



Welcome!

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Cultural Affairs Funding Webpage



Cultural
Affairs



Cultural
Affairs



Introduction to Funding Opportunities



City of San Diego Cultural Affairs Arts and Culture Funding Program



IMPACT

- Supports over 185 nonprofit organizations annually.
- Expands access to arts and culture across all City Council districts.
- Strengthens San Diego's position as a creative, cultural destination.

How the City Funds Arts & Culture

Funding Source:

Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) — paid by visitors staying in local hotels, motels, and lodgings.

Governing Policy:

Council Policy 100-03 establishes Organizational Support Program and Creative Communities San Diego as funding categories.

Goals of TOT Investment:

- Enhance San Diego's economy through arts and culture.
- Promote access and equity across neighborhoods.
- Enrich quality of life for residents and visitors.
- Strengthen and sustain a thriving creative sector.



OUR COLLECTIONS
STRAS COLECCIONES

287,000+
BOTANY
BOTANICA

1.6 MILLION+
PALEONTOLOGY
PALEONTOLOGIA

52,000+
ZOOLOGY
ZOOLOGIA

5,000+
MAMMALS
MAMALOGIA

EXHIBIT CONTENT:

- Top shelf: Bird specimen, Skull.
- Middle shelf: Large cheetah illustration.
- Below illustration: Text panel in English and Spanish.
- Bottom shelf: Small vertical display units with specimens.

A LIBRARY OF LIFE
UNA BIBLIOTECA DE VIDA

EXHIBIT CONTENT:

- Top: Butterfly, Skull.
- Center: Large illustration of a lizard and a bird.
- Below illustration: Text panel in English and Spanish.
- Flanking shelves: Numerous small jars/containers.

EXHIBIT CONTENT:

- Top: Text panel in English and Spanish.
- Center: Large illustration of a frog.
- Flanking shelves: Numerous small jars/containers.

Organizational Support Program

Provides general operating support to nonprofit arts and culture organizations. This funding supports organizations in delivering activities that enhance San Diego's quality of life, strengthen cultural and creative tourism, and expand access to the arts and culture.

TYPES OF APPLICANTS

Theaters, Museums, Dance, Music, Heritage and Cultural, Arts Service Organization, etc.

IMPACT

Provides direct access and increased opportunities for excellence in culture and the arts







Creative Communities San Diego

Provides project support for nonprofits to deliver dynamic projects in San Diego neighborhoods. These projects engage diverse communities in arts, culture, and creativity, while contributing to a more accessible and sustainable creative ecosystem.

PROJECT TYPES

Ranging from film and video screenings to art exhibitions and performances to festivals and parades.

FISCAL SPONSORSHIP

Nonprofit organizations without 501c3 or 501c6 status can apply through fiscal sponsor!



