SCHOOL ARTS PROJECT GRANT PROGRAM
GUIDELINES & APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOL ARTS PROJECT GRANTS OVERVIEW

The FWAC School Arts Project Grant program provides funding up to $5000 to support arts learning activities in any arts discipline in public or private non-parochial schools in Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd, or Wadena counties that primarily focuses upon the education of students in grades K-12. This grant program is intended to support high quality, age-appropriate arts education to increase knowledge, skills, and understanding of the arts.

Funds may be used to support costs related to activities such as artist-in-residence programs, educational performances, arts education field trips.

Applicant Eligibility

- Applicants may be any public or private non-parochial school in Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd, or Wadena counties that primarily focuses upon the education of students in grades K-12.
- Applicants may apply for up to $5,000 per individual project.
- School Arts Project Grant applications will be accepted on an ONGOING basis throughout the year, as long as funds are still available in this grant program fund. Please note that applications must be received by the first Friday of the month, in order to be reviewed at that month’s FWAC Board meeting, held the fourth Tuesday of each month (except for July and December, when the board doesn't meet.) Projects cannot begin before three weeks after the board review and decision.
- Note: Community Education departments should use the Community Arts Access Project Grant application rather than School Arts Project Grants.

Grant Funds May be Used for the Following… (Keep this in mind when creating your project budget):

- To pay arts collaborators for their time and services for planning and reflection time, and in-classroom time spent collaboratively implementing the lesson(s), as well as travel and living expenses during a residency.
- To pay teachers for planning and reflection time that occurs beyond the school day
- To pay for substitute teachers when needed to facilitate daytime planning and reflection meetings.
- To pay for art-making supplies, specifically related to the project.
- To pay for student transportation for arts related field trips in or out of their community
• To pay for entry fee, performance tickets, participation fees for students and their chaperones.

Grant Funds May NOT be Used... (Keep this in mind when creating project budget):
• To supplant discontinued or nonexistent arts programs in schools VERY IMPORTANT!
• To compensate ongoing school personnel in full or in part.
• To pay an artist or arts organization to provide normal arts curriculum that an ongoing teacher or arts specialist would be expected to provide.
• For tuition for teachers to earn degrees, meet licensure requirements, or meet continuing education requirements to retain a teaching license.
• To purchase equipment for or improve facilities within K-12 public schools. The exception will be, if a nonprofit arts or community group also uses the school facility for rehearsal, classes, performances, or exhibitions, and it needs equipment or facilities improvements for its own work. The arts or community organization could apply for and receive a grant and could develop a cooperative agreement with the school that spells out how the school could also benefit from the purchase items or improvements.
• Reception related expenses, such as food, decorations, etc.

THE ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCY MODEL
There are many effective approaches to arts education in the schools. The following model is outlined here as a reference only and not to be interpreted as the only way to achieve your school district’s arts education goals.

CHOOSING AN ARTIST
Schools must select an individual artist or collaboration of individual artists prior to applying for a grant. Artist fees and travel/expense reimbursement should be negotiated between the school and artist(s) prior to completing the grant application. Fees for performing groups, ensembles or all-inclusive fees may vary and be considerably higher.

If you don’t have a specific artist in mind, feel free to contact staff at Five Wings Arts Council for suggestions for your specific project.

CREATING A SUCCESSFUL RESIDENCY
Many schools have found the following steps useful in planning a successful residency that meets the needs of their teachers and students.

• Select a residency coordinator/contact person who will work with teachers and artists to plan and carry out the residency. The coordinator may be responsible for artist selection, managing residency details, and preparing the grant application.
• Form a planning committee to oversee assessment of arts needs and overall residency planning. Members may include administrators, teachers, parents, community members, and students.
• Examine your school’s artistic goals and arts curriculum objectives to determine how the residency will enhance those activities.
• Determine appropriate residency activities. Select an arts discipline or a number of disciplines, and the types of artists with whom you would like to work.
• Interview several artists and view their work to select artists who will work well with your teachers to help you accomplish your goals.
• References: Contact the artist’s references. You may request alternative references in order to discuss the artist’s strengths in regard to a particular age group or residency type.

