



2-Year Operating Support Grant Introduction

Before starting your proposal, please review the full program description, including eligibility and evaluation criteria, found [here](#).

Note: This application is for the 2-year grant. *These grants will be made to organizations with which MDBF has an existing funding relationship, defined as having had at least one grant between 2012-2021.* If you haven't had a grant since 2012, **please see the 1-year grant application**. There are separate and distinct eligibility and application processes for these grants.

If you are uncertain about whether your organization is eligible, please call the MDBF office at 919-493-5591 and we'll check the database.

2-year Operating Support Grant: Beginning in 2021, MDBF shifted its grantmaking from project-based support to operating support for organizations that align with our Arts Grant Program funding goals. We offer a two-year grant of \$10,000 each year for a total grant of \$20,000. We anticipate making 10 two-year grants through an open and competitive process.

Guidance for completing the application form

- Although this is a two-year grant, information about programs and plans can focus on the first year. MDBF will have a conversation with grantees toward the end of the first year of the grant to get an update on the organization and its plans for the second year. You will not submit a second application for the second year of funding.
- Optional material: if there is information you would like us to know that doesn't fall within the questions asked, you have the option to attach brief additional information.
- Documents to be uploaded: Organization's Board of Directors list, previous year's operating budget, and balance sheet/statement of financial position.

Funding Goals

- support cultural organizations that demonstrate artistic excellence and elevate the profile of the Triangle's arts scenes, both locally and nationally; AND/OR
- support new, emerging, or grassroots cultural organizations that document, preserve, and/or present the values, spirit, and diversity of the Triangle's cultural community; AND/OR
- support arts-focused organizations that work directly with artists to nurture the current and next generations of artists, deepen and expand talent, develop professional and business skills, create new works.

2022 Arts Grant Program: 2-year operating support grant

The Mary Duke Biddle Foundation

Organization Information and Programming

Organization Overview (Who and Why)*

Please tell us about your organization, including points such as the following (though not necessarily in this order):

- describe the history and evolution of the organization
- indicate the need or opportunity the organization fills or plays in the arts ecosystem
- describe your audience, including numbers engaged (can be pre-pandemic figures)
- indicate key partners and/or collaborations, if applicable
- note any strategic goals, if applicable

Character Limit: 3500

Describe your organization's programs*

- Describe the programs your organization provides that relate to the MDBF's Arts Grant program's goals (below)
- Discuss highlights of the upcoming season/year
- Note new activities planned

MDBF Art Program goals:

- support cultural organizations that demonstrate artistic excellence and elevate the profile of the Triangle's arts scenes--locally, regionally, and/or nationally; AND/OR
- support new, emerging, or grassroots cultural organizations that document, preserve, and/or present the values, spirit, and diversity of the Triangle's cultural community; AND/OR
- support arts-focused organizations that work directly with artists to nurture the current and next generation of artists, deepen and expand talent, develop professional and business skills, create new works, and/or make the arts accessible to those with different abilities.

Character Limit: 2500

Impact of Programming*

How do you determine the impact of your programming? How do you define and measure success? **Provide key evaluation results or evidence of success.**

Possible examples include the number of people served/engaged, ticket sales, and survey responses. Others to consider are new communities reached, new partnerships, social media presence and engagement, membership retention, number of new donors, etc.

You can answer this question based on the "regular" methods used and data collected, pre-pandemic. We recognize that nonprofits have had to change their practices and that you may not have the same evidence of impact during the pandemic. We're interested in the impact of your "regular" model.

Character Limit: 2000

Impact of COVID-19 pandemic*

Please help us understand the impact COVID-19 has had and continues to have on your organization. Describe the key ways you adapted/changed, what challenges remain, and new opportunities, if any, that you encountered.

You can address the pandemic's financial impact in the Financial Health & Position section if you don't have space here.

Character Limit: 2000

Links to Digital Information

If you would like, provide links to performances, promotional videos, annual reports, or other information that will help us understand your organization.

