

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 9, 2021
Contact: Erin Bruce, Integrated Membership/Media Specialist
(269) 492-1782 | ebruce@kalamazooarts.org
359 S. Kalamazoo Mall, Suite 203 | Kalamazoo, MI 49007
www.kalamazooarts.org



Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo Announces 2021 Fiscal Year Grant Opportunities and Workshops

KALAMAZOO, Mich. – The Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo (ACGK) is pleased to announce the 2021 fiscal year (FY) grant opportunities and free workshops available to the community.

During the FY20 grant cycle, the ACGK awarded \$351,000 to 83 artists and organizations, added three new grant programs, including the COVID Bridge Fund for Art Organizations, and supported 80 participants in seven free grant workshops.

“The Arts Council is pleased to be able to continue to offer grants to artists and arts organizations while they plan their recovery and re-openings,” said ACGK Executive Director Kristen Chesak.

The ACGK will offer seven different grant programs throughout 2021 grant cycle. It will also host 12 free grant workshops during 2021 to help potential applicants through the grant application and utilization process. Grant application fees are waived for Arts Council members.

“We also hope that potential recipients will take advantage of our grant workshops to shape the applications for the best chance possible to get funding,” said Chesak.

“Since our staff does not make the decisions about the grant funding, we are perfectly positioned to give great advice, and we love to talk about all of the great projects and opportunities that our artists are planning for our community.”

Interested individuals and organizations can find more information on how to apply for grants and register for workshops on the ACGK website at www.kalamazooarts.org.

FY21 GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Kalamazoo Artistic Development Initiative (KADI) Grant

Funded by the Irving S. Gilmore Foundation, this grant is designed to support individual artists in their endeavor to develop themselves and their art through projects or professional development. Individual artists residing in Kalamazoo County are eligible to apply. Round I applications will open on March 15, 2021 and close on May 17, 2021. Round II applications will open on October 15, 2021 and close on December 15, 2021.

Kalamazoo Artistic Development Initiative (KADI) Immediate Needs Minigrant

Funded by the Irving S. Gilmore Foundation, this grant provides funding for individual artists who have unanticipated, sudden opportunities to present their work to the public when there is insufficient time to seek other sources of funding or incur unexpected or unbudgeted expenses for projects close to completion with committed exhibition, performance, or deadline dates. Individual artists living in Kalamazoo County are invited to apply. Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis, so artists can apply when ready.

The Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo exists to infuse arts and culture into the commercial, educational, and creative economies of our region.

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MCACA Region 8 Minigrants

The State of Michigan, Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs (MCACA), Region 8 Minigrant provides up to \$4,000 for locally developed, high-quality arts and cultural projects as well as up to \$1,500 for professional and organizational development.

Applicants are limited to registered nonprofit organizations, schools, colleges/universities, and municipalities, located in the state of Michigan. Professional Development grant requests are open to both 501(c)(3) organizations as well as individual professional artists.

Round I applications are now open and will close on August 3, 2021. Round II applications will open if funding is available and will close on January 14.

MCACA Arts Equipment and Bussing Grants

The State of Michigan, Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs (MCACA), Arts Equipment and Bussing Grants are state-funded grant programs. These grant programs offer funds to pay for arts equipment purchases or repairs up to \$1,500 and transportation costs to arts activities up to \$500.

Applicants must be accredited Michigan pre-K-12 educational institution, public or non-public school, private school, home school, school district, intermediate school district/regional educational service agency or an accredited Head Start program in Kalamazoo County. Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis until funds are exhausted.

Arts Fund of Kalamazoo County

The Arts Fund of Kalamazoo County was established in 1986 through a Kalamazoo Community Foundation Initiative Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. This grant is intended to support artists and artistic projects that remove barriers, provide access, and engage culturally diverse and/or underserved communities.

Individual artists and arts organizations in Kalamazoo County are invited to apply. Round I applications will open on July 15, 2021 and close on September 15, 2021. Round II applications will open on December 15, 2021 and close on February 15, 2022.

2021 GRANT WORKSHOPS

If you are an individual artist or an arts organization looking for opportunities to fund a project or professional development opportunity, the ACGK can help. These free grant workshops are great for first-time grant applicants but will be helpful and informative to seasoned applicants as well.

Fund Your Passion: An Intro to ACGK Grants

This workshop is designed to illuminate the various grant programs provided by the ACGK as well as funding opportunities through the State of Michigan. Additionally, the Arts Council will share some tips and tricks to ensure a well-crafted and compelling grant request, techniques for framing a budget, and what information is valuable for a final report.

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This free grant workshop is available four times throughout the year:

Monday, March 29, 2021 from 4 pm – 5:30 pm
Thursday, April 15, 2021 from 4 pm – 5:30 pm
Tuesday, July 13, 2021 from 4 pm – 5:30 pm
Wednesday, November 3, 2021 from 4 pm – 5:30 pm

Making Your Case: Tips for Creating an Exciting Narrative

This workshop is designed to help applicants think critically through their project or professional development opportunity. The workshop will cover how to succinctly and accurately reflect what applicants are trying to accomplish and how it will benefit them and their community. They will also cover tips and tricks for “reading between the lines” in the guidelines and using the criteria to provide to format the narrative portion of the grant application.

This free grant workshop is available three times throughout the year:

Wednesday, April 7, 2021 from 10 am – 11:30 am
Monday, July 19, 2021 from 4 pm – 5:30 pm
Tuesday, November 9, 2021 from 11 am – 12:30 pm

Grant Workshop: Creating a Stellar Budget

This workshop is designed to give applicants some tips and tricks to ensure a well-crafted and compelling grant request, techniques for framing their budget, and what information is valuable to include in a final report.

This free grant workshop is available three times throughout the year:

Friday, April 16, 2021 from 11:30 am – 1 pm
Thursday, July 22, 2021 from 11:30 am – 1 pm
Friday, November 12, 2021 from 3:30 pm – 5 pm

Grant Workshop: Crushing your Final Report

This workshop is designed to give applicants some tips and tricks to ensure a well-crafted and compelling grant request, techniques for framing their budget, and what information is valuable to include in their final report.

This free grant workshop is available two times throughout the year:

Wednesday, July 14, 2021 from 11:30 am – 1 pm
Thursday, November 4, 2021 from 11:30 am – 1 pm

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In addition to workshops, the ACGK also offers one-on-one conversations to help applicants navigate each program and understand the best program for their needs. The organization provides technical assistance with grant writing as well as referrals. To coordinate a coaching session, contact ACGK Executive Director, Kristen Chesak, at kchesak@kalamazooarts.org.

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