• Ask the artist you select to become part of the planning team to work with you on goals, objectives, schedule, core group composition, teacher involvement, community events, publicity, evaluations, and budget. The artist should receive a copy of the complete grant application to clarify expectations.

Length of Residency
Although not always feasible, an artist residency of at least five days is recommended for artist contact; longer residencies are encouraged. Artist contact should be limited to four hours per day, but no fewer than two hours a day. Residency days need not be consecutive. Contact periods include: class sessions with students, structured in-service training or classes with teachers, and demonstrations or performances meeting the community involvement component. Artists should not be expected to teach more than four classes per day, regardless of the length of the classes.

Core Exposure Group
A core group is defined as a specific group of arts learners who work with the teaching artist more than any other group of arts learners during the residency. An exposure group is defined as other arts learners who work with the artist during the residency on a limited basis, outside the core group. At least one core group of arts learners should receive extended in-depth contact with the teaching artist during the residency.

Teacher/Artist Planning Day
A separate, four-hour planning period between each artist and the contact teacher should take place prior to the residency. More in-depth planning is encouraged for residencies longer than five days. Each artist should be paid at their regular rate of pay for the planning day, and this amount must be included in the residency budget.

Teacher/Artist Contact
At least two hours per residency week of teacher艺术家 contact time must be scheduled as part of the teaching artist’s paid contact time. Contact time may include in-service workshops with many teachers; private meetings with the core teacher; student evaluation, assessment, and hands-on arts activities; planning and follow-up activities; or arts program consultation.

Teacher/Artist Evaluation Day
A separate four-hour planning period should be set aside for the teaching artist and the contact teacher to reflect on the residency goals and activities. More in-depth evaluation is encouraged for residencies longer than five days. Each artist should be paid at their regular rate for each evaluation day, and this amount must be included in the residency budget.

Partnership
To ensure a successful residency, the teacher must be present during all teaching artist-student contact time so the teacher and the teaching artist can work cooperatively to maintain a productive working environment in the classroom.

Community Involvement
To broaden the total impact of the residency, the general community must be involved in some aspect. For example, schools may invite the community to an exhibit of arts learners’ residency work, host an evening where the public may meet the artist(s), or sponsor a community education class.

PROJECTS OTHER THAN AN ARTIST RESIDENCY
Many schools provide supplementary arts and culture experiences, outside of having an Artist-in-Residence. Some examples of projects that have occurred in our region are:

- Taking a class to a theatre production at a professional theater, including advance study of the play and playwright and providing education about appropriate behavior at a live theater performance. This could also happen with a field trip to a gallery or museum, a dance or live music performance. It’s especially impactful when the arts event relates to subject matter the students are learning.
- Hosting a performance by a professional performing artist, such as musicians, actors, dancers for a performance in the schools.
- Creating a virtual exchange with students from another country, related to the arts.

The FWAC staff is happy to help you design a project that suits your needs and interests, while also maintaining its eligibility. We want to do whatever we can to enhance the experience of your students learning about the arts, or learning about other subject through the arts.

PREPARING A STRONG APPLICATION
A strong grant application clearly conveys definitive goals, planned activities, and expected outcomes of the proposed project. Please use the following suggestions in planning and preparing your request.

Project Description for an Artist Residency
- What is the residency plan?
- Describe the proposed residency including dates, times, brief lesson plans, etc.
- Identify who will make up the core group and exposure group, the proposed contact time activity, how the members of the groups will participate in the residency, and why these groups were chosen. Please include a detailed schedule of the artist's time, noting number of minutes/hours per group/class and frequency of visit with each group/class.
- What impact will the residency have on those involved?
- Artist/teacher: How will they work together? Include any in-service plans or preparation time. How will teacher(s) participate?
- School preparation: How will the students, education staff, and community be prepared for the residency?
- Community Component (required): How will parents and the broader community be involved in the residency?
- How will this residency enhance the artistic goals of your school?

Project Description for Project Other Than Residency
- What will happen?
- Who will be involved? Which students? Which artist(s)? Which faculty and staff?
- When and where will it happen?
- Why is this important to provide this opportunity for your students now?
- Provide a detailed timeline of the project.
Artistic and Educational Goals of the Project (should be specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and time-bound):

- What are the arts learning objectives for your project?
- How does your project support, not supplant, the school's curriculum?
- In what ways will your project be artistically, culturally and/or educationally challenging for the participants, for the artists, for the audience/attendees?

