

**Arts New Orleans
2025 Louisiana Project Grants
Parishes: Orleans, Jefferson, Plaquemines**

Grant Activity Period: October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2025

Louisiana Project Grants are made possible by funding from the Louisiana Division of the Arts under the Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism. Arts New Orleans administers this program on behalf of the state to support arts and cultural activities in Orleans, Jefferson, and Plaquemines parishes. Louisiana Project Grant funds are allocated to each region in the state per capita using the most recent census figures, allowing parishes to develop arts programming that addresses local needs.

2024/2025 GRANTEES

Anna's Place NOLA **\$4,000**

To support the Down in Tremé Concert series, through which New Orleans teens produce a concert series featuring Louisiana musicians.

Artivism Dance Theatre **\$2,500**

To support dance workshops for incarcerated youth at the Juvenile Justice Center, including dance therapy practices, technical training, and basic choreographic theory.

Artivism Dance Theatre **\$4,675**

To support *Gumbo Cypher*, a performance staged at the CAC highlighting street dance styles in an immersive and interactive experience.

BODYART **\$4,675**

To support *U.S. + Them*, a multi-disciplinary dance piece deconstructing American identity through a queer and gender non-conforming lens. It will premiere in early September 2025, accompanied by masterclasses and artist panels.

Creole Wild West **\$4,924**

To support Creole Wild West's free Saturday workshops in Central City for youth in Mardi Gras Indian culture, including creating suits, the history of the tradition, and traditional Mardi Gras Indian music.

Dancing Grounds **\$5,000**

To support Dancing Ground's *Dance for Social Change* program, including the 2025 DSC Festival at Contemporary Arts Center in May 2025.

2024/2025 Louisiana Project Grant Recipients

Friends of a Studio in the Woods

\$4,449

To support Replenish Residencies for local BIPOC artists, allowing them to create art and engage with nature during residencies at A Studio in the Woods.

Friends of Lafitte Greenway

\$4,000

To support the Greenway Youth Music Series, featuring youth musicians from around New Orleans performing at the Greenway Plaza in October 2024.

Goat in the Road Productions

\$4,675

To support *Carlota*, a new musical built in collaboration with GRP ensemble member Dr. Denise Frazier, examining the ways that the city of New Orleans and the Caribbean are deeply intertwined, and how one person's story can ripple down through time.

Lyrical Baroque

\$3,616

To support *Multicultural Sounds of Louisiana: Exploring Afro-Latin American, Spanish and Creole Influences of our Region*. The project includes commissioning new works by Latin American composers, public performances, student compositions, and side-by-side performances by students and professional musicians.

Make Music NOLA

\$4,924

To support Make Music NOLA's Saturday and afterschool orchestra and chamber ensemble classes for vulnerable youth and incorporating local community artists at its Bell Artspace Campus.

Mondo Bizarro

\$4,675

To support *Facing the River*, a multidisciplinary program that produces performances, workshops, and programs by local and national artists that respond to our region's interconnected struggles against coastal land loss, environmental racism, and displacement.

N'Fungola Sibo African Dance and Drum Company

\$3,616

To support the New Orleans Music and African Dance Spectacle (NOMAADS) Festival, which uses West African dance, song, drumming, and folklore to bridge the cultures of the African diaspora in New Orleans.

New Orleans Ballet Association

\$4,675

To support NOBA's engagement of Ailey American Dance Theater with two public performances at the Mahalia Jackson Theater in March 2025, and related residency activities.

New Orleans Mardi Gras Indian Council

\$3,616

To support the Super Sunday celebration of Indian Culture, including a parade and festival featuring Indian tribes from across the region, Second Line clubs, local musicians, and cultural activities.

2024/2025 Louisiana Project Grant Recipients

New Voices New Orleans

\$4,924

To support vocal music education programs at three New Orleans schools, prioritizing movement training and storytelling to develop literacy in music, command in performance, and confidence expressing civic voice.

Nous Foundation

\$4,449

To support *La Musique nous réunit*, an exhibition investigating how Louisiana musicians are adapting their cultural practice of French-language music to the 21st century. The project will include interviews, performances, the creation of a book and vinyl record, and a multi-media exhibition.

Ogden Museum of Southern Art

\$2,500

To support the Artists and Sense of Place Residency program pairing elementary school students with artist Keith Duncan to explore the influence of situation and geography in their lives and exhibiting student work alongside Duncan's in the Museum.

One Book One New Orleans

\$4,449

To support The Words & Music Festival, which emphasizes local works and ensures that New Orleans is represented in panels, presentations, and performances at the festival.

Pandora Andrea Gastelum/The New Orleans Giant Puppet Festival (fiscally sponsored by Aquamob)

\$4,000

To support a workshop series for students ages 12+ on the fundamentals of giant puppetry, teaching the practical skills of producing large-scale, moving puppets and how to manipulate them in the context of a procession.

rickRACK, Inc.

\$4,449

To support *Throw Me Something Handmade: Transforming Salvaged Textiles for Mardi Gras*, creating and distributing environmentally friendly Mardi Gras throws.

Tekrema Center for Art and Culture

\$4,674

To support *Born In Blackness/Born In LOVE* a choreographic, literary, and documentary treatise of Louisiana's African American traditional and social dance practices comprised of multiple performances, publications, and workshops.

Tennessee Williams/New Orleans Literary Festival

\$4,449

To support the 22nd annual *Saints and Sinners LGBTQ+ Literary Festival*, consisting of discussion panels, author readings, and workshops with leading contemporary LGBTQ+ writers across various genres.

The Black School

\$4,449

2024/2025 Louisiana Project Grant Recipients

To support the creation of a public sculpture/bike rack that takes inspiration from the historic Black metal smithing legacy in New Orleans.

The Ella Project

\$3,616

To support *Rampart: Artist Readiness & Legacy Building*, a guide to estate planning and readiness for musicians. The publication will provide guidance for artists to secure their intellectual and physical property in the event of a natural disaster and the inevitability of their death.

The Front

\$4,449

To support the Equity Expansion Guest Artist Program, which offers exhibition opportunities, artist stipends, installation support, curatorial mentorship, and dedicated studio space to local emerging BIPOC and Queer artists.

The Historic New Orleans Collection

\$3,616

To support the presentation of the world premiere of Edmond Dédé's opera *Morgiane ou Le Sultan d'Ispahan*, the earliest surviving full-length opera by a Black American composer.

Trinity City Comics (fiscally sponsored by Krewe of Red Beans)

\$4,924

To support the Trinity City Activism Club for teens, which pairs youth with professional artist mentors to create comic books addressing themes of climate change, disability justice, and community safety.

TRUE BLERD, LLC (fiscally sponsored by IGL Foundation)

\$4,449

To support BLERDFEST! an event featuring panels, workshops, and activities focused on Blerdy (Black Nerd) interests, including community organizing, literature, media, performing traditions, tech, video games, and visual arts.

Versipel New Music

\$3,616

To support *Louisiana Music Today*, a two-day contemporary music festival created to spotlight Louisiana-based composers and celebrate performing musicians in historic venues throughout the city, scheduled for May 2025.

GRANT TOTAL – \$127,033