Fund for the Arts

Sustaining Impact Grant

Grant Guidelines

For the 2025-2026 annual grant cycle (FY26)

Application Deadline June 13, 2025 at 11:59 pm EST

For any questions about the grant please contact

the Fund for the Arts' Community Investment & Support team at grants@fundforthearts.org.

Important Dates for the Sustaining Impact Grant*

February 17 - March 21, 2025	Pre-Application open in the Fund for the Arts online grant portal. First-time applicants to the Sustaining Impact Grant will submit a pre-application to confirm eligibility. The pre-application is open February 17 – March 21 in the online grant portal.
April 14 - June 13	Full application opens in the Fund for the Arts online grant portal. Returning and eligible applicants apply through the online grant portal. The application is open April 14 – June 13.
Thursday, April 17, 12:00 noon	Applicant Information Session on Zoom Visit website for Zoom link and for recorded meeting link.
Every Tuesday, 4 - 5 pm EST	Virtual Office Hours Join us for Virtual Office Hours every **Tuesday at 4 pm** to answer questions related to grant applications. Click here to join the meeting. *Virtual Office Hours are available for anyone planning to apply for the 2025-2026 Sustaining Impact Grant, to provide time for questions with Fund for the Arts staff. Virtual breakout rooms are available for one-on-one conversation. Additional resources include the Grant Guidelines and recorded Applicant Information Session. Attendance and RSVP are not required.*
Tuesday, May 27, 11:59 pm EST	Deadline for administrative review of application, and opportunity to update application before final deadline (optional)
Friday, June 13, 11:59 pm EST	Sustaining Impact Grant application due in the Fund for the Arts online grant portal
June 16 – August 1	Grant Review Period
July 30 - August 1, 9 am – 5 pm EST	Applicant Interviews with Grant Review Panel *Each applicant meets with the Grant Review Panel for up to 30 minutes. Interview date and time will be emailed to applicants by July 1.*
August	Board Review and Approval
By August 29, 2025	Grant Award Notification sent to all applicants via email
September 1, 2025 – August 31, 2026	Grant Period Preliminary schedule for first monthly grant payment – September 15, 2025. Subsequent payments throughout the grant period on the first of each month.

*Dates are subject to change.

About Fund for the Arts

At the Fund for the Arts, we believe that art is a right, not a privilege, because art is a fundamental expression of the human condition.

Founded in 1949, the Fund for the Arts is one of the two oldest United Arts Funds in the country. Fund for the Arts supports, promotes, and develops arts, artists, and arts organizations to help create a healthy and vibrant community for all.

Vision

We envision a healthy and vibrant community where everyone embraces the art that exists in our lives every day, everyone contributes to the well-being of our arts community, and it is understood that everyone belongs to the arts community.

Mission

We contribute to the overall health and well-being of our community by generating resources for, investing in, and supporting our local arts, artists, and arts organizations.

Values

Equity – Listen to, engage with, invest in, and support historically excluded individuals, groups, and communities

Belonging – Create a safe and welcoming environment for engagement where an invitation is not required

Accountability – Be who we say we are and do what we say we will do for each other and the community we support

Stewardship – Manage the resources that have been entrusted to us equitably and responsibly

Gratitude – Value one another and the community we support

Storytelling – Tell the stories of arts, artists, and arts organizations in our community however, whenever, and to whomever we can.

Learning – Continue to be curious and seek opportunities to expand our knowledge and understanding

Cultural Equity Statement

To support a full creative life for all, Fund for the Arts commits to championing policies and practices of cultural equity that empower a just, inclusive, equitable community.

Cultural Equity embodies the values, beliefs, policies, and practices that all people are represented in the development of arts policy, support of artists, nurturing of accessible, thriving venues for expression and the fair distribution of programmatic, financial, and informational resources. This includes commitment to people who have been historically underrepresented based on race/ethnicity, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, socioeconomic status, geography, citizenship status or religion.