SIMILARITIES

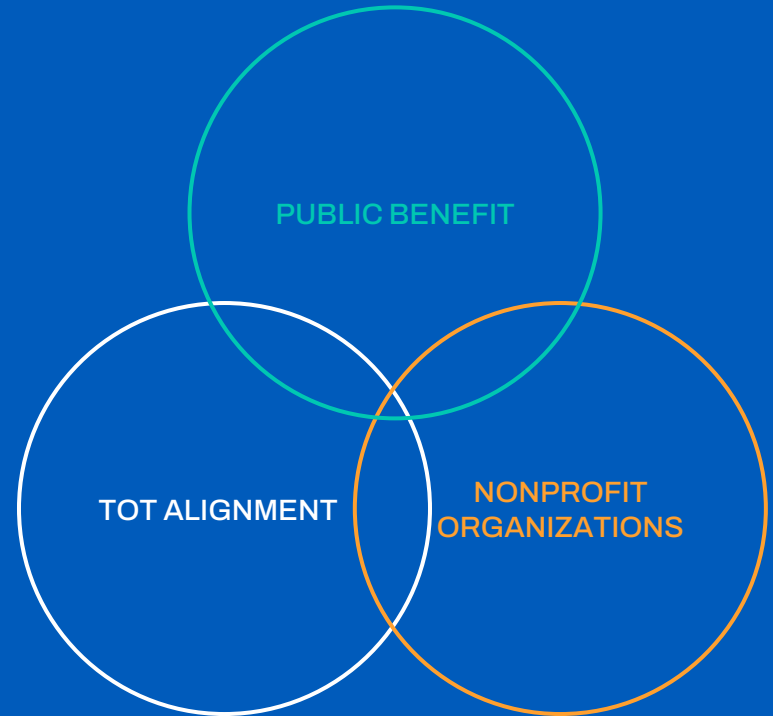
Application Process

- Part 1
- Part 2

Application Timeline:

- **Opens:** October 8, 2025
- **Deadline:** November 13, 2025

Funded activities should take place between July 1, 2026, and June 30, 2027



DIFFERENCES



Photo Credit:
Taylor Anne Photography Studio
San Diego Made

OSP

LOCATION

Organization must be headquartered within the city of San Diego.

GENERAL OPERATING FUNDS

Nonprofit organizations with a mission statement focused on arts and cultural activities and programming.

LIBRARY ACTIVITY

Organizations awarded \$25,000+ are required to provide at least one arts and culture activity at a San Diego Public Library

CCSD

LOCATION

Organizations must have principle/primary office in San Diego County. Projects must take place within the city of San Diego.

PROJECT FUNDING

Nonprofit organizations producing projects taking a variety of artistic and cultural forms.

FISCAL SPONSOR

Organizations that don't have tax-exempt status or those operating less than two years may apply through fiscal sponsor.

Option to Renew

- Available to all FY26 awardees with no major project, mission, board, or financial changes can *Request a Renewal*.
- If approved, no Part 2 submission is required!
 - Prior panel rank carries over for FY27 award calculation.
 - Award amount may differ based on FY27 budget and funding variables.
 - The City may require a Part 2 submission at its discretion.



Option to Renew

Who Qualifies:

- All FY26 awardees (including those with fiscal sponsors) meeting eligibility criteria.

Fiscal Sponsors

- Returning CCSD applicants using the same FY26 sponsor can request renewal

All Applicants

- **All applicants** must submit a **Part 1** response.

New or Non-Renewing Applicants

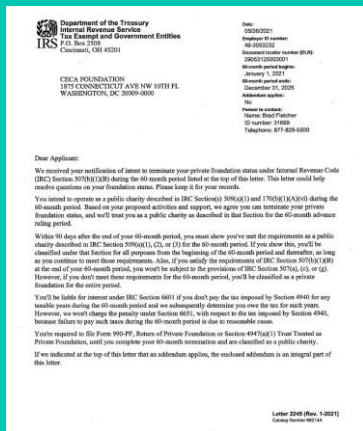
- New or returning Applicants without an FY26 agreement must submit **Part 2** if their **Part 1** is deemed *qualified*.



Documentation Needed to Apply

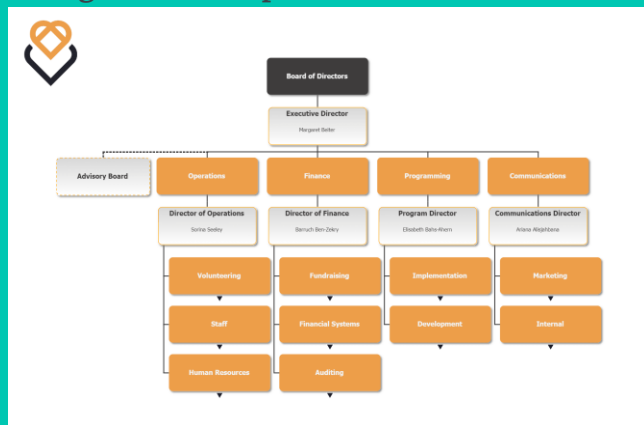
IRS letter & Verification documents

- IRS letter of determination verifying the 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(6) status
- California Department of Justice Charity Registration
- California Secretary of State Business Listing
- U.S. Government System for Award Management (SAM) Debarment Search:



