



Arts and Music Education Grant Opportunity Information Session

MHC 2023-2025 Biennium

May 2025

BEFORE WE GET STARTED

- This session will be recorded. A link to the recording will be available at mnhum.org/grants within a few days.
- Mics and videos will be off for participants to start. These will be optional for the Q & A segment.
- If you have questions, please type them in the Q & A feature at anytime.
- We will respond to questions after our opening remarks. Some questions may take further consideration before we provide a response. All questions will be posted in the FAQs at mnhum.org/grants.

AGENDA

About MHC

Grant Opportunity

Grant Overview and Goals

Eligibility & Evaluation

How to Apply

Q & A

MHC GRANTS TEAM



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ABOUT MHC

Founded in 1971 - MHC was created when the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) began funding state-based humanities programs

Mission - MHC connects our past to the present, to increase shared understanding, and spark positive future change.

Vision - A just society that is curious, connected, and compassionate



LEGACY FUNDING



Three-eighths of one percent of sales tax revenue is dedicated to Clean Water, Land, and Legacy; 19.75% is dedicated to the Arts & Cultural Heritage projects.



Appropriated every two years (2023-2025) by MN State Legislature.



During the 2023-25 biennium, MHC will administer more than **\$15.4 million** in grants to individuals and/or organizations in Minnesota **working to create, celebrate, and teach the art, culture, and heritage of diverse Minnesota communities.**



The Minnesota Humanities Center (MHC) administers these grant funds based on state-required policies and by offering resources, advice, and guidance to support your project.



GRANT OPPORTUNITY

Arts and Music Education Grants

Funding Available: **\$500,000**

Maximum Funding Request: **\$75,000**

Application deadline is **June 23, 2025**

ELIGIBILITY



Organizations are eligible to apply for Arts and Music Education funding.



Applicants must be in **good** standing with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) & MHC.



Applicants meeting **all** financial requirements are eligible for funding.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for funding, a project **must** demonstrate the following requirements:

- How the project supports underserved youth and adults to pursue music, including singing, band, and orchestral instruments; creative writing; studio arts, including traditional craft and folk arts; and performing arts, including dance and theater.
- How the project supports high-quality arts programming in Minnesota.

LEGISLATIVE GOALS

Aligning with the intent and legislative language of this grant opportunity, the **goals** of this grant are to:

- Support underrepresented youth and adults to pursue music, creative writing, and performing arts in Minnesota.

Aligning with the outcomes of Legacy, the grant should also:

- Amplify arts, culture, and heritage in Minnesota.
- Increase the depth and breadth of Minnesotans who will connect with arts, culture, and heritage.
- Provide opportunities for individuals in Minnesota to enjoy arts and culture for free or at reduced cost to allow access for economically disadvantaged individuals and families in Minnesota to attend Legacy programs.

Aligning w/the funding biennium, the project **must** be completed no later than **May 31, 2026**.

LEGISLATIVE GOALS

Funding priority will be given to applicants whose project supports Arts and Music Education in the following Legislatively named areas:

- Programs that have matching funding or existing resources to help facilitate group or individual lessons in the arts,
- High-quality arts programming that helps provide students with access to experienced teachers, musicians, and artists,
- Programs that provide scholarships to low income and diverse communities that have been underserved by traditional arts funding,
 - Programs that include partnering with, or plan to partner with, public schools and community organizations to help reach students from diverse backgrounds,
 - Programs that offer scholarships to existing high-quality arts programming, including camps, schools, and centers devoted to teaching any of the artistic scholarships, and
- Programs that offer outreach and transportation services, as well as on-site services, to help communities gain access to and use the scholarship awarded.

LEGACY REQUIREMENTS

Legacy **requires** proposed and/or awarded fundings support **new work** or **new additions** to existing work. These funds must supplement, not substitute, other funding sources – in other words, this grant cannot replace expenses for ongoing projects.



I and/or my organization has a program or project that we have been running for many years, and our usual funding source is gone. We want to apply to this grant to keep it going.

I and/or my organization has a program or project that we have been running for many years, and we want to apply for funding to add on a new aspect or element to our program.



EXPENSES **NOT** ALLOWED

- Cover costs expensed before the grant agreement is fully signed,
- Start, match, add, or complete any type of capital campaign,
- Support capital costs (such as improvements, construction, property, or equipment),
- Support the purchase of equipment (such as iPads, computers, monitors and AV),
- Pay for indirect costs or other institutional overhead charges not directly related and proportional to, and necessary for, the activities outlined in the project proposal,
- Support benefits and fundraisers,
- Purchase promotional giveaway items such as t-shirts, keychains, or gifts to promote the applicant's brand,
- Food expenses when expenses are either (i) incurred during the planning phase of the project, or (ii) are not essential to the final program,
- Wages, salary, and benefits of staff for the time that such individuals are not working on the project, and
- Fund out-of-state expenses, such as out-of-state travel and/or contractors.

STRONG PROPOSALS

- Answer **all** the prompts/questions.
- Start your proposal **early**
 - Review the PDF of the **full** proposal
 - Take advantage of the **support** from MHC
- Use **MHC's** budget template.
- Make sure the emphasis is on the **intent** and **goals** of the funding opportunities.
- Review Selection Criteria for the grant opportunity; **tailor** your narrative to those prompts specifically.
- **Do not** submit anything not required.

EVALUATION PROCESS

- Applicants go through an evaluation process.
- Each applicant will be reviewed on a point scale (**100** points).
- General factors include:
 - **Project Details** – How does the project align with Legacy and grant requirements.
 - **Community Involvement** – How are community members involved in the project.
 - **Project Management** – Does the project identify which individual(s) are responsible for ensuring the proper implementation, evaluation, and financial oversight of the project.
 - **Evaluation & Impact** – Is the project clearly defined, is there a clear evaluation process, who is the audience, and what is the projects impact on the audience.

POST SELECTION

- Award process will include:
 - Grantee orientation meeting
 - Contract
 - Payment process
 - Grant terms (start and finish)
 - Legacy language acknowledgment
 - Reporting requirements (Interim and Final reporting)
 - Monitoring visit (if needed)

HOW TO APPLY

Complete an **ONLINE**
application

- OR -

Complete PDF application
(w/required attachments)
and email to
submissions@mnhum.org



APPLICATION REMINDERS!

- Application deadline is Monday, June 23, 2025.
- Take advantage of the support from MHC to review your application prior to submission.
 - This service must be requested by an applicant no later than 4:30 pm, Friday, June 13, 2025,
 - Must be done prior to an applicant “submitting” an application,
 - MHC will only complete one review per applicant,
 - Applicants should plan to submit their proposed budget for review with the application.



Q & A

THANK YOU!

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651-772-4251

Technical Support or Eligibility Questions:

Briza Maldonado, Grants Administrator

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If applying in English is a barrier or you need a reasonable accommodation to submit your application, please contact Briza Maldonado.