

ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ORLEANS
2026 COMMUNITY ARTS GRANTS
Made possible by the City of New Orleans
Grant Activity Period: January 1 – December 31, 2026

The **Community Arts Grants Program**, administered by the Arts Council of New Orleans since the 1980s, supports nonprofit arts and cultural organizations based in Orleans Parish whose work brings joy, meaning, and connection to our city. With support from the **City of New Orleans**, these grants fund programs that uplift residents, engage youth, preserve cultural traditions, and welcome visitors, contributing to the vibrant cultural fabric that makes New Orleans unlike any other place in the world.

CATEGORY: MORE JOY

Black Men of Labor, Inc.	\$3,000
To support a second-line parade at Black Men of Labor's annual festival.	
Creole Wild West	\$3,000
To support Creole Wild West's youth education programs, including at least 40 free sessions of onsite education in Central City for at least 30 children on Saturday afternoons in Mardi Gras Indian Culture.	
Mohawk Hunters, Inc.	\$3,000
To support the Cultural Journey youth education program, teaching Mardi Gras Indian culture through hands-on activities, including sewing, dancing, drumming, and beading. Students will also participate in West Fest Super Sunday.	
New Orleans Mardi Gras Indian Council	\$3,000
To support the Super Sunday 2026 celebration, typically held on the third Sunday of March.	
NOLArts Learning Center	\$3,000
To support the STOMP Troopers Project, a series of workshops culminating in participation in the Chewbacchus parade for youth with special needs.	
Original Big Seven/Red Flame Hunters Mardi Gras Indian Tribe	\$3,000
To support the Red Flame Hunters' 2025 suits as well as the children's division of the Original Big Seven Social Aid and Pleasure Club. The two groups are intertwined.	
Original Creole Wild West	\$3,000
To support preserving the Black Masking Indian tradition and passing down the traditions to youth in the community.	

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Original CTC Steppers	\$3,000
To support the Original "Cross the Canal" Steppers Social Aid & Pleasure Club's annual second line parade held in the Lower 9th Ward neighborhood.	
Queens of The Nation Indian Council	\$3,000
To support the Queens of The Nation annual retreat as well as the Rites of Passage for Young Queens of The Nation, a project dedicated to the education of girls who participate in the Black Masking Tradition.	
The Original Black Seminole Baby Dolls	\$3,000
To support The Original Black Seminole Baby Dolls' annual banner raising, celebrating the beginning of the Carnival season, and "We Are Still Here" documentary film project.	
VIP Ladies Social Aid & Pleasure Club	\$3,000
To support the Annual VIP Ladies & Kids Social Aid & Pleasure Club Second Line Parade held in Uptown New Orleans.	

CATEGORY: NEW ORLEANS AS CULTURAL CAPITAL

826 New Orleans	\$6,000
To support youth literary arts programming serving 1000 young people annually.	
Antenna	\$9,000
To support exhibitions, public programs, publishing, and support programs for artists and cultural contributors addressing social issues.	
Anthony Bean Community Theater and Acting School	\$3,000
To support a theatrical season and youth educational programs that celebrate Black culture and identity.	
Art Camp 504	\$6,000
To support summer and holiday break camps for youth focusing on the arts.	
Artivism Dance Theatre	\$3,000
To support affordable dance classes, professional development for dancers, and free dance programs for justice-system-impacted and currently incarcerated youth.	
ArtSpot Productions, Inc.	\$3,000
To support original, multidisciplinary performances addressing environmental and social issues, including performances in Louisiana churches that reimagine the criminal justice system, and to support an arts-for-justice-and-healing program for the Orleans Justice Center.	

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Ashé Cultural Arts Center (Efforts of Grace, Inc.)	\$9,000
To support Ashé events and activities that emphasize the contributions of artists, writers, performers, actors, dancers, and speakers of African descent from New Orleans and around the world.	
Ballerinas of the Bayou	\$3,000
To support arts education programs that address the holistic needs of youth and families through the intersection of performance arts, wellness, and workforce development on the West Bank.	
Be Loud Studios	\$6,000
To support a youth podcasting program that amplifies kid confidence through radio and digital media production, turning screens into tools for self-expression and courageous collaboration.	
Byrdie's Pottery	\$3,000
To support a nonprofit ceramic arts organization providing equitable access to ceramic arts, offering educational programming, and creating a platform for makers to share their work.	
Community Works of Louisiana	\$9,000
To support in-school, after-school, and summer art programs for youth.	
Court 13 Arts	\$3,000
To support the production of cultural events, artist residencies, education, mentorship programs, and affordable studio spaces that empower Louisiana artists to thrive, build, and create.	
Cuba NOLA Arts Collective	\$3,000
To support arts programs that bring together the shared arts traditions of New Orleans, Louisiana, Cuba, the Caribbean, and Latin America through community exchanges.	
Cultural Curriculum Project	\$3,000
To support meaningful public school field trips that connect students with the art, culture, and history of South Louisiana.	
Culu Children's Traditional African Dance Company	\$3,000
To support educational programming that instills an appreciation for the rich and diverse cultures of traditional African dance, drumming, and folklore in African-American youth.	
Dancing Grounds	\$9,000
To support high-quality, accessible dance education and performance programs for youth and adults in all dance genres.	
Ellis Marsalis Center for Music	\$9,000
To support arts education programs for youth and the center's other programs, including adult piano classes, community performances and concerts, and audio recording services.	

