

Individual Arts Grants: Performing Artists

Program Guidelines 2026/27

Grant Program Summary

Grant program purpose: To support established B.C.-based performing artists, playwrights, producers, and arts and culture practitioners in the development, production, performance, or creation of new or unique performing arts works. Includes dance, music, theatre, multidisciplinary, or other performing arts practices such as circus arts and comedy

Maximum grant amount: \$25,000

Applications – Open: April 15 | **Close:** May 27 | **Results expected:** last week of September 2026

Next intake: Spring 2027 (subject to change). You can find the [Grant Program Calendar](#) on the Funding section of our website.

Who can apply: B.C.-based individuals with an established performing arts practice. Applicants must meet all eligibility criteria listed in the [Who can apply](#) section.

New applicants: You must register in the online system to access the application. Before you register or begin your application, you are encouraged to talk with a Program Advisor and make sure **you are eligible** and **your proposed project is eligible**. Ineligible applications will not be forwarded for assessment.

Contact us. We are here to help.

Review these program guidelines and the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) on the BC Arts Council website before applying. Contact a Program Advisor if you have questions.

Theatre, Multidisciplinary and Other Performing Arts Practices:

Justine Shore – Program Advisor
250-940-8538 | Justine.Shore@gov.bc.ca

Dance and Music:

Kaitlyn Reining – Program Advisor
778-405-3973 | Kaitlyn.Reining@gov.bc.ca

For general information, contact: 250-356-1718 | BCArtsCouncil@gov.bc.ca

BC Arts Council office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Pacific Time), Monday to Friday.

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Guidelines are reviewed and updated before every intake.

Be sure you are working with the most current version.

Any updates to guidelines made after the grant program opens will be highlighted

Acknowledgement

The BC Arts Council acknowledges it carries out its work on the land of Indigenous nations throughout British Columbia. We pay our respects to the Elders and Knowledge Keepers, past and present, descendants and custodians of these lands and waters. We are grateful for the continuing relationships with Indigenous people that develop through our work together. We acknowledge and raise our hands to the lək̓ʷəŋən (Lekwungen) people, known today as the Songhees and Xwsepsum (Kosapsum) Esquimalt Nations, on whose lands we operate our main offices.

About Individual Arts Grants: Performing Artists

Individual Arts Grants: Performing Artists supports established B.C.-based performing artists, playwrights, producers, and arts and culture practitioners in the development, production, performance, or creation of new or unique performing arts works.

- BC Arts Council grant programs support a wide variety of practices within the performing arts, including Dance (performance, choreography)
- Music (audio or sound art, composition, conducting, music production, performance for instruments or voice)
- Theatre (acting, applied theatre, , design, devising, directing, musical theatre, playwriting, production and stage management, technical direction)
- Multidisciplinary/Other performing arts practices (interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary, comedy, circus, storytelling, clown)

Multidisciplinary projects and activities involve multiple art forms, or blend disciplines together to create one piece of work. No single art form should encapsulate the majority of the work.

Independent presenters may apply for projects that include organizing, programming, producing, or presenting live performances, either independently or in collaboration with other performing artists.

Collaborative projects that involve two or more artists sharing creative control should be submitted by a single applicant that meets the eligibility for the program, as listed below. Collaborating artists are not required to meet all eligibility criteria but must include a resume, CV and/or biography.

Playwrights who were previously able to apply to **Individual Arts Grants: Creative Writers** are now eligible through this program. All drama-related projects, including playwrighting, workshops, and play development, are now funded exclusively through this program.

Grant amounts

Maximum grant amount is \$25,000.

You may request a grant for up to 100% of the total eligible expenses.

For those applying for [subsistence costs](#), you may request up to a **maximum of \$15,000** for subsistence related expenses.

Submit a realistic and balanced budget that shows how much money you need to complete the project. BC Arts Council intends to support successful applications at 100% of their request. However, in some cases, grants may be awarded for less than requested.

BC Arts Council grant programs are competitive. We are not able to support all eligible applications. We generally fund between 20% to 40% of eligible applications in a program intake. To see a list of previous grant recipients and the range of grants awarded, visit the [BC Arts Council Grant Recipients](#) webpage.

Who Can Apply

Before you begin your application, make sure **you are eligible** and **your proposed project is eligible**. Ineligible applications will not be forwarded for assessment.