Land Acknowledgment

At Fund for the Arts, we believe it is important to acknowledge the history of the people here before us and the land we reside on. The area we occupy, now called Kentucky, is the homeland of the Cherokee, Chickasaw, and Osage, among more than 20 other nations. The place we know as Kentucky owes its vitality to the Indigenous peoples who called this land home for more than 12,000 years and who call it home today. We intend for this acknowledgement to be a step toward honoring the truth, and a bridge to further steps towards healing and reconciliation.

About Sustaining Impact Grant

The Sustaining Impact Grant (SIG) is part of the Fund for the Arts' annual investment plan. The purpose of SIG is to provide general operating support to arts organizations whose programming advances the Fund for the Arts' Vision, Mission, and Values.

SIG has three focus areas:

1. Community Impact – the organization makes a positive impact toward a healthy and vibrant community.
2. Community Engagement – the organization is engaging with and representative of the entire community.
3. Operations and Sustainability – the organization demonstrates efficient and sustainable operations.

Funding Levels

In FY26 (September 1, 2025 – August 31, 2026), SIG will be organized into three funding levels:

Level 1	Operating revenues up to $1 million, averaged over the previous three fiscal years
Level 2	Operating revenues between $1M and $5M, averaged over the previous three fiscal years
Level 3	Operating revenues above $5M, averaged over the previous three fiscal years

Who May Apply

To be eligible for FY26 SIG, an arts organization must meet all the following requirements:

- First-time applicants must complete the pre-application in the online grant portal to verify eligibility.

- The applicant organization's mission is clearly focused on arts. SIG supports arts organizations in the following disciplines: Art Museums, Artist Communities, Dance, Design, Film & Media Arts, Folk & Traditional Arts, Literary Arts, Music, Musical Theater, Opera, Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works, Theater, and Visual Arts.

  SIG is an operating grant. Eligible organizations have an arts-based mission, and a primary focus on arts. Organizations with a mission that is not focused on arts, but offer arts programs, are not eligible for this grant.

- The applicant organization is based in Fund for the Arts' service area in Greater Louisville, which includes the following counties: Bullitt, Jefferson, Oldham, and Shelby counties in Kentucky; Clark, Floyd, and Harrison counties in Indiana.

- The applicant organization is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization for at least three consecutive years prior to the application deadline, and has completed an IRS Form 990, IRS

Form 990-EZ, or independent audit for the last three consecutive years. Form 990-N and Form 990-PF are not eligible documentation.

- The applicant organization has at least one full-time (or full-time equivalent) paid employee and/or contract professional and/or administrative staff. Full-time is defined as an average of 30-40 hours per week split between no more than two paid staff.

- The applicant organization has received funding support from the Fund for the Arts within the last three years and is compliant with any Fund for the Arts grant agreement or contract, including reporting requirements. This does not include pass-through funding.

- The applicant organization demonstrates a consistent programmatic history and community impact in Greater Louisville, with programming accessible to all members of the community.

- The applicant organization demonstrates that it receives community support through earned and contributed revenue.

For returning applicants, eligibility will be confirmed annually, based on the submitted application. Changes in eligibility status will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Eligibility Restrictions

Organizations that do not meet the criteria are not eligible to apply, including schools and institutions of higher education and their individual departments, public service broadcasting, private foundations that do not operate charitable programs, government agencies, and churches and religious organizations (and/or organizations primarily funded by a church or religious organization).

Fund for the Arts does not support organizations that, in their constitution, bylaws, or practices, discriminate against a person or group because of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, age, income level, and disability.

Applicant organizations that do not meet the eligibility criteria for SIG may be eligible for other Fund for the Arts grants and opportunities. Visit the website to view current funding opportunities.

Application Process

The following is an overview of the SIG FY26 application process. Additional resources and information include the Fund for the Arts' website, Arts Scoop e-newsletter, and weekly Virtual Office Hours.

We strongly recommend that you begin your application well before the due date to familiarize yourself with the online grant portal and to address any technical concerns. You may submit a draft by May 27, 2025, for administrative review, with the opportunity to make changes before the final deadline of June 13, 2025.