This is optional.

Character Limit: 2000

Digital information

Character Limit: 2000

Digital information

Character Limit: 2000

Organization Type*

Please select one option that best fits your organization. While we recognize that some organizations could be more than one, please select the primary purpose.

Choices

Arts accessibility
Arts council
Arts services
Dance
Documentary film

Literary
 Music
 Photography
 Presenting organization
 Theater
 Visual--painting, sculpture, digital

Geographic Area Served*

In which county(ies) does the organization's programs take place? You may select up to three. **If the organization serves the full Triangle region, select Triangle.**

Choices

Chatham
 Durham
 Orange
 Wake
 Triangle

Staff, Leadership, and Equity

Organization Staff/Artists*

Provide an overview of the organization's leadership and staff

- Background of executive leadership (the Executive Director and other key leaders, as applicable)
- Number of staff --how many full/part time; include volunteers, if applicable
- For organizations comprised primarily of artists (eg, dance, music, or theater companies), describe who the artists are.

Character Limit: 1500

Board and Governance*

- Discuss your Board's involvement with the organization.
- How many members?
- How does your board reflect the community and constituents you engage?
- If relevant, discuss how the Board is growing or evolving.

Character Limit: 2000

Organization's Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access*

- Describe the organization's approach to diversity, equity, inclusion, and access.
- Please include a description of the diversity that exists among your organization's board, staff, and trustees.

- How does the staff and/or artists' composition reflect the population(s) served or engaged by the organization?
- Note any specific inclusion goals for the board and/or staff.
- Include information about volunteers, if applicable.

Character Limit: 2500

Financial Information

Grant Amount Requested*

Character Limit: 20

Fiscal Year*

Please provide the end date of your organization's fiscal year (month/date), eg, 6/30 or 12/31.

Character Limit: 10

Current FY Budgeted Revenues*

Character Limit: 20

Current FY Budgeted Expenses*

Character Limit: 20

Previous FY Actual Revenues*

Character Limit: 20

Previous FY Actual Expenses*

Character Limit: 20

Endowment/Investments

If the organization has an endowment or has funds held externally (e.g., agency funds held at a community foundation), please list the value.

Character Limit: 20

Commentary on Revenue and Expenses*

- List the main categories and percentages of revenue, eg, earned income --X%, contributions-- X%, investment income--X%, miscellaneous--X%, etc
- Regarding contributed revenues, provide categories and percentages of donations: individuals--X%, foundations--X%, corporations--X%, other (if applicable)
- Please tell us anything you think we should know about our organization's financial position, particularly in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Character Limit: 1500

Attachments

Organization's Budget*

Please upload the previous year's operating budget, including revenues and expenses, in whatever format you use. The budget helps us to understand how the organization operates.

If possible, please upload only the budget, not audited financial statements or 990.

File Size Limit: 2 MB

Organization's Balance Sheet/Statement of Financial Position*

Please upload the previous fiscal year's balance sheet or statement of financial position.

File Size Limit: 2 MB

Board of Directors List*

Provide a list of your board of directors.

If you are using a fiscal sponsor, please include a list of your advisory board, if applicable. We are interested in knowing who is directly involved with your organization or effort.

File Size Limit: 2 MB

Cover Letter or other optional attachment

If you would like, you can upload a cover letter, annual report, or other material/information you would like us to see. This is not required.

If you upload other information, please keep it brief (not more than 3 pages)

File Size Limit: 2 MB

Fiscal Sponsor letter

If you are using a fiscal sponsor, please upload a letter from the organization confirming that they will provide this service.

File Size Limit: 2 MB

MDBF Internal Use Only

POC-led (Internal only)

MDBF staff input

Choices

no

yes

ED Comments (Internal Only)

ED's comments on the project

Character Limit: 1500

Approval recommended

Choices

Yes

Program Name*

Character Limit: 100

New Applicant? (internal only)

MDBF input

Choices

no

yes

MDBF Board Meeting Date

Character Limit: 10