



**Ralph C. Wilson, Jr.**  
**Arts & Culture Initiative**  
*At the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo*

# Grant Guidelines

One grant opportunity is available in 2026:

**General Operating Micro Grants** of up to \$2,500 for arts & culture organizations with less than one full-time staff member to execute immediate programming.

Applications will be reviewed by experienced external evaluators who are artists, arts practitioners and arts administrators representing all nine Western New York counties. Each county will be awarded a minimum of two Micro Grants, assuming eligible applications have been received in each county.

*The **Capacity-Building & General Operating** grant process will open next in 2028.*

The Community Foundation will not consider funding for:

- Higher education scholarships
- Religious purposes
- Projects exclusively for residents of other counties than the nine listed above.
- Schools that are not registered with the NYS Education Department are not eligible.
- Attendance at or sponsorship of fundraising events for organizations
- Any partisan political activity. Funds from the Community Foundation cannot be used to support or oppose a candidate for political office.
- Projects and activities that have occurred. The Community Foundation will not, except in extraordinary cases, provide payment or reimbursement for expenses incurred prior to the funding decision being communicated to the applicant.

Additional Information

- The Community Foundation reserves the right to conduct an independent evaluation of grant expenditures for up to four years. The grantee agrees to provide the information necessary to complete such an evaluation. Failure to submit

requested information in a timely fashion may obligate the grantee to refund the grant.

- The use of grant funds for purposes not pre-approved by the Community Foundation or not supported through required documentation will result in a request that those grant funds be returned to the Community Foundation. The failure of an applicant to properly close out a grant in a timely manner will be a factor when considering new grants.
- The Community Foundation embraces the benefits of diversity, equity, and inclusion. In its grantmaking decisions, the Community Foundation supports organizations, projects, and programs that share its belief that no person in the United States shall on the basis of the Protected Characteristics, or any other improper criterion, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under its programs or activities.