New Applicants

First-time SIG applicants are required to submit a pre-application through the online grant portal by March 21, 2025. Pre-applications are reviewed by the Fund for the Arts staff and Community Investment Committee to determine if the applicant organization meets all eligibility criteria and whose programming advances the Fund for the Arts' Vision, Mission, and Values. Applicants that meet the criteria are invited to submit a full application.

Application

The FY26 application has four sections:

1. Organization Information
2. Community Impact
3. Community Engagement
4. Operations and Sustainability

See the "Scoring Criteria" table below to review application questions and required attachments.

While completing your application, remember these tips:

- Read the complete Grant Guidelines before beginning an application and use the information in this document to prepare your application.
- Attend the virtual information session, or watch the recording, for a step-by-step review of the application. See "Important Dates" section above for detailed information about the information session.
- Visit Virtual Office Hours for direct access to Fund for the Arts staff. Zoom breakout rooms are available for one-on-one conversations with staff. No registration or sign up is required. See "Important Dates" above for the information to join Virtual Office Hours.
- Be sure the email address in your application is current and regularly checked, and update Fund for the Arts staff if your contact person for the application and/or email address has changed.
- Take steps to ensure that emails from grants@fundforthearts.org are not lost in your spam or junk filters.
- Be brief, clear, and direct in your narrative responses. Focus on what is most important. You can include a list within your narrative responses.
- We recommend that you prepare your responses offline in a word processing program and then copy and paste them into the appropriate sections of the online application. Please avoid list markers and extra formatting.
- For required attachments where an Excel template is provided, upload the attachment as an Excel document to ensure that the content can be seen by reviewers.
- For other required attachments uploaded as PDF files, be sure to upload all pages of the required document.
- Don't assume that the members of the Grant Review Panel:
  - Have extensive prior knowledge of your organization.
  - Know the meaning of acronyms within your organization.
  - Understand all the characteristics of your community or audience.

In the online grant portal:

- The online grant portal uses the following email domain for all automatic communications including, but not limited to, submission confirmations and password resets: mail@grantapplication.com. Please add this address to your safe-senders list to ensure you receive all communications.
- If you are new to the online grant portal, you will need to create an account before you can access the application:
  - Click on the "Start A New Application" button.
  - Select "New Applicant?" under the E-mail text field.
  - Follow the instructions to create a new account.
- Please note that grant accounts are tied to individual email addresses, not organizations. For this reason, we recommend organizations use general shared email addresses if possible. If you are new to your organization, you are welcome to log in using your organization's previous applicant account information or create your own new account.
- If previously submitted applications and/or grant reports need to be transferred from an old account, Fund for the Arts staff can transfer these items. Please email grants@fundforthearts.org to request a transfer. Depending on the request, we may ask you to come to a Virtual Office Hour.
- In the application, you may navigate between pages using the tabs at the top of each page, or the "Next" button at the bottom of the screen.
- To avoid losing work, we recommend clicking "Save" frequently.
- You do not need to complete your application in one sitting. If you would like to save your work and return to finish later, click the "Save & Finish Later" button.
- Make sure you submit your application! Fund for the Arts cannot see applications in the online grant portal that have not been fully submitted. After completing all sections of the application, you will have the button option, "Review and Submit". From the Review page, make sure you click "Submit" at the bottom to fully submit your application. You will know your application was successfully submitted because you will receive an automatic email confirmation from mail@grantapplication.com, and the application will move to "Submitted Applications" in your online grant account. If you are not sure whether your application was successfully submitted or not, email us at grants@fundforthearts.org.
- If you are returning to your online grant account to continue working on a previously opened or saved application, or to confirm the application was submitted, utilize the "Login to Access a Saved Application" button. Opened/Saved Applications can be found on the "In Progress Applications" page. Submitted Applications can be found on the "Submitted Applications" page. Note that if an application is on the "In Progress Applications" page, it has not been fully submitted.

Submitting Your Application

Deadline to apply: Friday, June 13, 2025 at 11:59 pm EST.

Deadline for administrative review, with opportunity to update your application before final deadline (optional): May 27, 2025.

Fund for the Arts staff is unable to provide technical support past 12 pm, Thursday, June 12, 2025.

