

Fresno Arts Council
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PRESS RELEASE

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FRESNO ARTS COUNCIL ANNOUNCES EXPANDED ACCESS TO ARTS AND CULTURE FUND REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Fresno, California, December 31, 2023. The Fresno Arts Council has announced its [Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#) for Expanded Access to Arts and Culture Fund Grants. The deadline for online applications is March 25, 2024 at 11:59PM.

Fresno Arts Council, under an administrative contract with the City of Fresno, is seeking applications for the first round of arts and culture funding generated by [Measure P](#), the sales tax initiative passed by Fresno voters in 2018. Twelve Percent (12%) of funds collected by the sales tax are designated for improving access to arts and culture via competitive grants for cultural arts nonprofit organizations within Fresno City limits.

The Fresno Arts Council (FAC) will award grants generated by the Measure P sales tax to nonprofit community-based organizations for the purpose of increasing access to the Arts in the City of Fresno. The anticipated grant period is July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025, with awards announced in Summer 2024.

Two types of grants under Measure P's Expanded Access to Arts and Culture Fund will be distributed: Arts and Culture Organization General Operating Support Grants and Project-Specific Support Grants. Each of these grant categories sets aside 10% of available funds to award to Emerging organizations or projects. Grants are intended to "support organizational stability for arts and cultural organizations that reflect the cultural, geographic and demographic diversity of the City of Fresno; and reflect the proportion of each grantee's overall operations that serves residents within, or visitors to, the City of Fresno sphere of influence [and...] shall prioritize organizations and programs that support and expand diverse public or youth engagement and equity" (Fresno Municipal Code Section 7-1506(b)(4)).

Applications should address priorities outlined in Fresno's [Cultural Arts Plan](#), approved in August 2023 by Fresno City Council. Following the release of the RFP, the Fresno Arts Council will host a series of workshops from January to March to assist the community in applying for the grants. Additional application support, including the schedule of workshops, will be posted and updated on Fresno Arts Council's website throughout the application period. Visit <https://www.fresnoartscouncil.org/artsandculturegrants> for detailed information regarding grant guidelines, application instructions, and timeline.

"This is such an exciting time for the City of Fresno arts community," said Fresno Arts Council's Executive Director, Lilia Gonzáles Chávez. "We have seen the benefits of Measure P with enhancements to local parks and the development of new ones. With the release of the Expanded Access to the Arts Fund, we will begin to see the power of the arts to strengthen our community through engagement with programs and projects that speak to us in ways that motivate and inspire us all. I encourage everyone who is eligible to apply for this incredible opportunity."

Please direct questions via email to Executive Director, Lilia Gonzáles Chávez at lilia@fresnoartscouncil.org or contact Fresno Arts Council Monday through Friday between 10:00AM and 2:00PM at 559-237-9734.