

Creative Current Grants

Tempe Community Arts – Creative Current Grant provides up to \$10,000 for established nonprofit organizations that deliver consistent, high-quality arts programming and drive Tempe’s cultural momentum. These organizations play a key role in building community, strengthening public life and shaping Tempe as a dynamic and inclusive city. This grant supports the steady force behind the arts in Tempe—nonprofits that keep the creative current flowing.

Amount: **Up to \$10,000 – no match required.**

Deadline: **July 15, 2026**

All applicants are required to meet with Maja Aurora, Community Arts Manager, before applying. [Click here to find a time.](#)

Expectations & Eligibility:

- **Project must take place in Tempe between September 15, 2026 - June 30, 2027.**
- Requests may include creatives, artists fees, contracted services, production costs, venue rentals, supplies, permit fees, event insurance, food and marketing expenses.
- Must be 501c3 Non-Profit organizations providing arts programming in Tempe.
- Only eligible to receive one Tempe Community Arts Grant per year (September-June).

Restrictions – this grant *does not fund*:

- Activities that occur outside of the City of Tempe.
- Projects that are only virtual or streamed via the web.
- Production or commission of public art (i.e. murals); permanent enhancements to infrastructure or facilities, capital investments (equipment that outlast the duration of the project).
- Fundraising, re-granting, scholarship programs or awards.
- Schools or projects with schools (see [Arts in Schools Programs](#)); parent-teacher organizations (i.e. booster clubs, PTA or PTO).
- TCA home/resident companies; projects funded by a TCC Grant or a Neighborhood Grant; reduction of debt, feasibilities studies.
- Universities, colleges and auxiliary/affiliate organizations.
- For-profit organizations, organizations that are incorporated for religious purposes or projects that focus on religious themes.
- Grant administration, overhead or processing fees taken by an umbrella/parent organization as a percentage of the total award, fiscal agents/sponsors.
- Staff salaries that are for work outside the scope of the proposed project.
- Closed subscription or membership programming.
- an applicant who failed to submit a Final Report, complete a project, or return unused funds from a previously funded grant.

Review Process: Applications will be reviewed by an independent community review panel comprised of Tempe residents, cultural leaders and organizers, artists and representatives from the Tempe Arts and Culture Commission. The review process is competitive and based on available funds, therefore, some applications may receive partial or no funding. The panel will recommend awards to the Community Services Director for final approval. Grant Award Notification will take place by **August 24, 2026**.

Final Report: Must be submitted by **June 30, 2027** to be eligible for future grant funding by the City of Tempe. The report will include a summary of the project, attendance and demographic data of participants, a final budget report and professional quality photos of the project. The

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grant recipient agrees to give the City of Tempe the rights to use any materials submitted in the Final Report for data collection and promotional purposes.

How to Apply: Compile all materials listed below and complete the [online application](#).

Brief Summary (100-word max)

- Who is your organization? What are the activities/programs you are proposing? When and where will they take place? Who is involved/how many people will participate? *This summary will be used in presentations and public materials.*

Intention (600-words max)

- What is your organization's mission, vision or purpose?
- Provide a detailed overview of your project proposal (who, what, when and where), and a project timeline.
- How does this project reflect your organization's unique role or contribution to Tempe's arts ecosystem

Community (600-word max)

- Describe your specific artistic community or intersection of communities you serve. Who is involved in the project and how will they be impacted?
- Who will participate or attend and how will you reach and invite them? Share your marketing plans.
- What are some of the expected benefits for those who engage with this project?

Resourcefulness (600-word max)

- Who is involved in planning and delivering the project? What relevant experience or expertise do they bring?
- How do you select the artistic elements of your project (e.g. performances, artists, collaborators)?
- What resources help bring your project to life? Tell us about other funding, partnerships, donations, or volunteer support—and how you use them for maximum impact.

Impact (600-word max)

- What impact will your project have on Tempe's cultural life or community? What are your connections to the city?
- How does your organization collect and respond to feedback? Share any insights or data (quantitative or qualitative) from participants or audiences—or explain how you plan to gather it.
- What are your goals for the future of this project? How will you measure success and growth over time?

Budget Form & Explanation (300 words max.):

- Complete and upload Budget Form. Use this space to break down and explain budget items. Examples: number of artists and their fees, ticket prices with estimated attendance numbers, etc. Describe the value and importance of certain budget items to your project. Do not include activities that occur outside of Tempe.

Images & Video

- 2-4 images of past projects or promotional materials.
- 1-2 videos/reels of past projects (link or upload).