Applications must be submitted online in the Fund for the Arts online grant portal. In fairness to all applicants, Fund for the Arts cannot accept late or incomplete applications. If the applicant does not provide the complete set of information in the appropriate format by the deadline, the application may be deemed incomplete and ineligible.

To start a new application, visit https://us.grantrequest.com/application.aspx?sid=5723&fid=35562 or the Fund for the Arts webpage.

Applicants can save their progress and return to the online application, as needed. To login to your online grant account and access a saved application:
https://us.grantrequest.com/accountmanager.aspx?sid=5723.

You can print a copy of or save a PDF of your application by:

    a. Printing or downloading your application email confirmation form.
    b. Logging in to your online grant account and selecting "Submitted Applications" from the top right drop down.

If you need special accommodation for the application, contact Fund for the Arts' Community Investment & Support team at grants@fundforthearts.org or 502-582-0100 at least two weeks before the application deadline.

About the Review Process

SIG applications are reviewed by a Grant Review Panel that scores applications based on the criteria provided below. Panelists review and score applications in the Fund for the Arts' online grant portal. Panelists also participate in applicant interviews. All panelists are required to review and sign a Confidentiality and Conflict-of-Interests Statement.

Fund for the Arts staff members do not score applications. Staff manage all administrative and logistical tasks necessary to conduct the grant review including providing the Grant Review Panel with resources and an orientation and monitoring the process for any potential conflict of interest.

SIG applications are submitted and reviewed annually. Prior funding through this grant program, or any other Fund for the Arts grant program, does not guarantee an annual grant award, or any specific level of funding.

Contact between a representative of an applicant organization and the Fund for the Arts' Board of Directors or Grant Review Panel may be considered a conflict of interest and may affect the review of that application and any potential grant award. Any potential conflict of interest will be reviewed by the Fund for the Arts Board of Directors case-by-case.

Grant Review Panel and Scoring Criteria

The Panel is comprised of:

- At least two independent panel members with experience that aligns with the grant program.
- Individuals with expertise in best practices for nonprofit financial management.
- At least three members of the Fund for the Arts' Board of Directors and Community Investment Committee.

Depending upon the number of applications received, there may be different panels for Level 1, 2, and 3 applications.

Grant Review Panelists are instructed to use the following scoring criteria (see following pages) which correspond to the application questions to score the application on a scale of 1 to 100. A close review of the criteria may help you prepare your application responses. Applicants are scored against the criteria and not in comparison to other applicants.

Minimum application score:

- An application must receive a minimum total score of 65 or higher to receive funding through the SIG program in FY26, **AND**
- Depending on the available funds for the grant, applications receiving scores within the top 75% of all applications reviewed will receive funding priority.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS & SCORING CRITERIA

Organization Information (15% of application score, 15 points)

- Mission Statement
- Contact Information

1. **Leadership** (15 points)
   Provide brief bios (up to 3) of the organization's core staff and/or board members to demonstrate the capacity of the organization's leadership to implement the organization's mission. Describe how the organization's leadership determines priorities and makes decisions. Include in your response how the organization's leadership engages and supports the staff.
   a. Attach the Staff List
   b. Attach the Board List

SCORING CRITERIA for Organization Information Section:
- Organization has appropriate staff and/or board with relevant skills and experience with intended communities/audience.
- Organization demonstrates an appropriate board or governance structure, diverse community representation, and engagement with historically underrepresented communities.
- Organization demonstrates how priorities are determined and decisions are made and supports a healthy community within the organization.
- Required attachments are submitted and complete.

Panelists may also refer to the Community Impact and Community Engagement sections.

Community Impact (25% of application score, 25 points): Organization makes a positive impact toward a healthy and vibrant community.

Plans (10 points)
2. Summarize, and attach, the organization's current strategic plan or equivalent guiding document(s).
   a. Attach the Plan(s)

Programs (10 points)
3. Describe the organization's core programs and services.
   a. Attach up to 5 Work Samples that express the organization's mission and core programs and services.

Program Evaluation (5 points)
4. How does the organization collect and share impact and community feedback, internally and externally?

