

CThumanities

CT HUMANITIES CULTURAL RELIEF GRANTS

GUIDELINES

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GUIDELINES

CT Humanities and the Connecticut Office of the Arts are honored to partner to provide relief funding to nonprofit arts, humanities, and cultural organizations that are:

1. continuing to provide arts and humanities programs and services but are facing financial hardship resulting from COVID-19,
2. committed to advancing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) work in their mission and operations, and
3. committed to the Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) community.

These grants are funded by a grant from the [Connecticut Health and Educational Facilities Authority](#) (CHEFA).

1.1 FUNDING AVAILABLE AND AWARD AMOUNTS

CT Humanities will be re-granting a total of \$85,000 in funding to cultural organizations across Connecticut. Each grant award made will be in the amount of \$5,000.

Grants may be used for general operating expenses.

1.2 WHO CAN APPLY?

An applicant organization must:

- Be a Connecticut-based federally recognized tribe or be incorporated in the state of Connecticut for at least one year as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization governed by a board of directors that meets regularly;
- Provide significant programs and/or services to the public on a regular basis, including open hours and special events;
- Be in compliance with all terms and conditions of previous CT Humanities and CT Office of the Arts grants.

The following are not eligible for funding:

- For-profit organizations
- Individuals
- Municipalities and municipal-run organizations
- Agencies of the State of Connecticut, including state universities, state parks and state historic sites
- Organizations not in compliance with terms and conditions of previous CT Humanities or CT Office of the Arts grants

1.3 FUNDING PRIORITIES

CT Humanities and the CT Office of the Arts will prioritize funding based upon applicant organizations':

- Strength and articulation of significant arts and humanities programs and activities presented to the public on a regular/ongoing basis;
- Financial hardship caused by COVID-19 on an organization's operations, staffing, and revenue streams;
- Plans for continuity of operations during, and responsiveness to, the COVID-19 crisis and for sustainability after the crisis has passed;
- Commitment to advancing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion work in their mission and operations;
- Commitment to the Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) community;
- Geographic diversity;
- Organizations with annual operating budgets less than \$500,000.

1.4 ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

- Staff salary (full or part time)
- Temporary staff or contractor expenses
- Utility bills
- Mortgage or rent payments
- Costs related to safe re-openings for staff and the public

Questions about eligibility of items not listed must be approved by CT Humanities staff in advance of submitting an application.

1.5 MATCHING REQUIREMENTS

No funding match is required. If organizations are raising additional funds for relief, we may ask for that information in final reports.

1.6 GRANT DURATION

All CT Humanities Cultural Relief Grant periods are 6 (six) months in duration.

1.7 FUNDING EXCLUSIONS

CT Humanities Cultural Relief Grant Funds may not be used for the following purposes:

- Promotion of a particular political, religious, or ideological point of view
- Advocacy of a particular program of social or political action
- Support of specific public policies or legislation
- Lobbying
- Purchase of land or facilities, construction or renovation
- Renovation, restoration, rehabilitation or construction of historic sites
- Conservation treatment that is not directly related to a CTH-funded exhibition
- Book printing or publication
- Curricula for classes not accessible to the general public
- Endowments
- Individual fellowships, graduate education, or university-based projects that require participants to register for academic credit
- Acquisition of artifacts, works of art, or documents
- Capital improvements to applicant site and/or facilities
- Purchases of capital equipment, buildings, or land
- Costs associated with social events or fundraising activities
- Purchase of food, alcohol, refreshments, or catering services
- Retroactive funding for activities and expenses
- Undocumented expenses
- Honoraria, stipends, or professional fees for applicant organization's board members
- Honoraria, stipends, or professional fees for elected officials or declared candidates seeking public office
- Honoraria, stipends, or professional fees for active CTH or CT Office of the Arts board members and staff

1.8 APPLICATION DEADLINE SCHEDULE

Letters of Intent will be accepted starting Thursday, October 1 and will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Applicants selected to proceed with the full application will be given an opportunity to expand their work in relation to the following review criteria.

- Negative impact of COVID-19 and continuity of operations and sustainability during the pandemic
- Strength of arts and humanities programming and activities
- Dedication to and Understanding of DEI
- Commitment to the BIPOC community

Applications must be submitted no later than Monday, November 16 by 11:59pm. Award notifications will be made within a month of the application deadline.

We regret that feedback cannot be given on draft applications or grant decisions.

1.9 HOW TO APPLY

Applications must be submitted using [Connecticut Humanities' online grant portal](#). If you do not already have an account with our grants system, you will need to create one in order to be able to apply.

- [Preview the Application](#)
- [Apply here](#)

The Letter of Intent should take about 10 minutes to complete; the full application (for those invited to proceed) will take about 30-60 minutes to complete. Applications will be reviewed by a committee of CTH board members, CT Office of the Arts designated representatives, and outside committee advisors who will meet approximately three weeks after the application deadline. We will notify you of the status of your application approximately one month after the application deadline.

Note This process may be updated or amended to reflect changing circumstances. For the most up-to-date version, visit <https://cthumanities.org/grants/chefa-grants>.