



LGBTQ Arts & Culture Fund 2021 Request for Proposals

Proposal Deadline: Sunday, February 28, 2021 by 5:00 PM ET

Our Fund Foundation
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Our-Fund.org

LGBTQ Arts & Culture Fund Grants Request for Proposals

Our Fund's mission is to secure the LGBTQ community's future by promoting and increasing responsible philanthropy, strengthening community organizations and their leaders and connecting donors to causes that matter.

The Values that define Our Fund's promise to stakeholders and to our community:

- **Facilitating Philanthropy:** Committing to having a top-notch, respected, full-service community foundation to support donors' wishes.
- **Celebrating Generosity:** Bringing those who have done well and are doing good to the forefront for their spirit of enriching lives.
- **Epitomizing Collaboration:** Fulfilling the role of a supportive, objective focal point for LGBTQ organizations and concerns.
- **Responding Creatively:** Supporting the LGBTQ community's unique and timely needs with fresh thinking and new ideas.
- **Valuing Diversity:** Understanding that LGBTQ people's struggles for equality is inextricably linked to other disenfranchised communities.
- **Serving the Underserved:** Promoting that the privilege of having means comes with the responsibility to lift up those most in need.
- **Operating Transparently:** Knowing that a person's trust is the key to becoming their partner in carrying out their philanthropic priorities.

Our Fund Foundation LGBTQ Arts & Culture Fund

Our Fund Foundation recognizes the importance of arts and culture to inspire, empower and transform individuals and communities. Grants from this fund promote South Florida artistic expression that amplifies LGBTQ voices and works in the service of preserving, telling and celebrating LGBTQ stories and promoting LGBTQ equality and social justice.

Grants from the Fund are made possible through contributions from The Jim Laird Hamish Fund at Our Fund, Our Fund Donor Advised Fundholders and individual donors, Our Fund's Endowment Fund, and the support of philanthropic partners.

Eligibility

Please note that an agency may submit or be a partner in only one proposal for an Arts & Culture Fund grant in a grant cycle.

To be eligible for a 2021 Our Fund Foundation Arts & Culture Fund grant, your agency must:

- Be a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization or provide documentation that the organization is fiscally sponsored by an organization that has 501(c)(3) status.
- Be either:
 1. A LGBTQ-primary organization (defined as an organization whose mission includes the LGBTQ population as the primary focus of their work; whose staff and board predominantly reflect the LGBTQ community; and which primarily serves LGBTQ people); or
 2. A non-LGBTQ-primary organizations seeking funding for a LGBTQ-specific program/project.
- Request support for an organization or program/project in Broward, Miami-Dade or Palm Beach Counties.
- Request support for a program/project occurring between March 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021.

Please note the following are *not* eligible for support:

- Requests for costs incurred prior to the date of the grant award
- Requests from government agencies
- Requests for capital support, including construction and renovation
- Fundraising event sponsorship
- Organizations with outstanding grant project reports

Special consideration will be given to:

- Organizations and projects that are organized by, and work on behalf of, underserved populations within the LGBTQ community (including ethnicity, race, age, gender, gender identity and physical and cognitive ability).
- Organizations that offer proof of pro-actively addressing gaps in representation of underserved populations in regard to board, staff, audience and user participation.
- Programs that have limited appeal to traditional funding sources.
- Applications that leverage partnerships between similar-missioned agencies to reduce duplication of effort/resources and expand reach/services.

Awards: The maximum Arts & Culture Fund grant award is \$20,000.

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Our Fund believes that success in the post-pandemic environment will be defined by an organization's ability to pivot and cater to audience's anticipated expectations around safety and social distancing that will be foreseen remnants of the pandemic for several years. 2021 grants from the LGBTQ Arts & Culture Fund will support agencies' development and distribution of programs and services that incorporate lessons learned during the pandemic. Priority will be given to agencies whose goal is not just return to normal – but return to a new normal that builds on new capabilities developed in the initial months of the pandemic and addresses community concerns around social gathering.