SCORING CRITERIA for Community Impact Section:
- Organization has clear artistic vision, consistent presence, and benefit for Greater Louisville communities, plays a vital role in Greater Louisville's arts ecosystem, and measures and understands benefits of their artistic programming.
- Submitted plans and responses clearly describe the organization's current work and goals.

Panelists may also refer to Mission Statement and Leadership in the Organization Information section.

Community Engagement (30% of application score, 30 points): Organization is engaged with and representative of the entire community.

5. Based upon the organization's stated mission, describe the specific audiences or communities the organization seeks to serve and/or engage through your programming or services. (5 points)

6. Describe how the organization serves and/or engages the audiences or communities referenced above. (10 points)

7. While the organization's target or intended audience may differ from the broader community you operate in, how does the organization staff and board reflect the demographics of the broader community in the organization's service area? Please reference and support your response with data from the Community Matrix attachment. (15 points)
   a. Attach the Community Matrix

SCORING CRITERIA for Community Engagement Section:
- Organization clearly defines and demonstrates engagement with its audiences or communities.
- Organization staff and board are reflective of the broader community demographics, and/or organization is making progress toward this goal.
- Required attachment is submitted and complete.

Panelists may also refer to Leadership in Organization Information and Community Impact sections.

Note: see Appendix B: US Census QuickFacts for Louisville/Jefferson County

Operations and Sustainability (30% of application score, 30 points): Organization demonstrates efficient and sustainable operations.

Fiscal Year 2025 (5 points)
8. Based on the organization's fiscal year 2025 budget and actual operations, describe the strategic operational decisions the organization has made in the last 12 months to remain sustainable. Include the organization's fiscal year dates and as much detail as possible. When discussing reductions or increases, you are encouraged to use percentages to demonstrate changes.

Fiscal Year 2026 (15 points)
9. Describe the organization's plan for sustainability for fiscal year 2026 based on the budget in the Financial Workbook attachment (below). Include in your response the organization's plan for (1) how expenses might be adjusted or reduced if projected revenue goals are not reached, and (2) how revenue fluctuations of more than 10% will be realized. You may refer to Budget Notes/Scenarios attached in the following question, if applicable.

Operations and Sustainability - Continued

Attachments (10 points)
    10. Please upload the following attachments:

        a. **Financial Workbook**
        The Financial Workbook is an Excel document that can be downloaded from within the online application and summarizes key financials within the organization. Follow the steps outlined in the first tab of the template to complete the Workbook.

        b. **Required for Level 1** (operating revenues up to $1 million): **IRS Form 990 or Form 990-EZ** for the organization's fiscal year ending 2024.

        If the organization's fiscal year ended 12/31/2024, you may attach the following in place of a completed Form 990 or Form 990-EZ:
            i. Draft of Form 990 or Form 990-EZ for fiscal year ending 12/31/2024 **OR** financial statements (balance sheet and income statement) as of 12/31/2024; **AND**
            ii. Documentation of IRS Extension Form

        Required for Level 2 and 3 (operating revenues over $1 million): **Independent Audit** for the organization's fiscal year ending 2024.

        Note, applicants with operating revenue over $1 million that do not submit the required Independent Audit will be reviewed as a Level 1 applicant.

        c. **Financial Statements** (balance sheet and income statement)
            • as of April or May 2025 **AND**
            • as of 12/31/2024 **OR** six months after your organization's fiscal year end.

        d. Organization Budget Notes/Scenarios (*Optional*)

SCORING CRITERIA for Operations and Sustainability Section:
- Required attachments are submitted and complete.
- Organization demonstrates a process of financial planning and monitoring.
- Organization demonstrates sustainable operations.
- Organization has an active finance committee, which includes individuals with financial expertise (see board list attachment in Organization Information section).
- Organization has clean audit results as evidenced by auditor's opinion and input regarding internal controls and material weaknesses in their last completed fiscal year, OR no material concerns are apparent on Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.
- Organization has a balanced budget or surplus (deficit) of operating revenues over operating expenses for FY2025. Adjustments may be considered for magnitude as well as current projections scenarios, approved budget for next fiscal year, and strength of balance sheet.
- Organization has a balanced budget or surplus (deficit) of operating revenues over operating expenses for the previous 3-year average. Adjustments may be considered for magnitude as well as current projections scenarios, approved budget for next fiscal year, and strength of balance sheet.
- Balance Sheet Ratios: Current Ratio GOAL >=1, or positive trend.
- Balance Sheet Ratios: Leverage Ratio GOAL <=30%, or positive trend.
- Balance Sheet Cash Reserve: Current Balance Sheet GOAL >= 3 months, or positive trend.
- Operating Reserve Ratio: Average Monthly Expenses to Unrestricted Net Assets Goal >= 3.0 months

- Administrative Costs: Program Costs to Total Expenses Goal >= 70%
- Solvency Ratio: Total Liabilities to Total Unrestricted Net Asset or Debt-to-Equity Ratio Goal <= 100%

For these Guidelines and Criteria, Fund for the Arts uses the following definitions:

Administrative Costs: The percentage of an organization's expenses that are being allocated to administrative costs.

Ratios: metrics used to assess operational effectiveness and efficiency and identify areas for improvement. Ratios provide an understanding of resource management and support strategic planning and financial performance assessments.

Operating Reserve Ratio: measures resilience and capacity to sustain operations during revenue shortfalls or unexpected expenses.

Solvency Ratio: The percentage of total debt to unrestricted net assets assessing the reliance on debt. The goal is set at less than 100%, however the lower the % the stronger the financial position is for the organization.

Sustainable Operations: cash and debt management and operational results measured by ratios, financial planning, financial oversight (finance committee and audit or 990 reporting).

Panelists may also refer to Leadership in Organization Information section and Plans in Community Impact section.

In addition to the scoring criteria outlined above, applications will be given one of three designations, based on the financial information provided in the Operations and Sustainability section of the application:

DESIGNATION	DEFINITION
Pass	Application meets the criteria and demonstrates balanced or surplus budget.
Caution	Some concerns regarding cash flow, debt, financial reports, and/or sustainability. Deficit within 10% of total operating revenue. (1 point deduction from Question 10 score)
Probationary	Serious concerns regarding cash flow, debt, financial reports, and/or sustainability. Deficit more than 10% of total operating revenue. (2 points deduction from Question 10 score)

Applications designated "Caution" and "Probation" may be eligible for a grant award if they meet eligibility and scoring criteria. Additional reporting throughout the grant period may be required and will be included in the grant agreement.

Applicant Interview

All applicant organizations will be invited to participate in an interview via Zoom with the Grant Review Panel before the panel members submit their final scores. The purpose of the interview is to give applicants an opportunity to provide the Panel with additional insight into their organization and to give the Panel an opportunity to ask questions about the application. Fund for the Arts may send questions to applicants via email before the interviews, if requested by the Panel. After the interviews, Panel members submit final scores and comments for each application.

Fund for the Arts will provide specific information, including the interview schedule, about 30 days before the interviews. Please review "Important Dates" section above.

Determination of Grant Award Amount

Grant awards will be made as a percentage of the organization's 3-year average annual operating revenue, with a maximum grant award cap for each funding level, as shown in the chart below. (The three years are FY2022, 2023, 2024.) The award amount will be contingent on the application score, the FY2025 Fund for the Arts' unrestricted fundraising results, and the number of competitive applicants in the pool.

Level 1	Operating revenues up to $1M	Up to 20% of operating revenues, max $200,000
Level 2	Operating revenues between $1M and $5M	Up to 15% of operating revenues, max $500,000
Level 3	Operating revenues above $5M	Up to 10% of operating revenues, less endowment income, max $500,000

Example of Level 1 grant funding formula:

A	B		C	D	E		F
3-Year Operating Revenue Average	Max % of Operating Revenue Average	Not to Exceed	Max Grant Award Before Score (AxB)	Application Score	Total Possible Grant Award Based on Score (CxD)	Parameters based on available funding	Grant Award
$854,000	20%	$200,000	$170,800	92.5/100	$157,990	Reduce all by 10% to meet available funding	$142,191

Funding Approval

The Community Investment Committee, comprised of Fund for the Arts' Board of Directors, oversees the SIG process, and makes grant funding recommendations to the Board of Directors for final approval. The Committee's recommendations are based on the application scores and comments provided by the Grant Review Panel and the funding formula outlined above. Grant funding recommendations are also

determined by the available funding for the grant program in the current fiscal year, which can vary year to year. The Committee may also consider continued updates to the SIG program and community priorities.

