

## Common Applicant Questions

### FY2021-2022 Community Arts Grants Program

- **Question:** *I am an independent artist and have questions about how to identify myself when registering for the grants portal MARGO.*

**Response:** For the Project Support Program, you must identify as one of the following groups in order to be eligible to register: Nonprofit arts and cultural organization, youth group (e.g. teen arts cohort), school/school district, arts groups, nonprofit community organization. Individual artists are ineligible to apply to the annual grants program. For the General Support Program, applicants must be a Phoenix-based arts and cultural organization. Full eligibility can be found on our grants page: [www.phoenix.gov/arts/grants-program](http://www.phoenix.gov/arts/grants-program)

- **Question:** *We are a community-based organization with over 3,000 locally. Trying to get funding for more programs to better serve our community. I have been funding this organization for 3 years and we are now incorporated, registered with the Secretary of State, and have a tax number. When I am able to, I will be applying for 501(c)3 status. We need help in the meantime. Do we possibly maybe qualify for any help, grants or assistance?*

**Response:** If you have an eligible project idea, you can apply to the Project Support Program. Review the project criteria here and note which the qualifying project expenses: [www.phoenix.gov/arts/grants-program/PS](http://www.phoenix.gov/arts/grants-program/PS)

- **Question:** *I'm curious about the difference between the questions in section one and section two (in the General Support Program application). They seem very similar so I'd like to know what information panelists will be looking for specifically.*
  - Describe continued, evolved, and new engagement strategies that keep you connected to your community during this pandemic. (400 words)
  - Given COVID-19, list any new or evolved modes of delivering programming (e.g. virtual classes, etc.). What are advantages and disadvantages of these delivery modes to the organization's primary art/cultural form? (400 words)

**Response:** The first question in the Community Significance section is asking how your organization is connecting with your community and audience—what are the evolved ways you're engaging your people and sustaining a relationship. The second question is asking how your organization's cultural/art forms (e.g. music education for youth) is being impacted by the changed delivery form (e.g. virtual classes). For instance, while virtual

classes may keep (some and/or new) relationships going, the participants may not be developing in musical growth at the same rate because virtual instruction has certain limitations. All General Support Program application questions can be viewed here: [www.phoenix.gov/arts/grants-program/GS](http://www.phoenix.gov/arts/grants-program/GS)

- **Question:** *Besides the Cultural Data Project, what other financial information is required?*

**Response:** This year, for the General Support Program, applicants need only to complete a Cultural Data Profile (with three years of financial data) and upload that funder's report. Applicants also have a couple financial narrative responses to complete. Applicants with a budget under \$100,000 have the option of instead uploading an operating budget form with three years of financial data. To begin your Cultural Data Profile, visit the SMU|DataArts website: <https://culturaldata.org/get-started/>

- **Question:** For the video sample in the General Support Program application, would you recommend us sharing an awesome anniversary video that does have production shots but also a lot of the executive director talking?

**Response:** Panelists typically ask for and more favorably respond to samples that highlight the art or cultural form, less talking about the organization. If the video does both well, then that works.

- **Question:** I have a quick question regarding the City of Phoenix Equity Assessment. Our organization would be interested in doing an assessment. How would we get started in this regard? Also, is this tied to our grant application in terms of a timetable or this something independent of our application?

**Response:** Details about the optional racial equity assessment can be found on our Office of Arts and Culture web page: [www.phoenix.gov/arts/EDI/assessment](http://www.phoenix.gov/arts/EDI/assessment). There you'll find assessment instructions as well as a few resources including the equity Continuum document and an example survey to share with your organization's assessment participants. Submitted assessments will not be shared with reviewers and will only be used by POAC staff to develop further training opportunities.