Applicant eligibility

To be eligible, you must:

- Be an independent artist committed to working full-time within the performing arts when financially possible.
- Demonstrate you are an established performing artist or arts and culture practitioner in a CV or resume, by having:
 - **Completed appropriate and relevant training in your field of practice.** Training may include post-secondary institutions, traditional knowledge transfer, or a series of professional level workshops or apprenticeships with a qualified practitioner or mentor.
 - Worked at a level that is recognized as professional by other practitioners in a similar field or by organizations in the artistic practice.
 - Have a minimum of **two years** of actively working in your field after completing basic training, with at least two public presentations for which you have been paid a professional fee (as outlined in the discipline-specific criteria outlined below):
 - **Theatre Artists:** A minimum of two public presentations for which you have directed, or been contracted, presented, or held creative control on and for which you have been paid professional fees.
 - **Playwrights:** a minimum of two short works or one full-length work professionally produced, published, or publicly workshopped, and for which you have been paid professional fees.
 - **Music Artists and Composers:** A minimum of two public presentations in any music genre for which you have composed, or been contracted, presented, or held creative control on and for which you have been paid professional fees.
 - **Dance Artists and Choreographers** A minimum of two public presentations in any dance genre for which you have choreographed, or been contracted, presented, or held creative control on and for which you have been paid professional fees.
 - **Multi- and Interdisciplinary Performing Artists:** A minimum of two public presentations that integrates multiple fields of practice, for which you have been contracted, presented, or held creative control on and for which you have been paid professional fees.

- **Other Performing Artists: (i.e.: Comedy or Circus Arts)** A minimum of two public presentations for which you have been contracted, presented, or held creative control on and for which you have been paid professional fees.
- **Independent Presenters:** A minimum of two public presentations for which you have maintained primary creative control and decision making for programming, and for which you have been paid professional fees.
- **D/deaf, Disability and Mad Arts:** A minimum of two public presentations across any performing arts practice for which you have received professional fees.
- **Community-Engaged Performing Artists:** Lead or facilitated two participatory performing arts projects in a community setting or learning environment for which you have received professional fees.

OR

- **For Indigenous applicants who do not meet the above criteria:** Have previously received at least one grant to assist with the creation of work through the First Peoples' Cultural Council arts program.

Culturally specific practices where compensation is not traditional may still be eligible. Contact a Program Advisor to discuss prior to applying.

To be eligible, all applicants must also:

- Be a Canadian citizen or Permanent Resident of Canada.
- Be a B.C. resident who ordinarily resides in B.C. and has lived in the province for at least 12 months immediately prior to the application closing date. For more information, review our [Determining B.C. Residency](#) page. You must be prepared to provide documentation to support your residency status (if requested).
- Have final creative control over the proposed work, for example: owning the copyright, publishing rights, or masters; receiving royalties on remounts or additional productions; having approval over the final artistic project.
- Fairly compensate artists, arts and culture practitioners, technicians, Elders, and Knowledge Keepers. Compensation must align with project and community contexts and industry standards within the field of practice.
- Engage skilled artistic, curatorial, editorial, and administrative leadership for project or service delivery.
- Follow international intellectual property rights standards and cultural ownership protocols.
- Follow the [Criminal Records Review Act](#) which requires that people who work with or may have unsupervised access to children or vulnerable adults must undergo a criminal record check by the [Criminal Records Review Program](#).
- Not have any overdue final reports on previous BC Arts Council grants.

Ineligible applicants

- Emerging artists and early career practitioners with less than two years of established practice. These applicants may be eligible for support through the BC Arts Council's [Early Career Development program](#).
- Students applying for activities that are carried out to satisfy course requirements, tuition, or registration fees towards a degree, diploma, or certificate at a post-secondary institution, college, university, or academy. Students may be eligible for support through the BC Arts Council's [Scholarship program](#).
- Artists who work exclusively in commercial and/or private capacities (for example: wedding & event performers, corporate choreographers, event photographers/videographers, commission and commercial gallery-based visual artists, graphic design and illustration, journalists).
- Individuals applying on behalf of an organization or private business.

What you can apply for

Ineligible applications will not be forwarded for assessment. This grant program provides one-time funding for specific projects or activities led by an individual.