Organization Documentation

- Organizational chart showing names and titles of your organization's staff
- Board Member information:
 - Names
 - Titles
 - Brief biographies
- **CCSD** – If your organization is using a fiscal sponsor, complete the Organization section using the fiscal sponsor's information



Documentation Needed to Apply

Evidence of Headquarters

- **OSP** – Headquarters within city of San Diego limits.
- **CCSD** – Principle/primary office within San Diego county limits.
- Acceptable documents:
 - Utility /municipality bills
 - Water, electricity or gas bills
 - Current Bank documents
 - A signed copy of a lease/rental agreement
 - Official tax document from the most recent tax year
 - A telephone account for a physical landline

Water & Wastewater Services
CITY OF SAN DIEGO
Mailed on Sep 10 2007
Sep 24 2007
RETURN TO: 3121 TOWN PL, SAN DIEGO, CA 92102-3742
METER SIZE: 16.74
WATER USAGE: 35.28
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: \$114.74

Financial Documentation

- **OSP** - Financial Statement of Activities
- Organization's Board Approved Annual Budget
- Profit and Loss or Complete Financial Statements for the last two completed fiscal years
- **CCSD** - If your organization is using a fiscal sponsor, complete the Financial Management section using the fiscal sponsor's information

Statement of activities				Statement of financial position					
		2022		2021		2022		2021	
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE		FUNDRAISING		ASSETS		LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
PUBLIC SUPPORT	PUBLIC SUPPORT	FUNDRAISING		CASH		ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE, NET		INVESTMENTS	
	FOUNDED GOOD AND SERVICES	FOOD PROCUREMENT		CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVABLE, NET		OTHER ASSETS		PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET	
	TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT	TOTAL ASSETS		TOTAL LIABILITIES		NET ASSETS			
REVENUE	REVENUE	FOOD PROCUREMENT REVENUE		OTHER ASSETS		TOTAL ASSETS		LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
	OTHER REVENUE	TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE		ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED EXPENSES		CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED IN ADVANCE		LEASES PAYABLE	
	TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE	TOTAL ASSETS		TOTAL LIABILITIES		NET ASSETS			
EXPENSES	EXPENSES	PERSONNEL SERVICES		WITHOUT DONOR RESTRICTIONS		WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS		TOTAL NET ASSETS	
	FOOD PROCUREMENT	PUBLIC AWARENESS AND EDUCATION		TOTAL LIABILITIES		NET ASSETS			
	POLICY AND ADVOCACY	PROGRAMS		TOTAL LIABILITIES		NET ASSETS			
PROGRAM SERVICES	PROGRAM SERVICES	RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS		TOTAL LIABILITIES		NET ASSETS			
	TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES	MANAGEMENT AND GENERAL		TOTAL LIABILITIES		NET ASSETS			
	TOTAL PROGRAM SERVICES	FUND DEVELOPMENT		TOTAL LIABILITIES		NET ASSETS			
SUPPORTING SERVICES	SUPPORTING SERVICES	TOTAL SUPPORTING SERVICES		TOTAL LIABILITIES		NET ASSETS			
	TOTAL SUPPORTING SERVICES	TOTAL EXPENSES		TOTAL LIABILITIES		NET ASSETS			
	TOTAL EXPENSES	INCREASE IN NET ASSETS BEFORE NON-OPERATING ACTIVITIES		TOTAL LIABILITIES		NET ASSETS			
NON-OPERATING ACTIVITIES	NON-OPERATING ACTIVITIES	CHANGES IN NET ASSETS		TOTAL LIABILITIES		NET ASSETS			
	NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR		TOTAL LIABILITIES		NET ASSETS			
	NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	TOTAL LIABILITIES		NET ASSETS		NET ASSETS			

KEY DATES

2025

PART 1 DUE

11/13/2025
Responses to the Part 1
due.

PANEL

MARCH 2026
Panels review and
recommend ranks
responses to the Part 2.

PART 2 DUE

02/09/2026
Responses to the Part 2
due.