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Friends of A Studio in the Woods	\$6,000
To support artist residencies for ten local artists and culture bearers and eight local, national, and international artists creating work that examines the severity of the climate crisis.	
Friends of WWOZ, Inc.	\$9,000
To support local radio that highlights and celebrates New Orleans culture and heritage.	
Goat in the Road Productions	\$6,000
To support an ensemble theater company that brings to life the untold stories of our New Orleans communities by creating dynamic original plays and fostering the work of young artists.	
Guardians Institute	\$3,000
To support the preservation, presentation, promotion, and celebration of New Orleans' indigenous cultural arts and West African/New World oral traditions through educational activities and exhibitions.	
KID smART	\$9,000
To support educational activities, including a teaching artist residency in public schools and monthly professional development for a cohort of classroom teachers.	
Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra	\$9,000
To support the LPO's season that focuses on composers of diverse backgrounds, past and present, delivered with their trademark artistic versatility.	
Lyrica Baroque	\$3,000
To support high-quality chamber music performances and student programs.	
Mondo Bizarro Productions	\$6,000
To support a theater company that works for a more beautiful and equitable world through the creation and presentation of live performances, digital media, training programs, and cultural organizing events.	
N'Kafu Traditional African Dance Company	\$3,000
To support the historical documentation, study, presentation, preservation, and promotion of traditional African culture and folklore through dance, singing, music, costuming, and cuisine.	
New Orleans African American Museum	\$9,000
To support immersive exhibitions and public programs that address how the peoples of the African Diaspora contributed to and continue to shape the culture of New Orleans and America.	

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New Orleans Arts & Cultural Host Committee	\$6,000
To support the Armstrong Summer Jazz Camp that provides music education programs for New Orleans youth, involving emerging, national, and internationally known artists as teachers and guest artists, as well as school-day and after-school jazz education classes.	
New Orleans Ballet Association	\$9,000
To support NOBA's tuition-free classes and activities for 1,500+ participants ages 4–80+ and the presentation of world-class dance companies.	
New Orleans Center for Creative Arts Foundation	\$9,000
To support the nonprofit partner of the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts High School that provides programs that offer meaningful and substantial arts experiences to NOCCA students, faculty, and the community.	
New Orleans Film and Video Society, Inc.	\$9,000
To support the New Orleans Film Society's programmatic activities, including its annual film festival, film series, and artist lab programs.	
New Orleans Video Access Center	\$9,000
To support film workforce training programs that ensure storytellers in Southeast Louisiana, especially natives and underrepresented voices, have the skills, the platform, and the agency to share their truth, preserve their culture, and build a sustainable income.	
NOLA Artist Incubator	\$3,000
To support education, community outreach, and an Artist-in-Residence Program committed to building a creative network of makers for a more equitable and sustainable New Orleans.	
Ogden Museum of Southern Art	\$9,000
To support broadening the knowledge, understanding, interpretation, and appreciation of the visual arts and culture of the American South through events, permanent collections, changing exhibitions, educational programs, music, publications, and research.	
One Book One New Orleans	\$3,000
To support free literacy public programming and the annual Words & Music Festival that celebrates the arts of New Orleans.	
Prescription Joy	\$3,000
To support a clowning organization that helps address stress, anxiety, and isolation in our community's healthcare systems.	

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Preservation Hall Foundation	\$9,000
To support intergenerational programming that provides support for musicians, educational programs for young people, community engagement concerts, and access to Preservation Hall's archives.	
Roots of Music	\$9,000
To support music history and theory as well as instrumental instruction and ensemble performance preparation for youth ages 3-18 from low-income households.	
Second Line Arts Collective	\$6,000
To support programming that bridges two critical gaps in New Orleans' music education landscape: early childhood exposure to music and professional preparation for young adults entering the music industry.	
Tennessee Williams/New Orleans Literary Festival, Inc.	\$6,000
To support the Tennessee Williams/New Orleans Literary Festival and the Saints and Sinners LGBTQ+ Literary Festival in the French Quarter and other venues.	
The Ella Project	\$6,000
To support pro bono legal and business assistance to low to moderate-income New Orleans artists, musicians, and grassroots nonprofit arts organizations.	
The NOLA Project	\$3,000
To support a professional ensemble theatre company that produces bold new and classic theatre works in locations around New Orleans.	
Treme Artists Collective	\$3,000
To support a concert series highlighting Louisiana-based music and Louisiana-based musicians, workshops for musicians in financial literacy, in-school music history lessons, and an event production workforce development program.	
Troy Andrews Foundation (dba Trombone Shorty Foundation)	\$9,000
To support youth with the skills and perspectives necessary to earn a thriving wage in the music industry through masterclasses, performances, apprenticeships, and music business classes.	
Voices in the Dark Repertory Theatre Company	\$3,000
To support a grassroots theatre company committed to producing thought-provoking works that celebrate and illuminate the rich, diverse experiences of historically marginalized communities.	
Whole Village Art Therapy	\$6,000
To support high-quality, community-based art therapy services that improve access and reduce systemic barriers to mental health services through artmaking in New Orleans.	

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WYES-TV/PBS Greater New Orleans Educational Television Foundation \$9,000

To support WYES' weekly STEPPIN' OUT program, showcasing New Orleans cultural arts on public access television

Young Aspirations Young Artists, Inc. \$6,000

To support empowering creative young people through visual arts education combined with entrepreneurial, leadership, and life skills training.

Young Audiences of Louisiana \$9,000

To support high-quality arts-education programs in all disciplines for children in school and after-school, reaching 10,000+ students, as well as arts-integration professional development for educators.