
- As appropriate, the potential to serve and/or reach populations historically underserved by the arts due to ethnicity, economics, geography, or disability, etc. (20-points)
- As appropriate, potential to have an immediate impact on the arts workforce. (35-points)
- Ability to carry out an award as shown by the alignment of the budget and other resources with the goals and requirements of the funding opportunity. (20-points)

All applications are reviewed by an advisory panel. Pending funding availability, it is anticipated that applicants will be notified of award or rejection in July 2022.

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## Award Administration

### Crediting Requirement

Grantees must clearly acknowledge support from New Mexico Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts in their programs and related promotional material including

publications and websites. Such acknowledgement should clearly indicate that funds were provided for general operating support and should not be used to indicate support for a project that the agency has not funded. Additional acknowledgment requirements may be provided later.

## **Administrative Requirements**

In addition to the requirements described above, grantees will be required to report to New Mexico Arts on funding received through the program. See “Project Reporting” below.

Grantees will be required to:

- Sign an art services contract and required supporting contract documents.
- Maintain personnel activity (“Time & Effort”) reports for any employee whose salary is charged, in whole or in part, to the award. OMB Uniform Guidance 2 CFR 200.430 (i) (1) Standards for Documentation of Personnel Expenses requires salary and wage expenses to be based on records that accurately reflect the work performed. The records must be supported by a system of internal controls which provide reasonable assurance that the charges are accurate, allowable, properly allocated and reflect the total activity for which the employee is compensated.
- For grants that engage artists and/or contractual personnel to whom fees will be paid, maintain written contracts that outline the employment terms.
- Submit required invoices and reporting through the New Mexico Arts online grants management system.

## **Accessibility**

Federal regulations require that all New Mexico Arts and federally funded projects are accessible to people with disabilities. Funded activities must be held in a physically accessible venue and program access and effective communication must be provided for participants and audience members with disabilities.

New Mexico Arts encourages applicants to consider accessibility in the broadest terms. Any organization or individual contracting with New Mexico Arts is required to be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. As stated in the law, contractors must make “reasonable accommodations” that are “readily achievable” to ensure that all programs, services, and facilities are accessible to individuals with disabilities. In-person and virtual events should also be accessible to the public through provision of adequate notice of the event, proper scheduling to allow for the greatest number of attendees, adequate parking and signage, ticket price, closed captioning, and ease of use of appropriate technology.

If your application is recommended for funding, you may be asked to provide detailed information describing how you will make your project physically and programmatically accessible to people with disabilities.

## **Project Reporting**

Organizations funded through the Rescue Plan will be required to report out on activities supported through the program. In addition to written narrative questions, other required program data will be gathered. All required reporting and program data must be submitted by the final receipt deadline stipulated in a funding contract.