Evaluation of success and impact of project:

- Evaluation should provide a measurement of how successfully goals were achieved
- Describe your evaluation plan. What will you do to measure if this project has achieved its goals?

Key Artists/Personnel

- Identify the artist(s) and describe why they were chosen for this project.
- Resumes, bios, or promotional materials must be included.

Evaluation

- How will you evaluate the impact of the residency?
- How will you determine whether the residency met its goals?
- How will student learning be evaluated?
- How will you evaluate the impact that the residency had on all involved?

Need or Demand

- How is this project fulfilling a current need in the school/community?
- Who is involved in the planning team for this residency? Please give names and titles along with a brief description of how each person is involved in planning, implementation, fundraising, publicity, community event, evaluation, documentation of the residency, etc.

BUDGET

Project Expenses

- List all expenses directly associated with the project in the appropriate line item.
- Artist fees include any direct compensation to the artist or group.
- Artist travel and expenses include costs specifically identified with the project, such as accommodations, food, transportation, etc. Indicate the rates used. The rates should be negotiated between the artist and the project coordinator. When making lodging arrangements, the school may consider some cash saving measures, such as housing the artist with a host family (check with the artist first), asking a local hotel to donate all or part of an artist’s stay, or providing the artist with complimentary lunches. Please note, however, that these would not be eligible inclusions on the budget, since the budget form is for cash only. Inkind support such as this should be described in the Community Support section of the application.
- Student transportation includes costs associated with student travel, if applicable. For example, the cost of a bus to take students off-site as part of the arts learning experience, would be considered a qualifying expense.
- Rental includes payments for renting special equipment necessary for the project activities, rental of office, rehearsal space, theater, hall, gallery, or artistic studio space not routinely used by the school, or space used outside normal school hours.
- The majority of funds for salaries or contracted fees should be for the visiting artists involved with the
project. Grant funds may be used to pay for time or salaries that school personnel (administrators, teachers, paras etc) devote to this project outside of their regular contracted hours. For all administrative personnel, multiply the number of hours by their hourly wage to determine the total amount. Be sure to show your math on the budget form to avoid questions. Do not include teachers’ regular classroom time while working with the artist and their students. You may include the time that teachers will spend planning or taking in-service training in preparation for the project.
- Other salary expenses may include payments for salaries, wages, fees, and benefits specifically related to the project. This might include substitute teachers, clerical staff, and support personnel, such as maintenance, bus drivers, ushers, etc.
- Expendable supplies are any arts materials needed to complete the project.
- Miscellaneous expenses may include costs associated with documenting the project, etc.
- Contact FWAC staff regarding any other expenses that may not fit within the above guidelines.

Project Income (not required, but if you have it, please share this information on the budget form):
- List all income or cash match equivalent directly associated with the residency/project in the appropriate line item.
- Cash is any funds or cash match equivalent that the school district is allocating toward the project. For example, if the school is absorbing the cost of a substitute teacher, bus driver, or custodian please list that as a cash match equivalent.
- Other Grants may be any other financial contribution from sources other than the school. For example, the local Lions Club, VFW, or PTO has donated to the project.
- Earned Income may include ticket sales to an event associated with the residency, concession sales, or other fund-raisers specifically associated with the residency.
- Although not required, the strongest applications demonstrate at least a modest financial commitment to the proposed activity.

REVIEW CRITERIA
All applications will be reviewed and evaluated on the basis of these criteria:

Artistic Quality or Merit
- As determined by the recognition of the participating artist(s), artist involvement, experience and other stated qualifications of the artist(s) involved in the proposed project, and the value of the project to the school and community it intends to serve.
- Potential for positive impact on arts learning.
- General impression of project. How authentic is the artistic approach? Is the approach somehow innovative? Does the project present a unique opportunity?
- How likely is it that the proposed activity will result in the proposed outcome.

Community Need
- As indicated by limited opportunities in the community to engage in quality arts learning activities.
- As demonstrated by school and community involvement in the planning and implementation of the proposed project.

