



## **Waterloo Region Community Foundation Arts Grants Fund – 2023 Funding Guidelines**

### **About the Fund:**

The 2023 Arts Grants program, through Waterloo Region Community Foundation (WRCF), supports initiatives focused on the arts in Waterloo Region.

Working with a volunteer committee comprised of individuals from Waterloo Region’s arts sector, we have developed the following guidelines:

- Approximately \$250,000 in total funding is available
- Applications will be accepted for a grant of up to \$20,000
- Funding must be used before December 31, 2024
- The deadline to apply is September 24, 2023 at 11:59 pm EST
- Due to the amount of funding available, only one application per organization will be considered, and partial funding may be granted.

*Note: the Arts Grants Committee has provided \$15,000 to Pat the Dog Theatre Creation as part of a Microgrant program for individual artists across Waterloo Region. More information about this program can be found [here](#).*

### **Eligibility:**

- Emerging, small or medium sized not-for-profit arts organizations or arts collectives, defined as a group of local people that have come together in a structured way, for an artistic purpose. For purposes of this funding the total annual revenue of your organization cannot exceed \$500,000
- Not-for-profit organizations that are requesting funding specifically for an “arts project/initiative” that aligns with their work and engages members of their community. The total arts/culture programming for your organization must not exceed \$500,000
- Your organization/collective is based in Waterloo Region, and has been providing services and/or programming to people in Waterloo Region (Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo, Wellesley, Wilmot, Woolwich, North Dumfries)
- We will give priority to funding organizations/collectives that value and embody the concept “nothing about us, without us” within your organizational structure and programming. (For example: how are the people you are seeking to serve or provide programming for included in decision making, delivery and/or measurement of your initiatives?)

### **Your organization is:**

- A registered charity or qualified donee recognized by Canada Revenue Agency (CRA)
- A not-for-profit organization that is not a registered charity, that has set up a partnership with a registered charity or qualified donee. If you plan to partner with another organization to receive funding, they would be your organization or collective’s “fiscal partner” for this grant, and would be accountable for monitoring your project. We would issue your grant to them on your behalf. If you want more information about how this works – contact us, we can help. Or you can find information about qualified donees, fiscal partnerships and/or download the fiscal partnership form [here](#).



### What this fund is focused on supporting:

For 2023, the Arts Grants Fund is looking to provide support to initiatives that demonstrate one or more of the following:

1. Innovation – new and emerging arts organizations and/or initiatives
2. Diversity – art that is inspired and/or sourced from a variety of lived experiences
3. Sustainability – for small and medium sized organizations that require some funding to continue to do the work they do in community

Priority will be given to projects/initiatives that can demonstrate innovation and/or diversity, vs. those focused on sustainability. In addition, preference will be given to applications that can demonstrate the impact of the funds that will be received. Things to consider are: how will our community benefit from this funding, and how many people will it support and how will they be supported?

### Eligible expenses:

The project/initiative's combined expenses on the areas listed below must be at least as much as the amount requested

- People costs (wages, artist fees, support to staff, mental health and wellness, consulting fees etc.) Note: Artist fees should be at least the wage of the discipline as recommended by artists' professional organizations. For a list of organizations that publish wage rates, [click here](#).
- Materials and supplies
- Equipment purchase, rental, lease and maintenance
- Administration costs
- Technology costs
- Printing and communication
- Community outreach and engagement
- Program related expenses

Please see examples of eligible expenses in Appendix A

### The following expenses are not eligible for funding through the Community Arts Grants:

- Fundraising expenses
- Funding to individuals
- Endowment requests or deficit reductions
- Political or religious activities
- Research
- Activities outside of Waterloo Region

### Evaluation:

We will want to know how this funding helped our community. If you receive a grant, we will need you to complete a short grant evaluation that tells us how you used the funds, and the impact you had. The final report is due by January 31, 2025.

(Note: we will provide you with a template and assistance if you have any questions.)



If you have questions about the Granting Guidelines including what expenses are eligible – please email [grants@wrcf.ca](mailto:grants@wrcf.ca).

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**Appendix A: Examples of eligible expenses that could be funded through the Arts Grants Fund:**

- Costs to cover rehearsal space
- Exhibition costs
- Podcasts development and broadcasting costs
- Digital activities and streaming support
- Performance production costs
- Community outreach and engagement projects
- Costs to develop and execute creative skills classes
- Support to build infrastructure for children/youth so they can participate in the program
- Online tools to deliver programs
- Extra supplies so each participant has their own tools