

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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City of San Diego Announces Launch of Fiscal Year 2027 Arts and Culture Funding Opportunities

LOCAL NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS ENCOURAGED TO APPLY FOR FUNDING BY NOV. 13, 2025

SAN DIEGO— Today, the City of San Diego announced the launch of its [2026-2027 arts and culture funding opportunities](#). The programs support local nonprofit organizations and projects taking place between July 1, 2026, and June 30, 2027, and will ultimately improve the quality of life for San Diegans, generate employment opportunities and boost tourism. Guidelines and applications are now available for the [Organizational Support Program \(OSP\)](#) and [Creative Communities San Diego \(CCSD\)](#). Applications are due by 8 a.m. on Nov. 13, 2025.

The City's annual arts and culture funding program is financed by the Transient Occupancy Tax paid by visitors staying in hotels, motels and other accommodations. Through OSP and CCSD funding, the City plays a vital role in supporting the nonprofit sector and enhancing the creative workforce.

"The City's funding strengthens a dynamic and diverse arts and culture ecosystem," said Christina Bibler, Economic Development Director. "Through investments in our local organizations and the artists and cultural workforce they employ and engage, we expand San Diego's economy and strengthen the cultural and creative sectors that benefit our residents and visitors."

The OSP provides general operating support to nonprofit arts and culture organizations. This funding helps organizations deliver programs and activities for both residents and visitors. It also helps sustain the operations for groups that enhance San Diego's quality of life, support tourism and increase access to arts and cultural experiences.

CCSD awards project-based funding to nonprofit organizations to deliver dynamic arts and culture projects throughout neighborhoods across the city. The program aims to engage San Diego's diverse communities in arts, culture and creativity and to contribute to a more accessible and sustainable creative ecosystem. Organizations without nonprofit status may apply through a fiscal sponsor.

In July 2025, the City, through the Economic Development Department's Division of Cultural Affairs, announced over \$11.3 million in funding for arts, culture and creativity, allocated to 189 nonprofit organizations for fiscal year 2026. Of this amount, nearly \$9.59 million supported 119 arts and culture organizations through OSP, while \$1.71 million funded 70 projects through CCSD. These investments strengthen San Diego's arts and cultural ecosystem, creating jobs and boosting economic and social impact throughout the city.

"With the launch of our arts and culture funding opportunities for fiscal year 2027, the City reaffirms its commitment to strategic investments in the cultural and creative sector that not only generate jobs and boost the local economy, but also expand access to arts and cultural experiences," said Christine E. Jones with the City's Cultural Affairs. **"By fostering opportunities for creative expression across a broad cross-section of programs, activities and events, including film screenings, exhibitions, performances, festivals, parades and other artistic projects, we are cultivating social and cultural impact while enhancing the overall well-being of both San Diegans and visitors."**

Free informational sessions and office hours are available to help potential applicants. For guidelines, technical assistance and application instructions, please visit the Cultural Affairs Funding webpage at sandiego.gov/economic-development/cultural-affairs/funding/apply.

Cultural Affairs advances the City's arts, culture and creative industries. As a division of the Economic Development Department, Cultural Affairs drives an equitable and inclusive creative economy and arts ecosystem that reflects the region's cultural diversity and works to advance San Diego as a global city. To learn more, visit sandiego.gov/cultural-affairs.



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