

Grant Writing Resource Page

Helpful Tips and Session Summary Points

- **Contact your program manager.** It is always a good idea to discuss your applications with any funder in advance of the submission deadline. Write down all of your questions and think about your project idea in preparation for this discussion.
- **Have a clear artist statement that can be a paragraph or a sentence** (why you?)
 - What is your standpoint? (And how does this influence the kind of work you make and want to make?)
 - What are your artistic interests? What disciplines do you work in?
 - Identify genre and discipline
 - Training?
 - Awards?
 - Highlights of your previous creation experience? (Festivals, co-productions, residencies, etc.)
 - Values, ideologies, methodologies that are significant to you and your practice? (i.e. collective creation, devised performance, etc.)
- **Be an expert on your own project.**
 - Determine and define your own artistic vision and goals. *Think about your artistic vision and what you want to accomplish with the work. Talk about the project with others and articulate its unique artistic merits and importance.*
 - Why this; why now?
 - **Have a clear plan.** Clearly outline the steps that will be taken to ensure the successful completion of your project. Ensure that your plan is detailed and in line with your proposed budget and objectives.
 - Have a **feasible and realistic** plan
- **Write clearly and directly.** Identify what each question is asking and answer that question as directly and thoroughly as possible. Outline the steps that will be taken (that you know of), key individuals involved, and partners engaged to successfully complete your project. If you are not sure about the meaning of a question, ask your Grant Program Manager.
- **Consider the jury and the evaluative priorities.**
 - **Artistic Merit:** clear and compelling history and achievements; relevant community influences; distinctive and compelling intended activity with strong supports that demonstrate skill; highly relevant artistic collaborators.
 - **Impact:** clear and relevant goals on influencing other artists, communities, audiences, participants; unique and compelling contribution to your own objectives as an artist; service to a priority group with an appropriate plan by which to engage with that group.
 - **Feasibility/viability:** work plan is coherent and realistic (sufficient time and resources dedicated to each phase); a mix of revenues; fees are carefully determined through research and planning; past project history and budget management is clear and relevant.
- **Create a realistic budget.** Research the real cost of activities, services, materials, fees, and equipment. Talk to others who have done similar work. Research potential partners and other funders who may be able to support project costs. Include in-kind or donated services and materials in your budget or budget notes.
- **Gather support materials.** Ideally these should be relevant to the proposed project, if not - past work will suffice. Ensure that the materials demonstrate aspects of your artist statement / artistic goals.
- **Get feedback.** It is always a great idea to have another person read a draft of your grants application. Grant Program Managers may also support you by reading a draft of your proposal and providing feedback. Make sure that you provide adequate time for this process (four weeks before deadline).

List of Grants - Public Funding Bodies

- **Canada Council for the Arts**
 - Canada Council: Professional Development
 - Canada Council: Research and Creation

- [Canada Council: Concept to Realization](#)
- [Canada Council: Supporting Artistic Practice](#)
- [Canada Council: Arts Across Canada](#)
- [Canada Council: Arts Abroad](#)
- **Toronto Arts Council.** The Toronto Arts Council provides both project and operational funding to professional arts organizations and community arts groups. Their Neighbourhood Arts Network lists several corporate and public sector funders that provide financial resources to arts organizations. <http://www.torontoartscouncil.org/>
- **Ontario Arts Council.** The Ontario Arts Council has numerous programs that provide both project and operating grants to arts organizations and professional artists of many disciplines. <http://www.arts.on.ca/site4.aspx>
- **Canadian Heritage.** Canadian Heritage is responsible for national policies and programs that promote Canadian content, foster cultural participation, active citizenship and participation in Canada's civic life, and strengthen connections among Canadians. <http://www.pch.gc.ca/eng/1266037002102/1265993639778>
- **Ontario Arts Foundation.** The Ontario Arts Foundation manages over 300 endowment funds with a market value of \$74 million. In 2015, the Ontario Arts Foundation paid out \$3.0 million in support of the arts in Ontario. While each fund is dedicated to a specific purpose, funds are pooled for investment purposes. <http://ontarioartsfoundation.on.ca/>
- **Ontario Ministry of Tourism and Culture.** This Ministry provides leadership within the arts and culture community to support a strong and stable culture sector that will help to build vibrant and liveable communities and a creative and innovative knowledge-based economy in Ontario. <http://www.mtc.gov.on.ca/en/home.shtml>
- **Ontario Trillium Foundation.** The Ontario Trillium Foundation is a provincial granting agency that helps build "healthy vibrant communities in Ontario". The new Community Capital Fund (CCF) will support infrastructure projects that help Ontario's not-for-profit organizations deliver important public services to diverse cultural communities. <http://www.trilliumfoundation.org/en/index.asp>
- **City of Toronto Cultural Services.** Cultural Services provides detailed information and numerous programs to support arts and culture across the City of Toronto. Information on Cultural Planning, Cultural Mapping, and Public Art are of particular relevance to creative placemaking. <http://www.toronto.ca/culture/>
- **ArtsBuild Ontario.** ArtsBuild Ontario is currently developing a Facilities Portal to share knowledge and resources around arts facilities. <http://www.artsbuildontario.ca/fundingsources.html>
- **Creative Trust.** "Creative Trust is a collaborative capacity building organization that helps Toronto's mid-size and small performing arts companies develop skills and achieve financial health and balance." <http://www.creativetrust.ca/about/>
- **Metcalf Foundation.** "The goal of the George Cedric Metcalf Charitable Foundation is to enhance the effectiveness of people and organizations working together to help Canadians imagine and build a just, healthy, and creative society." <http://metcalffoundation.com/>

Additional Resources

- **Generator:** Artist Producer Resource: <https://artistproducerresource.com/tiki-index.php>
- **Strategic Arts Management (SAM)** for folks in Nova Scotia: <https://strategicarts.org/>
- Grant Connect through Imagine Canada: <https://www.imaginecanada.ca/en/grant-connect>
- **E-Blast for Rolling Grants:** <https://patthedog.org/subscribe/>

If you have any suggestions regarding updating this document, please email Natalie (natalieliconti@gmail.com) or Naz (naz@nightwoodtheatre.net).