Projects can include activities that span multiple phases of the creative process, such as:

- Creation of new work (early drafts, research, composition, creation-based residencies)
- Project development (workshopping, presentations-in-development, collaborations, stage readings, talk-backs)
- Presentation (live performance, world premieres, full productions, post-production, self-produced tours)

Examples of eligible projects

Some examples include:

- A musician composing their own work and hiring additional artists to collaborate.
- A dancer commissioning a choreographer and musician to create an original work.
- A playwright working on an early draft of a play, alongside a dramaturge.
- A theatre artist workshopping a solo show and holding a stage reading with audience feedback.
- An artist leading a collaborative, multidisciplinary piece, and workshopping the movement and spacing of the work-in-progress.
- A comedian embarking on a self-produced comedy tour.
- An independent producer hosting a live cabaret of local and touring musicians.

Eligible expenses

Grants are available to support:

- Subsistence costs up to \$750 per week, **to a maximum of \$15,000**. [See below](#) for more details.
- Costs of materials or supplies directly related to the project
- Purchase of equipment up to \$2,500, if directly related to the project
- Rental of equipment or space when directly related to the project
- Fees paid to Elders and Knowledge Keepers
- Fees paid to other professionals or contractors to help complete the project (for example, other artists, practitioners, technicians, editors or sensitivity readers)
- Travel expenses directly related to completing the project
- Accessibility costs related to the project for applicants that are not eligible in the Access Support program

For applicants who identify as D/deaf or having a disability: You may request additional funding for accessibility expenses (for example, ASL interpretation, personal support worker, transcription, specialized equipment rental) to carry out the project activities.

Review the Access Support program guidelines prior to requesting funds at: www.BCArtsCouncil.ca/program/access-support/. Audience accessibility expenses are not eligible for Access Support and should be requested in the main project budget.

Subsistence

You may request subsistence of up to \$750 per week, **to a maximum of \$15,000**.

Subsistence expenses are in lieu of an artist fee and support living costs while undertaking the research and creation portion of a project or activity. These include housing costs/rent, food, and local transportation. If you receive the grant, you are expected to devote most of your time to your project for the timeframe specified in your application. Preparatory time can be included in your subsistence request. You can also include an artist fee for yourself if you are involved in additional activities such as workshopping, rehearsing, or performing, but you cannot request both subsistence and a fee for the same time frame/activity.

Required artist payment in project activities

Eligible projects must include appropriate payment to the artists, arts and culture practitioners, and other members of the project team engaged in the proposed activities. Payments to artists should be consistent with recommended rates set by relevant arts service organizations, professional associations, or established practitioners within the field of practice. Payment structures that are not guaranteed, or that risk low or non-payment to artists do not meet this compensation requirement (for example, honoraria, commission-based sales of artworks, percentage of door sales).

RESOURCES

Recommended Artist & Crew Fee Schedules (by field of practice)

- ❑ **CAEA** ([Canadian Actors Equity Association](#))
- ❑ **CFM** ([Canadian Federation of Musicians](#))
- ❑ **CADA** ([Canadian Alliance of Dance Artists](#))
- ❑ **IATSE** ([International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees](#))

Required payment to Elders and Knowledge Keepers in project activities

Applicants should pay Elders and Knowledge Keepers according to community context and appropriate protocols.

RESOURCE: The First Peoples' Cultural Council [Working with Elders](#) document is a free resource to support those engaging with Elders and Knowledge Keepers.

Exclusions - What will not be funded

Grants are not available to support the following projects or activities:

- Project phases or activities that begin before the application closing date
- Projects or activities that are not based on artistic or curatorial decision making, or where arts and culture is not the primary focus
- Research activities not directly connected to your artistic practice
- Projects or activities that do not involve or benefit artists or arts and culture practitioners
- Projects or activities where there is no engagement with or payment to professional artists
- Activities that require payment from artists to participate without additional compensation, such as artist fees, guarantees, in-kind contributions for travel, accommodation, production expenses, or equivalent
- Fundraising activities
- Family, religious, anniversary, or community celebrations
- Contests and competitions, except if competition is integral to the art form or cultural practice, for example: hip-hop and street dance, rap battles, poetry slams, powwows
- Projects or activities that are primarily intended for or focused within creative industries including architecture, commercial fashion design, commercial film and television, commercial music activities, culinary arts, games, sports, recreation, mass media, journalism, podcasts, graphic design. For example:
 - Creation or writing of screenplays or scripts for film, radio, television, or interactive digital media
 - Creation, promotion, or distribution of works primarily intended for commercial release, such as recording projects, visual albums, or music videos, except those used to support the creation of new works. For example: field recordings, recordings of rehearsals, or demo recordings for documentation, archival, or development purposes

- Creation of works primarily intended for promotional or marketing purposes (such as demo reels), or for distribution through streaming platforms or social media channels
- Music projects or activities supported through Creative BC programs, including the Career Development program. See the Creative BC webpage for funding opportunities in the commercial music industry
- Podcasts and radio programming that are not embedded within established artistic practice or specifically dedicated to the dissemination of artistic works
- Projects where arts therapy, health or therapeutic work is the primary project focus
- Projects that are focused on professional development or arts education. For example: elementary or secondary curriculum-based activities, projects related to continuing education or post-secondary programs at educational institutions, end of the year student productions.
- Activities associated with applicant's ongoing academic studies (for example, an MFA student cast in a mainstage production at a university that they are currently attending.) If you are enrolled in a program, be clear how this application is supporting your individual artistic practice and is separate from the activities of your studies, required for credit or otherwise.
- Instructional, sponsored, or commissioned works
- Projects where final creative control is held by someone other than the lead artist (or artists in a collaborative application)
- Touring, travel, and other activities eligible within the Arts Circulation and Touring grant program
- Projects or activities that will benefit a private or for-profit entity such as a business, or as part of an organization, rather than an individual artistic practitioner. (If you are affiliated with an organization, be clear how this application is supporting your practice as separate from the activities of your organization.)
- Project phases or activities previously funded through this grant program or other BC Arts Council grant programs
- Activities funded with BC Arts Council funds delivered through third-party delivery partners: ArtStarts, First Peoples' Cultural Council, BC Live Performance Network, or Creative BC

Grants are also not available to support the following expenses:

- [Capital expenses](#) (for example, construction, renovation, or significant purchases of property).
- Equipment purchases over \$2,500 or any equipment purchases that are not directly related to the project
- Feasibility studies
- Start-up costs or seed money
- Budget deficits or surpluses

- Contingency expenses
- Loan repayments

When and how to apply

Applications – Open: April 15 | **Close:** May 27 | **Results expected:** last week of September 2026

Submit your application through the [online grant system](#).

Applications will only be accepted until 11:59 p.m. (Pacific Time) on Wednesday, May 27, 2026

You may submit only one application to this grant program, per year.

New applicants

- Closely review these guidelines to make sure you are eligible and your proposed project is eligible.
- Register and create a profile in the BC Arts Council's online Grant Management System (GMS) to access the application. Instructions are on our website: [How to Apply Online](#).
- We recommend you register at least 2 weeks before the application closing date.
- New registrations go through a review. The review and approval process may take up to five business days after we have received all required documents. **Register early to avoid delays.**
- **Registration requests received within five business days of the application closing date will not be processed until after the grant program has closed.** You will not be able to submit an application if you are not registered.
- You will receive an automated email when your registration request is approved.
- Add the automated email address **NoReply@BCArtsCouncil.ca** to your safe senders list and check your spam folders.
- Once approved, you will be able to complete your Personal Profile and access the application.

Returning applicants

- Closely review these guidelines to make sure you are eligible and your proposed project is eligible.
- Update your Personal Profile in the online system before starting the application.

Registration questions? Contact BCArtsCouncil@gov.bc.ca or 250-356-1718 for registration assistance. The BC Arts Council office hours are 8:30 am to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday.

Accessibility support

If you self-identify as D/deaf or disabled, you are eligible for the BC Arts Council's accessibility programs.

[Application Assistance](#) pays for support services for creating and submitting grant applications.

[Access Support](#) provides additional funding for access costs related to a project funded by a BC Arts Council Grant.

These programs do not provide funding for audience accessibility or day-to-day access costs outside of the scope of a project. Accessibility requests are confidential and will not be part of the assessment panel's evaluation of a grant application.

For more information or to request assistance, contact:

Nicola Dunne, Accessibility Coordinator at 778-405-4007 or BCACaccess@gov.bc.ca

Find out more about accessibility supports online at BCArtsCouncil.ca/accessibility.

What is needed for the application

You are responsible for submitting a complete application. We will not contact you to address errors or missing requirements. Eligible applications are assessed as submitted.

As part of our commitment to accessibility, the BC Arts Council accepts parts of applications in audio and sign language formats. See instructions within the application.

All applicants: Update your online Personal Profile (including mailing address and Designated Priority Group and Voluntary Self-Identification sections) before submitting your application.

An **application checklist** is included at the end of these guidelines.