AWARDED

JUNE 2026
Final award amounts
confirmed through
City's appropriation
ordinance.

Part One Process

Submission

- Complete and submit Part 1 in Fluxx by **November 13, 2025, at 8:00 a.m. Pacific Time**



Evaluation

- City staff evaluate each applicant's eligibility.
- Applicants receive one of two determinations:
 - Qualified
 - Not Qualified.

Cure & Results

- “Not Qualified” applicants have 10 days to correct missing or inaccurate information.
- If still “Not Qualified,” the application will not advance in the process.
- Applicants deemed “Qualified” in Part 1 will receive a notification to complete and submit Part 2

Common Reasons For Cure

- Incorrect Annual Operating Income Calculation
- Missing Statement of Activities
- Incorrect or missing Headquarter Documentation
- Missing Fiscal Sponsor Information
- Applying to multiple TOT categories
- Other missing or incorrect Documentation

Part Two Process

Submission

- Complete and submit Part 2 in Fluxx by **February 9, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time**



Evaluation Panels

- Peer panels of artists, cultural workers, and arts professionals from across North America review applications.
- Each section is evaluated using a standardized system:
 - Activities
 - Community Engagement
 - Programming Capacity
 - Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility
 - Achievement in Emphasis Areas
- Virtual panel meetings are open to the public.

Results

- The Commission for Arts and Culture receives the ranks recommended by the review panels and provides a recommendation to the City
- Award amounts are calculated and is forwarded to the Mayor and City Council
- Final award amounts confirmed through City's appropriation ordinance.

Technical Assistance

Part 1: October 8 to November 10, 2025

Part 2: January 8 to February 6, 2026

On-demand tutorials

- Available on the Cultural Affairs website and in Fluxx Grantee Portal
 - Fluxx User Registration Guide
 - Fluxx Application Guide
 - OSP Annual Operating Income (AOI) Calculator Worksheet
 - Verifications Document Guide
 - Financial Statement Template
 - Fluxx How to Use the Portal Tab

Virtual Office Hours

- Book a one-on-one Teams call
- Best way for quick, direct communication.
- Automatically approved and synced to my calendar!



Technical Assistance

Part 1: October 8 to November 10, 2025

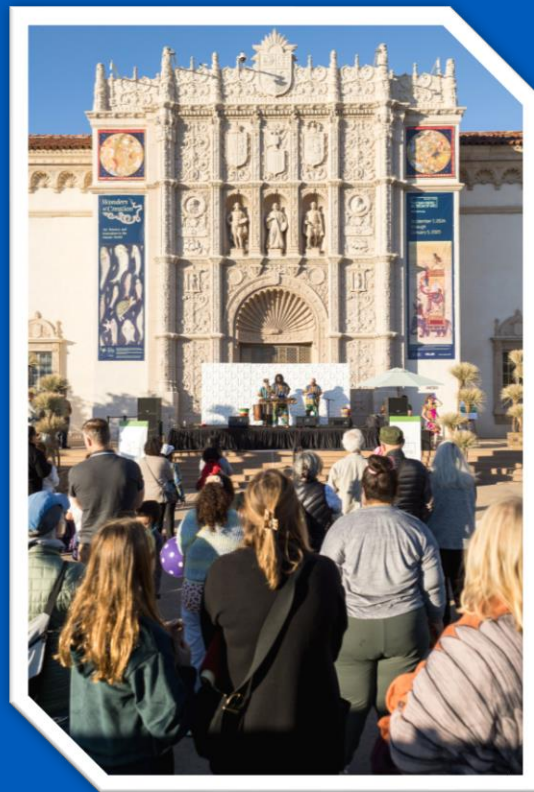
Part 2: January 8 to February 6, 2026

In-person meeting

- Book a virtual office hours slot, then reply to the event with your preferred location!
- We'll meet you there!

Email support

- With 200+ applicants, our inbox stays busy!
- Slower response time.
- Check our online resources first
- For urgent matters, book a Technical Assistance call!





Thank you! Questions?