

Art + Community Grant Program

2024 Guidelines

Deadline: April 29, 2024

Grant Request Amount: Up to \$2,000

Estimated Total Number of Grant Awards: 5-10

Grant Activity Period: June 1, 2024-May 31, 2025

Matching Funds: Not Required

Estimated Arrival of Funds: May 20, 2024

Apply at: www.mariposaartscouncil.org/grant

The Mariposa County Arts Council, Inc. (MCACI) is an incorporated non-profit organization and our mission is to promote and support all forms of the cultural arts, for all ages, throughout Mariposa County.

Learn more at www.mariposaartscouncil.org

Contents

2024 Guidelines	1
Background and Purpose	3
Project Requirements	3
Eligibility Requirements	4
Eligibility Request Amounts	4
Matching Funds	4
Grant Submission Instructions	5
Applicant Criteria	6
Documents and Resources	8
Panel Adjudication and Ranking Scale	9
Program Timeline	10
Staff Assistance	10
Grantee Requirements	11
About the Mariposa County Arts Council	14
Mariposa County Arts Council Board Members	14
Mariposa County Arts Council Staff	14
Organization Contact Information	14
Mission and Purpose	15
Our Values	15
Equity Statement	16

Background and Purpose

The Mariposa County Arts Council's Art + Community grant program, funded by the County of Mariposa, supports artists and grassroots organizations using art projects and cultural programming to achieve community goals or serve, uplift and represent underserved populations in Mariposa County.

Project Requirements

Applicants must be actively involved in projects or programs aligned with the program's goals, completed within the specified timeline. Project planning, implementation, and evaluation must demonstrate a deep understanding of and reflect a commitment to include and represent the communities and or ecosystems (natural, civic, or social) being supported. All funded activities or projects, including online spaces, must be accessible to individuals with disabilities.

Eligibility Requirements

Applicants can be individual artists **or** community organizations and must adhere to the following:

- Mariposa-based: Applicants' residence or principal place of business must be in Mariposa County.
- Arts programming or practice: Applicants must demonstrate a minimum two-year history of consistent engagement in arts programming, art making, and/or service prior to the application deadline.
- If applying as an individual artist, you must be 18 years of age or older.
- If applying as an organization, the organization must be a 501(c)(3) or have a fiscal sponsor. Non-governmental organizations must show proof of nonprofit status under section 501(c)(3) to apply.
 - Fiscal Sponsorship: If working with a fiscal sponsor, the fiscal sponsor will provide fiscal oversight and administrative services, with a signed Letter of Agreement submitted with the application. The fiscal sponsor becomes the legal contract holder if a grant is awarded, and a change during the grant activity period is not permissible.

Eligibility Request Amounts

An applicant artist or organization may request between \$750-2,000 for the grant period. Awardees should be aware that they may not receive the entire amount requested.

Matching Funds

Matching funds are not required for this grant.

Grant Submission Instructions

- Review full grant guidelines
- Prepare responses to the criteria listed below
- Review County plans for aligned policies, strategies and recommendations
- Prepare any necessary documents and forms:
 - Personnel List
 - Project Budget
 - Work Samples (1-3)
 - Letter of Agreement (for fiscally sponsored organizations only)
 - 2-Year Budget Snapshot (for organizations only)
 - Work History Form (for individual artists only)
- Once prepared, access the grant portal at www.mariposaartscouncil.org/grant
- Complete and submit the application before April 29.
- Stand-by for award notifications

If you have questions about this process, or need technical support, please contact Arts Council staff well in advance of the grant deadline.

Applicant Criteria

The grant application requires responses to the following questions. Some questions require documentation. We recommend preparing your responses and documentation before entering the grant portal.

1. Program/Project Objectives:

- Provide a concise description of your program/project's objectives and how they address a community-identified need or opportunity. Include a timeline outlining activities supporting the realization of the program/project's objectives. *(400 words or less)*
- Briefly explain what inspired you or your organization to use the arts as a tool for community upliftment in Mariposa. *(250 words or less)*

2. Community Engagement and Relevance:

Describe actions taken to build trust and ongoing relationships with identified communities being served through your project or program. Address evaluation plans, community responsiveness, and how community voices will be central throughout the project (including development, implementation, and evaluation). *(400 words or less)*.

3. Alignment with County Policy:

If applicable, identify and briefly explain how the proposed project aligns with or supports a County policy, strategy, or recommendation. *(250 words or less)*

4. Artistic Expertise:

Briefly describe the expertise of the artist(s) leading the project in their forms of art and cultural expression. *(250 words or less)*

5. Professional Capacity:

- Provide a brief biography for each key individual (artistic, technical, or administrative) involved in your organization or project. Include name, title, relevant experience, and role.
- Complete a detailed project budget, including all expenses relevant to the stated project activities.
- Organizations will need to provide a 2 year budget snapshot
- Individual artists will need to provide examples of similar projects or programs they've completed in the past 5 years.

6. Work Samples:

Provide 1-3 work samples created within the past three years, relevant to this grant opportunity. Samples may include artistic work, press materials, flyers, brochures, programs, newsletters, audio, video, or other marketing pieces.

7. Accessibility for Individuals with Disabilities:

Describe how your project, programs, services, and online spaces will be accessible for individuals with disabilities, considering various challenges such as deafness, visual disabilities, developmental disabilities, and chronic illnesses. *(400 words or less)*

Documents and Resources

Relevant County Plans

- [Mariposa County General Plan](#)
- [Creative Placemaking Strategy](#)
- [Mariposa Creek Master Plan and Community Design and Development \(Creek Parkway Phase IV\)](#)
- [Mariposa County Economic Vitality Strategy](#)
- [Recreation and Resiliency Master Plan](#)
- [Sustainable Agriculture Lands Conservation Program](#)
- [Merced River Trail Vision Plan](#)
- [Mariposa County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan](#)
- [Integrated Mobility and Housing Strategy](#)

Application Documents

- [Personnel List](#)
- [Project Budget](#)
- [Letter of Agreement](#) (for fiscally sponsored organizations only)
- [2-Year Budget Snapshot](#) (for organizations only)
- [Work History Form](#) (for individual artists only)

Panel Adjudication and Ranking Scale

Panelists review and rank applications and work samples using a 6-point ranking scale that considers the following criteria:

- Artistic Merit
- Project/Program Design and Implementation
- Community Engagement/Relevance/Impact
- Artist’s/Organization’s Professional Capacity
- Accessibility

Ranking	Rank Title	Rank Description
6	Exemplary	Fully achieves the purpose of the program. <i>Meets all of the review criteria and project requirements to the highest degree</i>
5	Strong	<i>Meets all of the review criteria and project requirements to a significant degree. Sufficiently achieves the purpose of the program</i>
4	Good	Sufficiently achieves the purpose of the program. <i>Meets all of the review criteria and project requirements to some degree</i>
3	Fair	Moderately achieves the purpose of the program. <i>Meets most of the review criteria and project requirements</i>
2	Marginal	Minimally achieves the purpose of the program. <i>Meets some of the review criteria and project requirements</i>
1	Weak	Does not achieve the purpose of the program; proposals that are not appropriate for this grant category. <i>Inadequately meets the review criteria or project requirements</i>

Program Timeline

Application Opens	April 8, 2024
Webinar and Technical Assistance	April 10 and April 18, 2024
Application Deadline	April 29, 2024
Panel Review	May 6-9, 2024
Funding Decision	May 10, 2024
Funding Notification	May 13, 2024
Estimated Arrival of Funds	May 20, 2024
Grant Activity Period	June 1, 2024-May 31, 2025
Final Report Deadline	June 30, 2025

Staff Assistance

For guidance or clarification, email is the preferred method to reach staff. Contact staff well in advance of the deadline for assistance. For technical help, reach out to our Programs and Project Directors:

- Ava Burns: burns@mariposaartscouncil.org
- Clay River: river@mariposaartscouncil.org

Grantee Requirements

Awarded grantees must comply with all requirements as stipulated in the grant agreement, including but not limited to the following:

Complete contract documents - Upon notification of grant award, complete all required contract documents in order to receive grant payment. Contract documents must be received by the Mariposa County Arts Council within 60 days of issuance, or the grant funding may be revoked.

W-9 Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification - Each awarded organization or fiscal sponsor (if applicable) must complete, sign, and submit a W-9 Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification as a required contract document before grant funds can be released.

Consistent activities - Carry out activities consistent with the original proposal summary statement and the intent of the application as approved for funding, including in instances where the grant award may be less than the original request amount.

Approval for changes - Programming activities must be completed as proposed. Changes must be proposed in advance and require prior written approval from Arts Council staff. Requests for changes are considered on a case-by-case basis.

Thank you letters - To better inform our elected representatives of the value of the arts and the use of County funds, grantees are required to include copies of signed letters sent to the [Mariposa County Board of Supervisors](#) thanking them for the grant.

Use of Mariposa County and Mariposa County Arts Council logos - Use of the Mariposa County and Mariposa County Arts Council logos are required on all printed and electronic materials and websites (programs, catalogs, postcards, posters, newsletters, leaflets, publications, etc.) that specifically reference this grant.

Mariposa County and Mariposa County Arts Council acknowledgement - The following acknowledgement of Mariposa County and Mariposa County Arts Council funding is required on all printed and electronic materials: *“This activity is funded in part by the County of Mariposa and the Mariposa County Arts Council.”*

Final report - Provide a final report summarizing grant-funded activities and accomplishments within 30 days of the end of the grant activity period. Grantees that do not submit reports by the posted deadlines may jeopardize their organization’s opportunity for future funding from the Arts Council.