Goals and Evaluation:
- Are goals doable and reflect challenge and growth for the students?
- Do evaluation methods measure the achievement of the goals?

Applicant’s Ability to Complete the Project
- How realistic is the plan? Is it likely to result in the successful completion of the project? What
backgrounds do applicants (e.g., key artists, teachers, coordinators) have that suggest that they will be able to successfully complete the proposed program?

• Is the evaluation process clear?

Funding for the FWAC School Arts Project Grant program is provided through Minnesota’s Legacy Amendment, which has a mandate that the money is to supplement (not supplant) activities that have traditionally been funded by other sources of money, not as a substitute for them. If you have questions about this requirement, please contact the FWAC office.

Note: FWAC has attempted to provide a thorough and clear articulation of its eligibility rules, but if you have questions about the eligibility of your project, or have any other questions, please contact the FWAC office. Grantees are responsible for complying with all federal, state, and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances in relation to the use of these funds. Failure to comply may result in termination or forfeiture of the grant.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE ONLINE GRANT APPLICATION:

BEFORE filling out the application, it is advised to thoroughly read the School Arts Project Grant Program Guidelines of the Five Wings Arts Council. Doing so will help you determine your organization's eligibility, any restrictions, compliance requirements, the Council's review criteria and other important information about the grants program.

Then contact the FWAC Grants & Program Coordinator at vicki.fwac@arvig.net or 701-200-1375 to find out if your school already has an FWAC account, as well as to determine if your project idea is eligible. If needed, the staff will provide tips and work with you to design a project that is fundable and likely to be approved.

To begin grant application process, go to the GRANTS page of the Five Wings Arts Council’s website (www.fwac.org) click on GRANT LOGIN PAGE found in the upper right hand corner of the FWAC homepage. Upon doing so you will come to a screen to log onto the Five Wings Arts Council Online Grant Process.

First Time Users of the Five Wings Art Council Grant process will need to create a username (their email address) and password, then complete the questions in the registration process. Please record the username/email and password associated with this account. Registered applicants should enter their username and password to access their grant account.

Tip: If others are to access the online account and the FWAC application, the log in information will have to be shared. Keep this in mind when creating the online account.
Once the registration process is completed and an account has been established, the application process can begin.

Tip: While answers can be developed directly in the online application and saved, we suggest that the answers be created in the Word Document so the information can be copied and pasted into the appropriate dialog box in the application. Keep in mind that formatting, such as bold, italics, bulleted etc do not transfer to the online application form. When working in Word, periodically do a character count to ensure your answer does not exceed the character limit for each question.

Tip: We recommend that you create an electronic folder in your computer, labeled for each particular application. In this folder store your word draft, downloads of the Question Legend from the grant application process, budgets, support documents etc.

Start by becoming familiar with the application and process.

Tip: Read or watch the tutorial found on the Five Wings Arts Council’s GRANT page at Grant Application Tutorial (Document) or Grant Application Tutorial(Video).

Tip: Note that there is a SAVE DRAFT button at the bottom of the application, alongside the SUBMIT button. You can use this as frequently as needed. While the application software automatically saves every 20 minutes, we encourage you to use it whenever you have added critical components to your application. In order to complete an upload for such support materials as the budget, work samples etc. you are required to use the save button to finalize the uploading of the document into the application.

Tip: We recommend that you create an electronic folder in your computer, labeled for each particular application. In this folder store your word draft, downloads of the Question Legend from the grant application process, budgets, support documents etc.

The information requested in this application form is needed for the Arts Council to adequately review your request for grant funds and to provide required information to our funders. You must answer, as completely, but succinctly, as possible.

Answer each question marked as “Required,” and any others that apply to your application.

Please only address the information requested within the question. Do not expound further, since you will most likely be asked to provide further information about the proposal in other questions. The applicant is responsible for the quality and scope of responses.

Submit your application online and include:

A. Supporting materials limited to those essential for the project.
B. Budget—using form provided within the application-DO NOT CONVERT THE EXCEL DOCUMENT TO ANOTHER FORMAT

Applicants are strongly encouraged to call the FWAC office at 877-654-2166 to discuss eligibility or to have a draft of the application reviewed at least 10 working days before the deadline date.

