



Mayor's Council on the Arts 2023-2024 Annual Grant Program

About Mayor's Council on the Arts

The primary mission of the Lakeland Mayor's Council on the Arts grant is the enhancement, promotion, and support of Lakeland's arts community and its associated creative economy. Artistic enterprises headquartered within the Lakeland city limits are eligible to apply for funding through this process. Depending on the number of award recipients and total funds available, individual grant awards will consist of up to 5% of each organization's prior year operating expenses with a maximum request of \$75,000. The total Council annual budget is \$275,000. Grants will be considered within this budget. Any remaining funds not granted will be invested in the Council's website and social media management. If grant awards exceed our annual budget, we will fund the greatest percentage possible.

Purpose of the Annual Grant Program

To support general program activities of an organization that is realizing its stated mission and furthering Lakeland's cultural brand conducting, creating, producing, presenting, staging, or sponsoring cultural exhibits, performances, educational programs, or events.

Requirements to Apply

Arts organizations must meet eligibility requirements including:

- Must be a Lakeland-based art-centric 501(c)3 non-profit organization.
- Must have three years of valid operating experience.
- To request more than \$5,000 have at least one completed grant from LMCA.
- To request more than \$25,000
 - Completed at least 3 years of programming
 - Employ at least one paid, full-time staff member in a management position

Grant Awards:

Eligible organizations may request up to 5% of their prior year's operating expenses.

Grant applications are scored and ranked by a panel of judges. The total application score multiplied by the total request amount is the organization's eligible grant award. Please refer to the LMCA 2024 Grant Scoring Matrix. Only applications with a score of 70% or above will be eligible for funding.



LkIdArts.org



For example, if XYZ Organization scored 89% and requested \$10,000, their eligible grant award is \$8,900. If the total score-adjusted request amount for all eligible applications exceeds the amount allocated by the City Commission, the award amounts will be reduced in equal percentages.

Questions regarding the grant program should be directed to Kerry Falwell, Chair of Lakeland Mayor's Council on the Arts at kfalwell@explorefcm.org.

How to Apply:

Eligible organizations will provide narrative responses to the following questions and upload the required attachments to the online web form at www.lkldarts.org/grants

Narrative Responses:

- Briefly summarize your core programming.
- Briefly summarize any and all special programming for which this grant application is also intended.
- Briefly explain the last three years of your history in the Lakeland area and any financial support existing for your organization.
- Please describe and provide examples of the metrics used to evaluate the success of your event, series, or initiative.

Required Attachments:

- 501(c)3 Letter of Determination
- Most recently completed fiscal year financials and
- Current operating budget

Definition of arts-based organizations:

- **Dance** - organizations that promote excellence in dance. This includes producing dance companies and other organizations with dance programming.
- **Literature** - organizations that promote excellence in the literary arts. This includes small presses, non-commercial publishing houses, professional literary groups, and other organizations with literary programming.
- **Media Arts** - organizations that promote excellence in film, video, radio and television. This includes film and video festivals and media art exhibitions, conferences and seminars.
- **Multidisciplinary** - organizations that are producing two (2) or more separate artistic or cultural disciplines.
- **Museum** - organizations that are primarily educational and aesthetic with proposals focused on the applicant's collections and/or exhibits. This includes zoos, botanical gardens, arboretums, nature centers and aquariums.
 - o Museums may include but are not limited to the following:
Art Museums; Historical Museums; Multidisciplinary Museums; Science Museums (Botanical Gardens, Zoos, Arboretums, Nature Centers and Aquariums); and Youth and Children's Museums.
- **Music** - organizations that promote excellence in music performance and creation, includes both vocal and instrumental music. The Music discipline includes but is not limited to chamber or jazz ensembles, choral groups, community bands, orchestras, opera and world music ensembles.
- **Presenter** – organizations that enter into agreements to provide performances or other cultural activities. The organization generally does not create, rehearse, cast or have artistic control over the performance or activity.
- **Theatre** disciplines support producing theatres and other organizations that promote excellence in theatre performance. Musical theatre can be included in this discipline.
- **Traditional Arts** - organizations that preserve and present traditional arts from specific cultural groups in Florida. This includes performances, exhibitions, festivals and other programming featuring traditional artists and their work. This discipline's goals are to support programming of traditional artists in a public venue and to foster recognition and awareness of traditional arts.



o Note: The Traditional Arts discipline is NOT intended for programming that focuses primarily on the following activities: research for scholarly purpose only; historical presentations; re-creations or re-enactments; cultural appropriation and revivalism, tourism and contemporary studio crafts or reproductions.

• **Visual Arts** - for organizations that promote excellence in the visual arts through activities such as:

- o lectures;
- o publications;
- o exhibitions;
- o educational programs;
- o artist workshops; and
- o professional development for visual artists.

Accessibility and Non-Discrimination

The Division of Arts and Culture is committed to making the arts and culture accessible to everyone.

Organizations seeking support for activities are required to be open and accessible to all members of the public, regardless of sex, race, color, national origin, religion, disability, age or marital status.

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in employment, state and local government services, public accommodations, transportation and telecommunication. The ADA extends the requirements under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, to all activities of state and local governments and places of public accommodations operated by private entities, including places of public display. The 504 Self Evaluation Workbook which can be used as a reference and downloadable Disability Symbols can be found at dos.myflorida.com/cultural/info-andopportunities/resources-by-topic/accessibility/.



FY24 LMCA Grant Scoring Matrix

	0-5 Points	0-5 Points	0-5 Points	0-5 Points
Briefly summarize your core programming	Is the enterprise part of the creative industries or the arts community?	Does the enterprise benefit the community through their mission?	Does the enterprise further the LMCA goal of growing and enriching the arts community in Lakeland?	Does the enterprise help establish Lakeland's reputation as a destination for the creative industries and the arts?
Briefly summarize any and all special programming for which this grant application is also intended.	Is the purpose of the event, series, or initiative a contribution to the creative industries and/or the arts community in Lakeland?	Does the event, or initiative benefit the community through its purpose?	Does the event, series, or initiative further the LMCA goal of growing and enriching the arts community of Lakeland?	Does the event, series, or initiative help establish Lakeland's reputation as a destination for the creative industries and the arts?
Briefly explain the last three years of your history in the Lakeland area and any financial support existing for your organization.	How has this organization contributed to the Lakeland creative industries and arts community within the last three years?	How has this organization fostered collaboration with other members of the Lakeland creative industries and arts community?	How has the financial status of the organization changed over the last three years?	How does your organization work to attract and impact new audiences?
Please describe and provide examples of the metrics used to evaluate the success of your event, series, or initiative.	0-1 Points: Examples do not address or inadequately address success metrics.	1-2 Points: Examples minimally address success metrics.	2-3 Points: Examples adequately address success metrics.	3-5 Points: Examples are thorough and fully describe metrics as they relate to the LMCA application.