Ownership, Copyrights, Royalties, Credit -The Arts Council does not claim ownership, copyrights, royalties, or other claim to artwork produced as a result of an Arts Council grant. However, the Arts Council reserves the right to reproduce and use such material for official, noncommercial purposes, including but not limited to use on the Arts Council website, social media and print materials. In addition, the Arts Council requires documentation of grants activity and appropriate credit for Arts Council partial support.

What We Do Not Fund

- As applicants:
 - State agencies
 - Federal agencies
 - Non-arts organizations not involved in arts activities
 - For-profit organizations
- Former grantees not in compliance with Mariposa County Arts Council’s grant requirements, such as failing to submit a final report (as stipulated in grant agreement)
- Expenses incurred before the start date or after the ending date of the Grant Activity Period
- Operational, administrative, or indirect costs of schools, colleges, or universities
- Fundraising activities or services such as grant writing, annual campaigns, or fundraising events
- Lobbying activities that are intended to influence the actions, policies, or decisions of government officials or specific legislation

- Programs or services intended for private use, or for use by restricted membership (including programs that require college or university enrollment for participation)
- Projects with religious purposes
- Trusts, endowment funds, or investments
- Construction projects, purchase of land and buildings, or capital expenditures used to maintain, upgrade, acquire, or repair capital assets
- Equipment purchases (equipment rentals are eligible)
- Debt repayment
- Hospitality expenses, meals, or food
- Out-of-state travel

Appeals Process

Before requesting an appeal, check that your request qualifies by reading the following. Appeals are only granted if:

- Panel's assessment was based on a misstatement of information in the application that negatively influenced the panel's recommendation; and/or
- Incorrect processing of the required application material, which negatively influenced the panel's recommendation.

Dissatisfaction with award denial or award amount does not qualify for appeal.

1. Request an official Appeal Form by emailing the Mariposa County Arts Council staff person indicated on your grant notification letter.
2. Fill out the official Appeal Form and email or post mark to the contact listed on the form within 45 days of grant notification.

About the Mariposa County Arts Council

Mariposa County Arts Council Board Members

- John Stewart, President
- Flora Savage, 1st Vice President
- Jesse Chakrin, 2nd Vice President
- James Mason, Treasurer
- Shane Sweeting, Secretary
- Lizz Darcy, Director
- Derek Huele, Director
- April Kunieda, Director
- Polina Pivak, Director

Mariposa County Arts Council Staff

- Cara Goger, Executive Director
- Alicia Rodriguez, Director of Operations
- Daisy Phillips, Director of Communications and Membership
- Ava Burns, Co-Director of Projects and Programs
- Clay River, Co-Director of Projects and Programs

Organization Contact Information

- 5009 CA-140 // P.O. Box 2134
- Mariposa, CA 95338
- (209) 966-3155
- www.mariposaartscouncil.org
- Office Hours // 10:00am - 4:00pm, Monday - Friday

Mission and Purpose

The Mariposa County Arts Council, Inc. (MCACI) is an incorporated non-profit organization and our mission is to promote and support all forms of the cultural arts, for all ages, throughout Mariposa County.

Our work involves arts education programs, public arts events and creative placemaking projects, as well as community partnership and arts policy. All our efforts are designed to enrich Mariposa economically, socially, and culturally, and to serve our County's diverse communities.

The Arts Council is Mariposa County's State-Local Partner (SLP) to the California Arts Council and is funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts.

Our Values

We believe that the arts contribute significantly to the vibrancy and health of Mariposa County, and our programs and the services we provide are designed to benefit our community in the following ways:

- Serve the diverse interests of residents living in and around Mariposa County
- Positively increase the visibility of Mariposa
- Leverage the many positive facets of art for constructive community engagement, civic dialogue and social change
- Support the local economy
- Provide opportunities for collaboration among individuals, organizations, businesses and civic leaders in Mariposa and beyond
- Act as a conduit to better connect the community of Mariposa to issues, movements and opportunities beyond its boundaries
- Foster awareness of the wide range of artistic voices and media offering different lenses of interpretation for our community, environment and world
- Utilize the arts as an equalizer that can create a level playing field where underrepresented voices can be heard, amplified and engaged

- Contribute to the health of all people by engaging them in the creation and appreciation of art.

Equity Statement

The Arts Council endeavors to grow an inclusive organization and creative culture in Mariposa buoyed by multiple perspectives, amplifying equity and strengthening our ability to see each other more clearly. Therefore, we:

- Actively commit ourselves to the just and fair inclusion of all people into a society in which all can participate, prosper, and reach their full potential, celebrating the complexity and strength that equity brings to every facet of life in Mariposa County.
- Embrace the work of confronting and addressing systemic inequities, historic oppression, and racism seeded throughout our social, cultural, environmental, and economic landscape.
- Recognize the power of representation and honor our community by welcoming people from all backgrounds and life experiences to our leadership table, partnership network, staff family, and community of program participants and audience members.
- Proceed guided by kindness, honesty, grace, openness, generosity, humility, and inclusivity.