Uploading Documents as Required in the Application:

You will be asked to upload support documents at various points in the application.
We recommend that once the document is prepared to your satisfaction (with the exception of your budget form), convert it to a PDF, then upload the PDF. By doing so you ensure that the formatting and font used in the original document will be seen as intended by the reviewer. If you have a hard copy, scan and save as a PDF, then upload. The one exception to this is your budget form, which you must submit as an Excel document.

GLOSSARY OF DEFINITIONS

"Contact Person/Project Director" is the person designated by the applicant organization as responsible for overseeing the implementation of the proposed project. This person is responsible for the timely submission of all required forms and reports to the Five Wings Arts Council.

"Key Contact Person" is that person empowered to enter into contracts for the applicant organization. This may be the school district superintendent, principal or other authorized school official.

"Project Start Date" is when a financial commitment is incurred toward the project. Examples of financial commitments include, but are not limited to: ordering play books, paying for advertising for auditions, making a deposit to sponsor a touring group, signing a contract for a performance, etc. Projects for which there has been any kind of financial commitment prior to that grant round's "Project Start Date" on the Application Deadline Schedule will not be eligible for funding.

“Project End Date” - Date on which the project for which you are seeking funds ends. Please be sure to allocate followup review and evaluation time into the grant period. Final Reports for the grant are due 60 days after the stated End Date.

APPLICATION CONTENT

Report Field Questions: The beginning of the application consists of questions designed to collect data for reporting purposes. This information is required by the Minnesota State Arts Board and the MN State Legislature. A list of codes and tools are available within the application to assist with the answers.

Project Narrative:
- Project Specifics
- Artistic Quality
- Educational Value
- Community Need
- Diversity
- Access
- Project Evaluation
- #’s of Students, Adults, Artists
- Artist’s Qualifications
- Project Administrator Qualifications

Narrative: Organizational Capacity to Carry out the Project
- School’s Track Record
- Planning for Project
APPLICATION ADVICE AND DRAFT REVIEW
Please contact the FWAC office to discuss your project BEFORE starting your application to ensure that funds are available and your project concept is eligible.

Before an application is submitted, a draft review can be requested. Upon request, FWAC staff will read through your application and identify any concerns that could cause your application to be rejected or your grant denied or reduced. Requests must be submitted via email (vicki.fwac@arvig.net) prior to 10 working days before the deadline. A review of your application does not guarantee that the request will be funded.

REVIEW PROCESS
Once the FWAC receives your application, staff members conduct an initial review of all applications. Applications will be sent to the FWAC Board of Directors 2-3 weeks prior to the review date.

Full applications to the School Arts Project Grant program are reviewed and discussed in open, public meetings. Applicants are encouraged to attend to listen to the discussion; however, they will not be able to add new information, make a presentation or participate in the discussion. Dates of review meetings are posted on the Events page of the FWAC web site: www.fwac.org.

During the review process a ranking system is used. Each application will receive a score from each panel member on a scale of 1 (low) to 10 (high).

NOTIFICATION PROCESS
Every applicant will receive notification of the board’s decision about their grant request via U.S.Mail within four weeks of the full board review.

GRANT AGREEMENT AND DISTRIBUTION OF GRANT FUNDS
A letter of agreement/contract will be sent to all applicants awarded a grant within four weeks of the final application review and board decision. Awarded grantees must sign and return the contract within 14 days of receipt of the contract. Failure to provide any required documents within the prescribed time can result in the cancellation of a grant commitment.

FINAL REPORTS
The Final Report form must be completed within 60 days of the end date of the grant period. Failure to submit a final report will result in the applicant being ineligible to apply for any future FWAC grants until the final report is received by the FWAC.
GRANT DECISION APPEALS PROCEDURE

Any applicant who can show cause that established grant review procedures were not followed, or that the policies of the program were not equitable to all applicants, may file an appeal in writing within ten (10) business days of being notified of the FWAC board’s decision.

The Executive Committee of the FWAC will review the appeal prior to the next scheduled board meeting. The Executive Committee will determine if there exists sufficient cause for an appeal and if further investigation is warranted. If the Executive Committee finds that there is cause for an appeal, they will bring the matter before the board for a final decision. There is no right of appeal to dispute decisions in respect to artistic quality or merit, ability or need.