With this application, Our Fund is asking arts and culture organizations to describe what activities and programs will be enacted to re-engage with audiences and stakeholders in 2021 and how these programs and distribution models differ from pre-pandemic practices. In addition, when possible Our Fund encourages applicants to consider resonance and relevance to the pandemic in programming choices thru December 2021 believing that the pandemic will remain top of mind for the foreseeable future. Grants from the Arts & Culture fund will support costs incurred by organizations related to safety protocol, reduced audience size, increase in number of performances, costs associated with supporting virtual *and* live performances, enhanced marketing, etc. Our Fund is not seeking to support new projects – but instead is interested in supporting new operating costs associated with developing and sustaining programming in a post-COVID environment.

Deadline and timeline

Bidder's Conferences will be held virtually on Monday, February 1 at 4:00 PM and Tuesday, February 2 at 10:00 AM. Agencies interested in applying for and receiving grants from the LGBTQ Arts & Culture Fund are encouraged to attend to have questions answered about the application, process and priorities for the LGBTQ Arts & Culture Fund grants.

Our Fund will accept only electronic applications beginning February 1, 2021. The deadline for electronic application submission is Sunday, February 28, 2021 at 5:00 PM.

Funding decisions will be announced at the end of March 2021. Grant awards will be made in early April 2021.

Application Process

All applications are reviewed by Our Fund's program staff and then by a diverse community panel. The panel makes recommendations to Our Fund Foundation's Board of Directors.

LGBTQ Arts & Culture Fund Application

Name of Organization *
Email Address *
Mailing Address *
City *
State *
Zip Code *
Website
FEIN Number *
Contact Person *
Phone Number *
Fiscal Sponsor (if applicable)
Address
Phone Number
Program Title *
Amount Requested (\$20,000 limit) *
Project Duration (in months) *

Grant Proposal (1500 character limit for each answer)

- **Executive Summary**
 - ◇ Please provide a one-paragraph summary of the program for which you are seeking funds and how your delivery model builds on new capabilities developed in the initial months of the pandemic and addresses community concerns around social gathering.

- **Community Need: Please address each of the following components:**
 - ◇ How is your program linked to an identified community need?

 - ◇ Please provide 3 compelling reasons to fund your project. If appropriate, describe how your programming is timely and reflective of the shared experience of the COVID pandemic.

- **Organizational Strength/Capacity**
 - ◇ Please explain your organization's experience and/or expertise with the program to be provided. Describe lessons learned to date through the pandemic and the impact on future programs and delivery of programs.

- ◇ Please describe your organization’s LGBTQ programming experience. If your organization is a non-LGBTQ-primary organization, please include the percentage of your programs and services that are directed at LGBTQ population. If your organizations is a LGBTQ-primary organization, please describe your outreach to non-LGBTQ population.
- ◇ How are you working towards creating a diverse, equitable and inclusive culture within your organization? This includes the organizational staff and leadership.
- **Program Design: Please address each of the following components:**
 - ◇ Describe adjustments that have been made to the deliverables of your programs as a result of COVID and anticipated audience/stakeholder reservations about public gatherings.
 - ◇ How the number of people targeted is appropriate for the project.
 - ◇ Timeline with clearly defined tasks.
 - ◇ Describe how your project does not duplicate other community projects (if applicable).
 - ◇ Describe efforts to collaborate with existing community providers with similar services.
- **Impact/Outcomes: Please address each of the following components:**
 - ◇ Explain how your project serves the needs of a diverse and/or marginalized community.
 - ◇ Explain how evaluation of your project will be used to improve this or future projects.
- **Budget Justification**
 - ◇ In narrative form, describe specifically how your budget will support the activities described. Include a description of additional sources of income needed to complete program and whether additional sources are confirmed or planned.

Attachments

Please upload the following documents:

* Most recent audited financial statements

- * Most recent Form 990 Tax Filing
- * IRS Letter of Determination of tax exemption under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code
- * List of current board members with professional affiliations
- * Non-discrimination Policy
- * Operating and Project Budget (Please use the included template)
- * A list of foundations, corporations, governmental agencies, and individuals who funded the organization in the last fiscal year (\$1,000 and above for agencies with budgets <\$500,000 / \$5,000 and above for agencies >\$500,000)