

Comparison of Grant Opportunities

	Capacity-Building + General Operating Request	Micro Grant Request
Staff Requirement	<p>For the purposes of this application, 35 hours per week is considered full-time. Staff are defined as paid individuals who are primarily dedicated to the <u>strategic and/or administrative operations</u> of an organization.</p> <p><i>Example 1: An individual spends 75% of their time organizing the logistics of the program and keeping the Board informed. This individual spends 25% of their time teaching in the program. This individual <u>meets the staff definition</u> because they are primarily dedicated to the strategic and/or administrative operations of the organization.</i></p> <p><i>Example 2: An individual is a paid art teacher for an organization. This is a 9-month, weekly engagement from September to June. The individual's role is teaching students specific arts skills. The role does not include program-wide or organization-wide planning. This individual <u>does not meet the staff definition</u> because their paid work is not part of the strategic and/or administrative operations of the organization.</i></p>	
	<p>At least 1 full-time OR 1.0 full-time equivalent staff member(s)</p> <p>Example 1: 1 staff member works 25 hours/week. Another staff member works 15 hours/week. Together, they work 40 hours/week. This organization is <u>eligible</u> to apply, pending all other eligibility requirements have been met.</p> <p>Example 2: 1 staff member works 15 hours/week. 2 staff members work 5 hours/week each. Together, the 3 staff members work 25 hours/week. This organization is <u>not eligible</u> to apply. (See Example 1 in Micro Grant Request.)</p>	<p>100% volunteer staff or less than 1 full-time equivalent staff member</p> <p>Example 1: 1 staff member works 15 hours/week. 2 staff members work 5 hours/week each. Together, the 3 staff members work 25 hours/week. This organization is <u>eligible</u> to apply, pending all other eligibility requirements have been met.</p> <p>Example 2: 1 staff member works 35 hours/week. This organization is <u>not eligible</u> to apply and should consider a Capacity-building + General Operating request.</p>
Maximum Award	<p>Total: \$15,000</p> <p>Organizations will submit a budget detailing how the award will be allocated between Capacity-Building and General Operating expenses. At minimum, 50% of the award (\$7,500) must be allocated towards a specific capacity-building strategy.</p>	<p>Up to \$2,500</p>
Decision Date	December	November
Multi-Year Funding	Awarded organizations are eligible to submit a subsequent Capacity-Building request via simplified application in the following year. Funding is not guaranteed.	Awarded organizations may apply again in the following year. Funding is not guaranteed.

	Organizations may be eligible to apply for a 3rd consecutive year of funding in 2026. Preference will be given to organizations who have not immediately received 2 consecutive awards.	Organizations may be eligible to apply for a 3rd consecutive year of funding in 2026. Preference will be given to organizations who have not immediately received 2 consecutive awards.
	<i>While the Community Foundation acknowledges the importance of consistent funding sources for organizations, due to the nascent nature of the Arts & Culture Initiative, the current administration of this fund does not include consecutive years of funding to any one organization.</i>	
Application	<p>This will be a detailed and thorough application.</p> <p>The application will provide a dropdown list of capacity-building examples. Organizations can select 1 from the list as their priority. For each priority, the organization will provide a description of the need and proposed solution(s). The organization will indicate if they have a consultant/resource identified already or if they need support here.</p> <p>If feasible, the Arts & Culture Initiative will help to identify qualified support for strong applications that do not have an identified capacity-building resource.</p> <p>*Organizations applying for the Capacity-building + General Operating opportunity are strongly urged to participate in a Grant Training session prior to submitting the application. Applicants will have the opportunity to learn more about capacity-building and ask specific questions of the Arts & Culture Initiative Advisory Committee. Training dates are provided on the Arts & Culture Initiative website.</p>	<p>This will be a simplified application based on the following questions:</p> <p>What is your mission statement?</p> <p>What do you do?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How frequent is your programming? <p>Who do you serve?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How many people do you serve? <p>Why is your organization needed in the community?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How do you know this? <p>How much are you requesting?</p> <p>What will you use the funds for?</p>
Cohort Collaboration	<p>Organizations receiving Capacity-Building Grant Awards meet 4-5 times during the spend-down year for shared learning and problem-solving.</p> <p>Organizations are grouped together based on the capacity-building issue they have self-identified as their focus for the grant. These sessions are facilitated by external consultants.</p>	Micro Grant recipients are invited to the end-of-year, informal presentations offered by Capacity-Building Grant + General Operating recipients for a shared learning opportunity.
Grant Reporting	<p>1 year after receiving the award, each cohort (see Cohort Collaboration) will share learnings with Micro Grant recipients and Arts & Culture Initiative Advisory Committee. These informal presentations will help the Advisory Committee understand successes and opportunities that can be implemented in future grant years.</p> <p>These will likely be held in a virtual format.</p>	<p>1 year after receiving the award, Micro Grant recipients will submit a brief grant report reflecting on the previous year's successes and opportunities. If the organization already has materials that provide this reflection (i.e. Annual Reports, newsletters, etc.), organizations are invited to upload these in lieu of a written narrative.</p> <p>Organizations will also join a 1-hour gathering with other grantees to share successes and opportunities.</p>

		These will likely be held in a virtual format.
	<i>These informal presentations and learnings will be documented by Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo staff to reduce administrative burden on organizations. Organizations will also be provided the opportunity to provide anonymous feedback on their respective grant opportunity.</i>	