If you have questions on specific criteria please call the FWAC office for assistance. For more information on FWAC programs and services visit our website at www.fwac.org or call 1-877-654-2166.

MISUSE OF FUNDS BY GRANTEES (adopted June 26, 2018)

Five Wings Final Report Guidelines and Follow-Up Actions

A. Submission Requirement of Final Report

Grantee will submit a complete and accurate final report within 60 days of the proposal end date specified in the Letter of Agreement (contract). Five Wings will communicate the requirement for filing a Final Report to each grantee using multiple techniques. Grantees are informed that final reports are required using the following methods; include language in every contract stipulating the need to submit a final report within sixty (60) days after the project end date; sending e-mail alerts to each applicant before and after the final report due date; communicating the requirement through information sessions conducted by Five Wings throughout the year. Grantee refers to an individual, organization, or individual(s) within an organization.

Actions

1. A final report that is received and approved by the Grants Manager meets this requirement. Grantees will be eligible to apply for another grant.

2. A final report that does not show the required match, or comes under review for identified deficiencies may result in the contract being adjusted and funds returned to Five Wings. If information is missing or incomplete, Grant Manager will contact group by e-mail and request required information be provided within two (2) weeks.

3. A grantee may request a due date extension, up to 30 days additional. Grantee must explain the reason for the extension and acceptance will be at discretion of Grants Manager.

4. If a grantee has not filed a final report by the due date (plus extension if applicable), the grantee is not eligible to apply for Five Wings grants until a complete and accurate final report is received.

5. If a final report is delinquent by more than six (6) months, the grantee will not be eligible to apply for a Five Wings grant for up to one year after the submission of the report (Board discretion).

6. If a final report is delinquent by more than one year, the grantee will not be eligible
to apply for a Five Wings grant for up to two (2) years after the submission of the report (Board discretion).

B. Acknowledgment Requirement
Grantee will provide evidence of proper use of Five Wings credit line and/or Arts and Cultural Heritage credit line or Legacy logo within the final report.

Actions
1. If grantee fails to meet the acknowledgment requirement on one grant, a written warning letter will be sent. If grantee fails to meet the acknowledgment requirement on a second grant, the grantee will not be eligible to apply for future funding for two years from the end date of the grant.

C. Expenditure Requirement
Grantee will use funds for approved expenses within the proposal (i.e. expenses related to the proposal, that are within the scope of the proposal, or purposes that are expressly allowed in the program guidelines or contract).

Actions
1. If the project is not completed, or not completed as stated and reflected in the Final Report, (i.e. Total Cost/Expenses are much lower than projected) a portion of the grant amount or the entire grant amount will be returned by the grantee. If it is determined that a portion of grant funds must be returned due to inappropriate use of the funds or expenses are much lower than anticipated, and grantee doesn’t meet match requirement based on total project expenses, a written notice from the Executive Director will be sent to the grantee. It will outline the amount owed to Five Wings and the repayment terms.

2. If funds are repaid in a timely manner and in accordance with the outlined repayment plan, the grantee may apply for future grants.

3. If funds are not repaid, grantee may not be eligible to receive funding from Five Wings for two years from the date of written notice. Grantee must submit a request to Five Wings to have its eligibility reinstated before applying for another grant from Five Wings.

4. Record Keeping Requirement
Grantee is able to meet the record keeping standards outlined in the grant contract.

Actions
1. If grantee records are examined, and grantee cannot provide sufficient documentation to meet the examining authority’s requirements:
   a. the grantee may be asked to return grant funds;
   b. the grantee may be deemed ineligible to apply for Five Wings grants for up to two years from the date of written notification.

2. To have eligibility reinstated, grantee must submit a request to Five Wings before applying for grants. A request must outline the steps the grantee has taken to ensure that they will be able to meet the Five Wings maintenance of records standards on any future grants that Five Wings may award.
Note: All approved extensions must be documented in grantee’s original online application. All findings and correspondence will be documented and included in grantee’s online grant application.

Funding for this grant program is made possible by the voters of Minnesota, through a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

Please contact the Five Wings Arts Council office if you have questions. Email: vicki.fwac@arvig.net Phone: 877-654-2166 or