A complete online application must include:

- Details outlining the proposed project including:
 - Summary of the proposed project with rationale, objectives, and outcomes.
 - Project Start Date (which must be after the application closing date) and a realistic Project End Date.
 - Detailed project timeline or work plan.
Note: Notification of results is generally 16 weeks after the application closing date, so plan accordingly if your project is dependent on this grant funding.
 - Completed Project Team Table, including name, responsibility, current location, confirmation of participation, and 100-word biography for each person involved with the proposed activities.
- Balanced project budget.
- All required support material as listed below.

Required support material

Review and follow the [Upload Requirements for Support Material](#) before uploading support material to your online application.

- **Only submit support material that is described below** and related to your proposed activities.
- **Do not submit any additional material.** Excess support material, including multiple links to materials within a single uploaded document, will not be reviewed.
- **Test your materials before submitting your application.** Make sure all support materials open properly and can be read or viewed clearly.

- **Complete the inventory form in the application.** Use this form to provide additional context or information for the assessors about the image, video, audio, or text files you are uploading.

Required support material for this application includes:

- Your curriculum vitae (CV) or resume that includes professional training and related paid professional artistic activities (PDF, maximum three pages).
- Letters from up to two partners or collaborators (as applicable) confirming the nature of their participation in the proposed activities (maximum two letters, one page each). **Do not include general letters of support.**
- **For applicants who are applying to this program for the first time:** One to two letters of reference from established arts and culture practitioners or organizations familiar with the applicant's work.
- Examples of previous work related to the proposed project, **up to a maximum of:**
 - **5 images**
OR
 - **5 minutes total of video or audio**, note timecodes of specific excerpts to be viewed (if applicable)
OR
 - **Sample of script or score** (up to 10 pages, PDF)
OR
 - **Examples of preliminary movement research** (up to 5 minutes of video)
OR
 - **For independent presenters:** Program(s) from past live events or performances you have produced (PDF) or links to event pages or websites.

NOTE: You may submit a combination of the above types of examples to best serve your application. Total examples must not exceed the maximum amount allowed in a single format (for example, 3 images and 2 minutes of video may be submitted).

How funding decisions are made

Peer assessment

The following process is used to evaluate applications to this grant program:

- The BC Arts Council reviews each application for eligibility.
- Eligible applications are forwarded to an independent peer assessment panel. Assessment panels include individuals (assessors) with broad artistic knowledge, experience, geographical representation, and diverse aesthetic, institutional, and cultural viewpoints, including those from Indigenous perspectives.
- Assessors read and score the applications using the assessment criteria below.
- The assessment panel discusses, then ranks the applications. Grants are awarded based on this ranking.
- Funding priority may be given to applicants considered part of a [designated priority group](#).

- The BC Arts Council informs each applicant of the peer assessment panel's decision approximately 16 weeks after the application closing date.
- Applicants may check the status of their application at any time through the online system.
- All results are final.

Assessment criteria

The assessment panel will read and evaluate your application based on the following criteria relative to the applicant's context (including region, capacity, community served, available resources).

Each criteria category is assigned a percentage of your application's total score (out of 100). For example, a category weighted at 20% means you can score between 1 and 20 in that area. Compelling, detailed, and specific answers with strong evidence and clear alignment with the assessment criteria will score higher.

Keep these criteria in mind as you complete your application. Some of the specific points below may not apply to your project. However, your application should clearly explain how the proposed project generally meets each area of assessment.

ARTISTIC CONTRIBUTION AND SIGNIFICANCE (50%)

- Quality and scope of the proposed project, including level of artistry, originality, and overall contribution to the artistic practice.
- Strength, clarity, and urgency of the proposed outcomes and objectives.
- Integrity of the creative processes including ethical approaches and consideration given to:
 - Research methods.
 - Use of source and physical materials.
 - Equitable collaboration processes.
 - Matters of cultural appropriation and representation.
 - Appropriate protocols and practices.
- Meaningful contribution to under-represented artistic practices.

IMPACT ON THE APPLICANT AND COMMUNITY (20%)

- Impact or benefits to the applicant's artistic or professional practice, including the timeliness, urgency, and relevance of the activities for the applicant's career and professional growth.
- Potential impact or benefits to the applicant's own identified communities and the professional arts community in B.C.
- Significance of the project relative to BC Arts Council's priorities of reconciliation, equity, diversity, inclusion, and access.

