



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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City of San Diego Opens Three Funding Opportunities for Eligible Arts and Culture Nonprofits

ONE-TIME EMERGENCY FUNDING ALSO AVAILABLE FOR ORGANIZATIONS SERVING COMMUNITIES OF COLOR AFFECTED BY COVID-19

SAN DIEGO – Eligible nonprofit organizations that provide arts and culture programming – including performances, exhibits, parades and festivals – have [three grant opportunities](#) to apply for funding support through the City of San Diego [Commission for Arts and Culture](#).

One of the grants will award funding to arts organizations that represent and serve San Diego communities of color disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

To assist in the recovery of arts organizations struggling under the economic devastation of COVID-19, the [CARES Grant Initiative \(CGI\)](#) provides emergency general operating funds to Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) arts and culture organizations working with communities of color. The CGI grant is funded by the Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

The deadline for all three funding opportunities is Nov. 13, 2020.

“We’ve all been spending a lot of time watching our favorite shows and artists from home lately, and one silver lining of this pandemic may be how it showed us how much we need arts and culture to lead rich and fulfilling lives,” said Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer. **“Sadly, our artists, performers, and the entire creative industry are struggling to get by right now, and these new grant opportunities represent a lifeline for nonprofits to help them survive these difficult times and come back stronger than ever on the other side.”**

The CARES Act funds were allocated to the California Arts Council (CAC) for distribution through their State-Local Partners. The Commission for Arts and Culture is the CAC partner for San Diego County. CGI funding will be distributed by the end of the year.

“2020 has been an extraordinarily difficult year for San Diego’s arts and culture organizations, our festival partners and individual artists. Despite COVID-19, the virtual response has once again shown that arts and culture bring communities together and celebrate the best of us,” said Janet Poutre, Chair of the Commission for Arts and Culture. **“Now, more than ever, this City funding is vital.”**

The Commission for Arts and Culture is also seeking applications for two annual funding opportunities. The City’s [Organizational Support Program \(OSP\)](#) provides general operating support to nonprofit arts and cultural organizations

that positively impact San Diego's quality of life and tourism. [Creative Communities San Diego \(CCSD\)](#) provides project support for a variety of artistic and cultural programs, from film and video screenings to festivals and parades. Funding for OSP and CCSD comes from the Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT), a tax collected from visitors who stay overnight in hotels, motels and other similar accommodations. The funding is for fiscal year 2022.

In fiscal year 2021, more than \$5.7 million in arts and culture funds were awarded to 168 nonprofit organizations. In fiscal year 2020, 159 nonprofit organizations received awards totaling \$11.4 million.

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