Grant Notifications

Any potential grant notifications will be emailed to the organization contacts provided in the application and will include instructions about reviewing and signing a grant agreement through DocuSign. Please notify the Fund for the Arts at grants@fundforthearts.org if your organization's contact information changes after submitting the application.

Application Deadline June 13, 2025 at 11:59 pm EST
For any questions about the grant please contact the Fund for the Arts' Community Investment & Support team at grants@fundforthearts.org.

Appendix A: Glossary

Derived from Arts & Culture Common Language written through the Collective Impact Pilot Study in partnership with Arts & Culture Alliance.

Adult Participant: an individual aged 18 to 64 years; generally, a person who is out of high school.

American Indian and Alaska Native: a person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America, including Central America, and who maintains tribal affiliation or community attachment.

Asian or Asian American: a person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian subcontinent, including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand, and Vietnam.

Black or African American, Non-Hispanic: a person having origins in any of the Black racial groups of Africa. It includes people who indicate their race as "Black or African American," or report entries such as African American, Kenyan, Nigerian, or Hattian.

Board Leadership: Board members who, for example, are members of an Executive Committee or lead or chair board subcommittees.

Early Childhood Participant: an individual aged birth to 5 years; generally, a child not yet in kindergarten.

Female: an individual who perceives themselves and calls themselves female.

Gender Identity: One's innermost concept of self as male, female, a blend of both or neither – how individuals perceive themselves and what they call themselves. One's gender identity can be the same of different from their sex assigned at birth.

Greater Louisville: Fund for the Arts Sustaining Impact Grants support the following counties in Greater Louisville: Bullitt, Jefferson, Oldham, and Shelby counties in Kentucky; Clark, Floyd, and Harrison counties in Indiana.

Hispanic or Latino/a: a person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American, or other Sanish culture of origin regardless of race.

Individuals with Disabilities: people who have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activity.

Leadership Staff: staff members who make important decisions; for example, department heads, director level staff members, and above.

LGBTQ+: an acronym for "lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer".

Local: occurring in or deriving from Greater Louisville.

Male: an individual who perceives themselves and calls themselves male.

Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander: a person having origins in any of the peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa, or other Pacific Islands.

Nonbinary/Gender Nonconforming: an adjective describing a person who does not identify exclusively as a male or a female. Nonbinary people may identify as being both a male and a female, somewhere in between, or as falling completely outside these categories. While many also identify as transgender, not all nonbinary people do. Nonbinary can also be used as an umbrella term encompassing identities such as agender, bigender, genderqueer, or genderfluid.

Non-Local: occurring in, or deriving from, outside of Greater Louisville.

Older Adult: an individual aged 65 or older.

Other Ethnic Origin or Race: includes all other responses not included in the "American Indian or Alaska Native", "Asian", "Black or African American", "Hispanic or Latino/a", "Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander", and "White" ethnic origin or race categories.

Participant: an individual who engages in the arts.

Refugee: a person outside his or her country of nationality who is unable or unwilling to return to their country of nationality because of persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion.

White, Non-Hispanic: a person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa. It includes people who indicate their race as "White" or report entries such as Irish, German, Italian, Lebanese, Arab, Moroccan, or Caucasian. People who do not report being of Hispanic origin.

Young Adult: an individual aged 18 to 40 years old.

Youth Participant: an individual aged 6 to 17 years; generally, a person in grades kindergarten through 12.

Financial Terms

Contributions for Capital Purposes: contributions specifically identified/restricted (and released) for items that are additions to property, plant, and equipment.

Corporate Contributions: gifts and grants from corporations including partnership gifts; program and exhibit sponsorships and memberships. Excludes contributions for items that are additions to property, plant, and equipment.

