



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

# Equity in the Arts Fund

A Supporting Organization of the Cleveland Foundation

<p><b>ISSUED</b> September 1, 2021</p>	<p><b>APPLICATION DEADLINE:</b> November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021</p>	<p><b>FUNDING PERIOD:</b> Jan. – Dec. 2022</p>
<p><b>PURPOSE AND RATIONALE</b></p>	<p>The <u>Equity in the Arts Fund</u> (EITAF), previously known as Minority Arts and Education Fund, seeks to strengthen and build the capacity of <b>Arts and Culture organizations</b> that promote the arts and cultures of communities of color and to provide meaningful creative opportunities for artists of color. We envision a vibrant, inclusive art and cultural community in Cleveland that uplifts the voices, views, and experiences of all residents. Historically and nationally, organizations that are led by people of color and specialize in the arts and cultures of communities of color struggle to obtain the financial resources necessary to support their work. In recognition of this unique need, the EITAF will award grants to Arts and Culture organizations that are led by people of color and serve, engage in, and promote the arts and cultures, both traditional and new, of communities of African, Latinx, Asian, Pacific Islander, Indigenous, and Middle Eastern descent.</p>	
<p><b>ELIGIBILITY AND AWARD INFORMATION</b></p>	<p>Individual grants will range from \$5,000-\$20,000. <b>Arts and Culture organizations</b> may apply for grants to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Strengthen and/or grow their capacity to deliver high quality, inclusive, and representative arts and cultural programming and services; and/or</li> <li>2. To host fellowships for artists of color: The artist will individually develop a vision and craft a personal professional arts experience that provides them with meaningful opportunities to create new work, practice arts management skills, and engage with the community.</li> </ol> <p>At least one organization currently holding 501(c)3 tax-exempt status must serve as the lead applicant for an EITAF grant. Organizations that do not currently have 501(c)3 tax-exempt status are eligible to apply in partnership with a tax-exempt organization, <b>and the fiscal sponsor must be the organization completing the application.</b> Artist fellowships will not be awarded directly to artists; a 501(c)3 organization must apply to host a fellowship opportunity.</p> <p>Applicants who have not previously received a grant from the EITAF are encouraged to apply.</p>	
<p><b>APPLICATION AND EVALUATION INFORMATION</b></p>	<p>Applications must be submitted online by November 1, 2021. Hard copy applications will not be accepted. To apply:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Visit the Grants Gateway: <a href="https://www.clevelandfoundation.org/grants/apply-for-a-grant/">https://www.clevelandfoundation.org/grants/apply-for-a-grant/</a>.</li> <li>2. If you do not have login information, complete the Grantee Login Request Form.</li> <li>3. Login to the portal and establish or update your organization profile.</li> <li>4. Scroll down to find the Equity in the Arts Fund application.</li> <li>5. Complete the online application. Questions you will find in the application include:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Project Summary: In a few sentences, please describe your overall proposal.</li> <li>o Are you applying as a fiscal sponsor for an organization or an artist fellow?</li> <li>o Please introduce yourself. What is your background, discipline, and medium? What do you or your organization do? Who are your partners in this project, if any? What are the</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	

	<p>partner’s roles? Please describe your audience. How many people do you expect to engage? Tell us your audience age, communities – geographic, language, ethnicity, etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ What amount of money do you need? What would the money buy? Which activities or expenses would it cover? What are your goals and intended outcomes?</li> <li>○ Where will this project take place? This can be a neighborhood, activity site, etc.</li> <li>○ What is your project’s timeline?</li> <li>○ How will you carry out the work? In other words, what is your artist’s statement or a cultural statement of purpose? How will this project strengthen your work? How will it increase your or your organization’s capacity to deliver high-quality, inclusive art? OR How will this project provide a meaningful fellowship for artists of color to create new work and/or enhance the fellow’s arts management skills?</li> <li>○ Why is your project important now?</li> <li>○ How is your organization changing to adapt to COVID-19 and how will this funding support it?</li> <li>○ Additional Information: Please tell us anything else you believe we should know to evaluate your proposal well.</li> <li>○ Demographics of board, staff, leadership, and population served.</li> <li>○ Upload the required attachments, which include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Line-item project budget in the provided Excel template.</li> <li>▪ Board list with affiliations.</li> <li>▪ Lead applicant organization budget for the current fiscal year.</li> <li>▪ Complete audit (if available, include auditor's notes and management letter, if issued). If no audit is available, please provide a Statement of Revenue/Support and Expenses for your organization’s most recently completed fiscal/calendar year, Current Balance Sheet, and Statement of Activities for most recently completed fiscal/calendar year.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Proposals to strengthen the capacity of arts/cultural organizations will be evaluated on their ability to: develop, expand, and/or engage audiences; leverage or attract additional funding or investment; and/or improve the management and delivery of the work related to the organization’s core mission.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Why organizational capacity?</u> <a href="#">Candid.org</a> states: “Capacity building can help make an organization more focused, efficient, and productive” and this “makes it easier to attract the money, leadership and visibility that nonprofits need to thrive.” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <u>Examples of Capacity?</u> <a href="#">The Free Management Library</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Artists engaged in fellowships do not need to make their primary living through art but must have an existing public practice or body of work. Artist fellowship grant applications must explain how the work produced will engage with and be presented to the community.</p>
<p><b>BACKGROUND</b></p>	<p>The Equity in the Arts Fund (EITAF), previously known as Minority Arts and Education Fund, a supporting organization of the Cleveland Foundation, was established in 1994 to provide for the planning, preparation, production, and/or presentation of cultural, educational, and scientific programs and projects which promote and benefit Cleveland’s minority populations.</p> <p>The EITAF is an endowed fund with assets of approximately \$3.6 million providing grantmaking in the local community from investment income. The Board of Directors is comprised of two appointees by the Mayor of the City of Cleveland, two appointees by the Chair of City Council, and five appointees by the Cleveland Foundation.</p>
<p><b>QUESTIONS?</b></p>	<p>For programmatic questions or information, contact: <a href="mailto:EquityintheArtsFund@clevelandn.org">EquityintheArtsFund@clevelandn.org</a></p> <p>For application or technical questions, contact: Grants Management, 216-615-7254, <a href="mailto:grantsmgmt@clevelandn.org">grantsmgmt@clevelandn.org</a></p>
	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Equity in the Arts Fund</b> 1422 Euclid Avenue, Suite 1300 Cleveland, OH 44115-2001</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>A Supporting Organization of The Cleveland Foundation</i></p>

