

Arts New Orleans
2026 Louisiana Project Grants
Parishes: Orleans, Jefferson, Plaquemines

Grant Activity Period: October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026

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. Eligible disciplines include dance, design, folklife, literature, media, music, theater, visual arts and crafts, and culinary arts, which was added this year.

2025/2026 GRANTEES

Artivism Dance Theatre **\$4,885**

To support dance workshops for youth impacted by the criminal justice system in partnership with Operation Restoration and the Juvenile Justice Intervention Center, including dance therapy practices, technical training, and basic choreographic theory.

Artivism Dance Theatre **\$4,885**

To support *Off the Cuff*, a performance staged at the New Orleans Jazz Market pairing improvisational street dance styles with jazz performers in an immersive and interactive experience.

Ballerinas of the Bayou **\$4,886**

To support *Echoes of Us: The Truth Lab x Living Museum*, a multidisciplinary initiative merging storytelling, dance, theater, music, visual art, media, and culinary heritage to elevate the lived experiences of Black and Brown youth in New Orleans.

BlackAmericana Fest **\$4,886**

To support *BlackAmericana Fest 2026*, a multi-day cultural celebration that honors the rich musical heritage and continued contributions of Black artists working in the Folk, Country, and Americana traditions.

BODYART Connects **\$4,886**

To support *Digital Magpies*, a community-focused multimedia dance and installation project that uses dance, projection, and real-time audience engagement to interrogate the ways we construct, present, and engage with our digital personas.

Director Alexandra Kern and Producer Colin Cadarette (Fiscal Sponsor Video Veracity) \$4,886

To support *The Battures*, a community-based documentary that seeks to preserve, honor, and share the living memory of the community located between the levee and the river in New Orleans, and associated screenings.

FirstLine Schools \$4,886

To support Edible Schoolyard NOLA, a garden-based nutrition and culinary education program, in expanding engagement opportunities for youth with local chefs and farmers to provide more comprehensive nutrition, agricultural, and culinary education.

Friends of a Studio in the Woods \$4,886

To support *Self as Universe: Mending our Collective Ecosystem Residencies*, which invite local and national artists to explore environmental themes during live-in residencies, as well as associated community engagement activities.

Goat in the Road Productions \$4,886

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.

Kim Vaz-Deville (Fiscal Sponsor NOUS Foundation) \$4,886

To support the *Festival of Louisiana Creole Futures*, a two-day event held at Dillard University promoting the cultural tradition of the Baby Dolls, by teaching and presenting Louisiana Creole song, second-line dance, decorative arts, and oral storytelling in public, participatory formats.

Lafitte Greenway Partnership \$4,886

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

Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities \$4,886

To support staging an exhibition of John T. Scott's art collection at the New Orleans African American Museum while the John Scott Center is undergoing structural repairs.

Majekfingers Drumming School (Fiscal Sponsor Dream House Wellness Foundation) \$4,886

To support *Feel the Rhythm of the Drums*, a festival designed to celebrate cultural diversity, foster intergenerational engagement, and increase access to traditional and contemporary drumming and dance practices from African, Afro-Caribbean, and Latin American traditions.

Musicians for Music \$4,886

To support the *Ecos Latinos Performance Series*, presenting more than 100 live performances and producing 10 videos featuring Hispanic musicians, dancers, and composers in hospital, school, and community settings across the New Orleans area.

Nawlins Institute of Art	\$4,886
To support <i>Women In The Movement: Honoring Civil Rights Activists Through Music</i> , bringing together distinguished female vocalists from opera, blues, and jazz traditions to celebrate the often-overlooked contributions of women in the American civil rights movement.	
New Orleans Ballet Association	\$4,886
To support NOBA's Hurricane Katrina 20th anniversary project, featuring internationally acclaimed dance company BODYTRAFFIC and choreographer Trey McIntyre in collaboration with the Preservation Hall Jazz Band.	
New Orleans Video Access Center	\$4,886
To support filmmaker workshops and the <i>Crescent Cinema Series</i> . Filmmaker workshops allow program participants to develop their craft, and screenings give them their first opportunity to showcase it.	
New Voices New Orleans	\$4,886
To support a multi-site children's chorus that engages singers in the city's public schools in dynamic performances that unlock creativity, embolden self-expression, and empower civic voice. Their 25-26 season will be themed "WADE IN THE WATER" in partnership with Ripple Effect Water Literacy Project.	
One Book One New Orleans	\$4,886
To support the <i>Words & Music Festival</i> , which emphasizes local works and ensures that New Orleans is represented in panels, presentations, and performances at the festival.	
Prescription Joy	\$4,886
To support expanded healthcare clowning services at Manning Family Children's Hospital, facilitating holistic healing through laughter, imaginative play, and genuine human connection.	
The Roots of Music	\$4,886
To support The Marching Crusaders Band Program, an after-school marching band serving youth ages 9-14 from low-income households in New Orleans, providing over 2,500 hours of instrumental music education, music theory, and academic tutoring annually.	
Second Line Arts Collective	\$4,886
To support the Sanaa All-Stars, a year-long young musician incubator, through which participants hone their ensemble performance and acquire critical business skills, including booking gigs, producing professional recordings, building a website, and assembling a press kit.	
Tameka Bob/Gifted Uniqueness LLC (Fiscal Sponsor NOVAC)	\$4,886
To support <i>Torn Direction</i> , a community-based, independent feature film that explores the complex emotional journey of a young African-American teen artist in New Orleans.	

Tennessee Williams/New Orleans Literary Festival**\$4,886**

To support the 23rd annual *Saints and Sinners LGBTQ+ Literary Festival*, which consists of discussion panels, author readings, and workshops with leading contemporary LGBTQ+ writers across various genres.

Trinity City Comics (fiscally sponsored by Mondo Bizarro Productions)**\$4,886**

To support community events and Young Artivism Clubs organized around *Trinity City Comics Issue #2*, an episodic, Afro-Futurist comic book created with and for Louisiana teens to inspire artistic expression and political activism.

Versipel New Music**\$4,885**

To support the *Batture Contemporary Festival*, a two-day contemporary music festival created to spotlight Louisiana-based composers and celebrate performing musicians in historic venues throughout the city.

GRANT TOTAL – \$127,033