- Accessibility and safety, including but not limited to physical spaces, intellectual accessibility, cultural and emotional safety, affordability, and support for those who experience barriers or disability.

APPLICANT READINESS (30%)

- A realistic and reasonable plan for using the money, with overall activities relative to the scope of the request.
- A realistic and reasonable timeline demonstrating capacity to complete the project.
- Plans and processes that ensure a respectful, equitable, and safe work environment, including fair compensation
- Experience of partners, collaborators, and supporters, and the clear articulation of their contribution to the project
- Level of experience in realizing comparable projects at a professional standard.

Designated Priority Groups

The BC Arts Council is committed to targeted investment in underserved and equity-deserving groups. These [designated priority groups](#) are the focus of strategic measures, dedicated programs, funding prioritization processes, and other equity support initiatives.

Designated priority groups include applicants and arts and culture practitioners who are:

- Indigenous (First Nations, Métis, or Inuit) Peoples
- Deaf or experience disability
- Black or people of colour
- Located in areas outside [greater Vancouver or the capital region](#)

Applicants who would like to identify as part of a designated priority group must complete the Designated Priority Groups section in their online Personal Profile. All applicants are encouraged to also complete the Voluntary Self-Identification section, but it is not mandatory.

Notification of results and feedback

The BC Arts Council intends to inform applicants of the assessment results approximately **16 weeks** after the application closing date.

Notification is sent by email to the primary contact linked to the application. Emails are sent through the online system. Be sure the email address **NoReply@BCArtsCouncil.ca** is on your safe sender list.

Results will not be shared before official notification emails are sent.

Feedback

Contact a Program Advisor for feedback on your application after you have received notification of the results.

If a previous application for the same project was unsuccessful, we recommend that you request feedback from the Program Advisor and address the concerns in your next application.

Payment of grants and reporting requirements

Grant payments are subject to an authorizing appropriation under the *Financial Administration Act*.

The BC Arts Council reserves the right to redistribute, delay, or suspend payments if the recipient:

- Does not carry out its planned program of activities.
- Makes major changes in artistic or administrative direction.
- Does not meet its obligations as a grant recipient, including submission of final reports.
- Fails to comply with legal obligations.
- Fails to respect the commitment to provide a safe and respectful workplace free from harassment, discrimination, and sexual misconduct.

Grants will be paid by cheque and sent to the mailing address listed in the individual or organization profile in the online system unless the applicant is registered for [direct deposit](#).

Grants are taxable income and must be reported. Individuals receiving grants on their own behalf or on behalf of a collective are issued T4As for the year the grant payment is processed.

Final reports

Grant recipients must submit a final report for the completed project. Final reports must be submitted through the online system within 30 days of the project end date noted in the application.

You will not be able to submit future applications to the BC Arts Council if you have an overdue final report. If at any time, there are significant changes to your approved project or timeline, contact the Program Advisor associated with the program.

Recognition of grants

In recognition of grant funding, BC Arts Council and the Province of British Columbia's support should be acknowledged in all promotional materials, both print and online. The approved BC Arts Council and Province of British Columbia logos and guidelines for use are available [online](#).

Grant recipients with a website are encouraged to add a link to the [BC Arts Council](#) website.

Confidentiality of information

The collection, use, and disclosure of personal information are subject to the privacy provisions of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. The applicant's information will be shared in confidence with members of the assessment panel. The names and locations of successful grant recipients may be published, along with the amount of the grant, in the BC Arts Council's Annual Report as well as in various communications and promotional vehicles of the BC Arts Council and Province of British Columbia. Social Insurance Numbers are provided to Canada Revenue Agency through the issuance of T4As.

About the BC Arts Council

The BC Arts Council is an agency of the Province of British Columbia under the Arts Council Act, nurturing and supporting arts and culture activity in communities across British Columbia. The BC Arts Council is actively committed to reconciliation, equity, diversity, inclusion, and access through our programs and processes.

The BC Arts Council conducts its operations and funding activities in accordance with legislation and other guiding documents such as the [BC Human Rights Code](#), [Accessible BC Act](#), [Accessible Canada Act](#), the [Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act](#) and [Action Plan](#), and the [United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#), as well as the [Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission](#).

For more information about the BC Arts Council's mandate, vision, values, and strategic directions, visit the [About](#) and [Priorities](#) sections on our website. The [What is the BC Arts Council?](#) video on our website includes ASL interpretation with voice over and captions.

