



San Mateo County's 2026 Arts and Culture Grant Application

The San Mateo County Office of Arts and Culture and its Arts Commission is pleased to announce our 2026 Grants Program. The streamlined grant opportunity will provide general support funding for eligible arts and culture nonprofit organizations located in or serving San Mateo County. This funding provides grantees with the flexibility to use the funds in the most applicable way for their individual organization, and for greatest impact on overall organizational health and sustainability. We look to you as our partners in the important work of growing our arts and culture eco-system to create a vital, creative, and healthy community.

GENERAL SUPPORT GRANTS

All funds may be used by the organization as needed to support the organization's overhead, salaries, or other needs. All grant awards are \$6,200.

Grant period is from January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026

Final report due December 31, 2026

Application Open: October 10 – November 7, 2025

Complete this application form and submit with the required documents requested below. We are unable to accept or consider incomplete applications. The **deadline to apply is November 7, 2025, by 5pm PDT**. Thank you for your time and creativity.

Eligibility: Must be able to answer yes to ALL statements below:

- Provide arts or culture services/programs in San Mateo County.
- A 501(c)(3) or fiscally sponsored nonprofit organization in good standing with the Internal Revenue Service, or a local public agency/entity.
- Have been in operation for 1+ years.
- Annual budget is under \$1,000,000.

Contact Information

Name of Organization

Contact person name and title

Contact person email

Contact person phone #

Organization address: Street/City/Zip Code:

Organization Phone #

Organization website

Formation date of organization:

TAX ID (EIN#)

I have a fiscal sponsor. If yes, please answer all of the questions regarding your fiscal sponsor. If not, proceed to section 3.

Yes

No

Name of Fiscal Sponsor

Fiscal Sponsor contact person name and title:

Fiscal Sponsor email

Fiscal Sponsor address: Street/City/Zip Code

Fiscal Sponsor phone #

Fiscal Sponsor website

Fiscal Sponsor Tax ID (EIN#)

Organization Information

The character count for each question is limited and you are not required to reach the limit. Please answer questions carefully and do not repeat information in multiple questions.

Describe your organization's history, mission, and vision. (1,500 characters max.)

What services/programs does your organization provide to residents of San Mateo County and what is the impact of those services/programs? Describe specific ways your organization is working to create a fair and just environment and the conditions needed for all to participate in artistic, creative, and cultural opportunities regardless of background. (2,000 characters max.)

Do you collaborate/partner with other organizations, if so with whom and how? Please give specific examples. If not, please explain. (1,500 characters max.)

List your current top three sources of funding. (250 characters max.)

General Support Narrative

What are your three most urgent organizational concerns/needs and how would a grant from the SMC Office of Arts and Culture address them? (1,500 characters max.)

Briefly describe the demographics and numbers of the population you serve, in San Mateo County and elsewhere. (1,500 characters max.)

How do you engage community members, including those with lived experiences, to assure your strategies and solutions are tailored to meet the needs of the communities you serve? (2,000 characters max.)

Required Documents to be Uploaded

IRS W-9 Form

Financial Statements for the last fiscal year

Current Organizational Budget

DEIB or Non-Discrimination policy or statement

All materials submitted are to the best of my knowledge are accurate and complete. Please add your name as your signature.

Would you like to be included on our mailing list for future opportunities and announcements?

Yes

No

Have you received a grant from the San Mateo County Office of Arts and Culture or the Arts Commission? If so, please tell us when?

Please tell us how you heard about this grant opportunity:

Email

Friend/artist

County OAC website

Social Media

Other: