



Fund for the Arts

Instrument Grants: Empowering Immigrant Musicians in Our Community Grant Guidelines

At [Fund for the Arts](#), we believe that art is a right, not a privilege, because art is a fundamental expression of the human condition. 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. Our grant programs are based on our values and center equity as a guiding principle. We are committed to listening to, engaging with, investing in, and supporting, historically excluded individuals, groups, and communities.

Fund for the Arts Instrument Grants: Empowering Immigrant Musicians in Our Community

This is a one-time grant opportunity for nonprofit organizations and/or public schools in Greater Louisville to support music programs serving immigrant communities, with a focus on youth (age 25 and under) programs. Grant funds support the purchase of musical instruments and must be completed by December 31, 2025. The total grant funding available for this opportunity is \$32,000; each grant awarded may range from \$1,000 to \$15,000.

Organizations and/or schools may apply through the Fund for the Arts online grant portal. While there is no funding match required for this grant, applicants may combine a grant award with other funding sources to complete the proposed purchase. Applicants will demonstrate ongoing or forthcoming music programs that will utilize instruments purchased through this grant opportunity.

The Grant aims to support a wide range of musical endeavors, and we encourage applications that reflect the diverse communities we serve. Applications are welcome from organizations representing all cultural backgrounds and traditions.

This grant opportunity is made possible by Mayor Greg Fischer, Dr. Omar Ayyash, and the Roads to You initiative, and is facilitated by the Fund for the Arts.

Who may apply?

Arts nonprofits, nonprofits serving immigrant communities, and public schools based in Greater Louisville are encouraged to apply. Partnerships among organizations, or between organization(s) and school(s), are encouraged, but please identify one primary applicant to submit the application on behalf of the partnership.

Individual artists, or businesses entities representing individual artists, are not eligible for this grant opportunity.



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Applicants who are current Fund for the Arts grantees must be compliant with all grant requirements and reporting to be eligible for this grant opportunity. For other grant opportunities, please visit [Apply for Funding | Fund for the Arts](#).

How do we apply?

1. Please read the entire Grant Guidelines document.
2. Submit your application through the Fund for the Arts online grant portal. To start your application, click here: <https://us.grantrequest.com/application.aspx?sid=5723&fid=35563>
3. To continue working on your saved application, click here: <https://us.grantrequest.com/accountmanager.aspx?sid=5723>
4. For additional application support, visit [Virtual Office Hours](#).

What information will we need to provide in the application?

- Applicant Contact Information
- Applicant and Program Information
 - Description of your organization or school; mission statement.
 - Key partnerships or collaborations in your music program(s).
 - Describe your music program(s) that will utilize the grant-funded instruments.
 - Describe how the music program(s) serves immigrant communities and youth programs. How would grant funding for instruments impact your organization/school and programs?
- Grant Request
 - Total cost of the instrument purchase.
 - Requested grant amount (between \$1,000 and \$15,000).
 - Other sources of funding, if applicable.
 - Budget for the proposed instrument purchase, including list of instruments that would be purchased with grant funding.
 - Application budget may include additional expenses such as administration and shipping, not to exceed 20% of total grant request
 - At least one attached document to demonstrate instrument cost from vendor(s).
- Attachments
 - Work Sample(s), Letter(s) of Support, other documents relevant to this grant request (limit to three optional attachments).
 - You may include an authorization letter from district or school principal, if applicable.
 - Nonprofit Designation Letter, if applicable.



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Is there a funding limit? What are eligible expenses?

Eligible expenses include the purchase of musical instruments associated with ongoing or forthcoming music programs. Grant requests must be between \$1,000 and \$15,000. Instrument expenses may be new or used purchases, as well as accessories, repair, or maintenance for existing instruments.

Instrument purchases with long-term programmatic impact will be prioritized, as opposed to one-time or short-term use. Expenses associated with administration and shipping may be included in the proposed budget if they are directly related to the purchase to be implemented with this grant award, and do not exceed 20% of the total grant request. Reimbursements for purchases that have occurred in the past are not eligible for this grant opportunity.

While there is no funding match required for this grant, applicants may combine a Fund for the Arts Instrument Grant with other funding sources to complete the proposed purchase.

Instrument Grant funds may not be used to cover general operating expenses, marketing, event or season sponsorships, or specific performances.

What is the timeline?

Week of May 6, 2025	Application Opens
Tuesdays, 4:00pm	Office Hours <i>Virtual Office Hours are available to provide time for questions with FFTA staff. Additional resources include the Grant Guidelines and recorded Information Session.</i> Click here to join the meeting.
Monday, June 30, by 11:59pm EST	Applications Due
By July 31	Grantees Notified of Application Status
By December 31, 2025	Grant-funded purchases completed and related programs are in progress. Required site visit is completed.
January 31, 2026	Grant Reports Due in the Fund for the Arts Online Grant Portal

How will my application be reviewed?

A Grant Review Panel consisting of Greater Louisville community members reads and scores the applications and recommends grant awards. Fund for the Arts staff facilitates the review process but does not score applications.



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Applications will be scored using the following criteria:

- 1) The applicant is an eligible nonprofit organization and/or public school in Greater Louisville.
- 2) The application provides a clear description of the applicant, their ability to implement the proposed purchase, and how the purchase supports ongoing or forthcoming programs.
- 3) The application provides a clear description of how the applicant and the proposed purchase impacts immigrant communities; applications that include a focus on youth (age 25 and under) programs will be prioritized.
- 4) The purchase can be completed by December 31, 2025.
- 5) The application includes clear and feasible budget information, including instrument cost, and corresponds to the requested amount in the application.
- 6) Overall, the reviewer recommends the application should be funded.

How will the grant be paid?

Following notification of the grant award, grantees will review and sign a grant agreement with Fund for the Arts. Within 30 days of returning the signed grant agreement and an IRS Form W-9, a single grant payment will be issued to the grantee, unless an alternative payment plan has been specified in the grant agreement.

If a grantee is not able to raise additional funds required for the purchase within the proposed timeline, the grantee will be required to submit an updated proposal and budget that aligns with the amount of funds raised to the Fund for the Arts for approval before implementation may begin. If complete funding is not raised and the grantee is not able to implement the purchase, the grantee may be required to return grant funds to the Fund for the Arts.

What are the requirements if we are awarded a grant?

Upon notification of a grant award, grantees will sign a grant agreement with the Fund for the Arts. The grant agreement will provide details about requirements including a grant report, site visit, and how to recognize the Fund for the Arts grant.

Questions?

If you have any questions, please contact the Fund for the Arts Community Investment & Support Team at grants@fundforthearts.org.