Individual Arts Grants: Professional Performing Artists Application Checklist 2025/26

Be sure you have included or completed the following before you submit your application.

Before you apply:

Plan to submit your complete application at least two days before the deadline to avoid last-minute technological issues.

- ❑ **New applicants:** Register in the BC Arts Council online system to gain access to the online application. **Registration requests can take up to 5 business days to process.**
- ❑ **Existing applicants:** [Complete all required updates to your Personal Profile](#)
- ❑ Ensure you have completed and submitted any overdue final reports for previous BC Arts Council grants.
- ❑ Review the Program Guidelines and Application Preview on the [BC Arts Council website](#) for specific requirements for this program.

In your application:

Be sure to read all information outlined in the grey text boxes on the online application, which includes instructions, suggestions, and criteria considerations.

- ❑ Complete each section and answer all questions that are applicable to your project. Questions with the **red *** are mandatory.
- ❑ Ensure your Project Start Date is after the application closing date; include a realistic Project End Date.
- ❑ Clearly describe your project, including the participants or specific communities involved, the creation process, and the intended impacts of the project
- ❑ Try to be as clear as possible and fully respond to each question. Use of short, clear sentences, or point form is encouraged.
- ❑ Upload a detailed project timeline or work plan that includes significant milestones and/or benchmarks. Add details wherever possible and identify which activities will be covered under this grant if there are multiple phases.

Pop-out forms to complete in the application:

Make sure you open and complete the pop-up forms within the application.

- ❑ Project Team Table, including name, responsibility, current location, confirmation of participation, and 100-word biography for each member of the project's team.
- ❑ Project Budget (see below for details).
- ❑ Inventory Form on the Support Material tab, including details about the uploaded media files or URL links.

Budget pop-out:

Use the Project Budget Table provided in the application to submit a balanced budget.

- ❑ Include all expenses and revenues (as applicable) described within the Project Information tab.
- ❑ Include detailed notes for each expense. It should be clear which expenses are covered by the request to this program. Break down any large expenses, where possible.
- ❑ Ensure any ineligible expenses listed within program guidelines are covered by other revenue sources.

- ❑ Indicate whether revenues are confirmed or pending (as applicable). For pending revenues, note if you have previously received this funding in the past.
- ❑ Balance in-kind revenues with in-kind expenses.
- ❑ Make sure Amount Requested in the application matches the requested amount in the Project Budget Table.

Support material to upload:

Information and materials included on the Support Material tab should directly relate to and support the project for which you are seeking funding. The CV and letters contribute towards demonstrating feasibility and support for the project.

- ❑ CV or Resume outlining your relevant basic training and work experience.
- ❑ Letters from partners or collaborators, if applicable, confirming the nature of their participation (maximum two letters, one page each – as applicable).
- ❑ **Applicants who have not previously received funding through this grant program must also submit:** two letters of reference from established arts and culture practitioners familiar with the applicant's work, who are not directly involved in this project.

Examples of previous work:

Previous work samples should highlight the contribution, impact, and feasibility of the proposed project.

- ❑ Upload examples of previous work relevant to the proposed project, up to the maximums listed in the guidelines and application form.
- ❑ Complete the Inventory Table to provide details about the image, video, audio, or text files you are uploading.

How to name your support material files:

Name your files beginning with your Last Name, First Name - Support Material Type, followed by any additional info such as Image Title, Viewing Order, or Project Partner name. For example:

- Smithers, Nelson – CV.doc
- Smithers, Nelson – image title 1.doc
- Smithers, Nelson – reference letter partner 2.doc

Before you submit your application

Ensure you have not submitted material beyond what is requested. Excess material, including multiple links to materials within a single uploaded document, will not be reviewed and may negatively impact the assessment of your application.

- ❑ Review and proofread your application.
- ❑ Cross reference your answers against the assessment criteria.
- ❑ Make sure you have uploaded all support material and test that all videos, audio clips, and links are working.
- ❑ Ask a friend or trusted advisor to review your application for clarity, omissions, errors, etc.

After you submit your application:

- ❑ Be sure that NoReply@BCArtsCouncil.ca is included in your safe senders list. Notification of results will come from this system email roughly 16 weeks after the application closing date.

- ❑ Keep your mailing address up to date in your online Personal Profile. Grant payments will be mailed to this address.
- ❑ Once you've received notification of results, contact a Program Advisor for feedback on the assessment of your application.