Current Assets: typically include cash and cash equivalents, grants, and pledges receivable (current portion), prepaid expenses, other assets, operating investments and board designated endowment funds.

Current Liabilities: typically include accounts payable, current portion of long-term liabilities (including leases), accrued liabilities and deferred revenue.

Current Ratio: Current Assets divided by Current Liabilities. Determines the organization's ability to pay current debt using current assets. Ideally, this number should approach 2, which indicates ample short-term liquidity to reduce the need to borrow or sell assets.

Foundation Contributions: gifts and grants from local and national foundations including partnership gifts; program and exhibit sponsorships and memberships. Excludes contributions for items that are additions to property, plant, and equipment.

Full-Time Equivalent: at least one staff or contract person that is paid for 30-40 hours of work per week; for example, an organization could employ two 20-hour per week individuals.

Fund for the Arts Grant: total unrestricted and restricted grants received from Fund for the Arts for support of operations, programs, and projects. This should not include partnership gifts or contributions for items that are additions to property, plant, and equipment.

Government Grants: local, state, and federal government grants, for example, External Agency Fund, Neighborhood Development Fund, Kentucky Arts Council, and National Endowment for the Arts.

Individual Contributions: gifts and grants from individuals including partnership gifts; program and exhibit sponsorships and memberships. Excludes contributions for items that are additions to property, plant, and equipment.

Investment/Endowment Income for Operations: investment income is income earned on checking, savings, and investments of unrestricted operating assets (excluding unrealized gains and losses and including realized gains and losses). Endowment income is either the board approved spending rate or the actual amounts available for operations.

Level 1 Organization: nonprofit arts organizations with operating revenues of $1 million and below, averaged over the previous three fiscal years.

Level 2 Organization: nonprofit arts organizations with operating revenues between $1 million and $5 million, averaged over the previous three fiscal years.

Level 3 Organization: nonprofit arts organizations with operating revenues above $5 million, averaged over the previous three fiscal years.

Operating Revenue: total unrestricted revenue (per audited financial statements for Level 2 and 3 or Form 990-EZ Line 9/Form 990 Line 12 for Level 1), less in-kind, less unrealized capital gains and losses, less contributions utilized for capital purposes, plus transfers from endowments for operating purposes. See also, funding formulas, defined in guidelines above.

Other Admission/Performance Income: admission fees and performance income not reported elsewhere.

Rental Income: gross revenue from facility rentals, parking, etc.

Sales to Public, net: sales of gift shop, concessions, catering, etc. net of direct expenses.

Season Tickets/Admissions, Single Ticket/Admission, Group Sales: all ticket sales revenue properly classified.

Special Events Income, net: all revenue and direct expenses related to fundraising events.

Transfer from Internal Endowment for Operations: amounts reported in Total Operating Revenue for Fund for the Arts determination that represent agreed upon transfer from internal endowment to operations that are not reported for audited statement purposes.

Tuition/Fees: tuition and fees charged for classes and/or camps including material fee charges.

Appendix B: US Census QuickFacts for Louisville/Jefferson County

Select data from population estimates July 1, 2024, data retrieved April 14, 2025

Persons under 5 years	6.20%
Persons under 18 years	22.50%
Persons 65 years and over	15.90%
Female persons	51.30%
White alone	63.10%
Black alone	23.70%
American Indian and Alaska Native alone	0.10%
Asian alone	2.60%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone	0.00%
Two or More Races	8.40%
Hispanic or Latino	8.60%
White alone, not Hispanic or Latino	61.00%
Foreign-born persons 2019-2023	9.80%
With a disability, under age 65 years 2019-2023	11.1%

U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts: Louisville/Jefferson County metro government (balance), Kentucky

Fund for the Arts' service area is in Greater Louisville, including the following counties: Bullitt, Jefferson, Oldham, and Shelby counties in Kentucky; Clark, Floyd, and Harrison counties in Indiana. For applicants based outside of Jefferson County, please visit Census.gov | U.S. Census Bureau Homepage for demographic data in your service area.