

FY25 Individual Artist Grant Program

The Individual Artist Grant Program provides vital operational support to practicing, professional artists across all mediums and disciplines. Up to 40 local artists will each receive a \$5,000 grant to advance their creative practice, with up to \$200,000 in direct funding distributed across multiple disciplines.

This program is committed to fostering creativity, arts business growth and positive impacts in the Visual Arts, Literary Arts, Performing Arts, Music, Theater, Dance, and more.

- **Applications will open on April 15 and close May 31, 2025.**
- **Grant period is June 1 – September 30, 2025.**

Eligibility

- Must be a working professional artist living or working in the City of St. Petersburg with plans to continue doing so following the grant award period. For the purpose of this grant, a working professional artist is defined as a person who has created a recognized body of work over a sustained period and pursues this work as a means of livelihood.
- Applicants must be at least 18 years of age.

Ineligible

- Non-profit arts organizations.
- Students pursuing undergraduate or graduate degrees.
- Non-professionals who engage in the arts as hobby.

Requirement of Grantees

- All artists must promote artistic excellence expanding access to diverse and innovative arts experiences.
- Grantee must agree to abide by all grant terms and conditions of the agreement.
- Grantee must submit W-9 Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and certification. A 1099 will be issued to the grantee for tax reporting purposes.
- Grantee must submit a final report using the template provided.
- All funds should be expended 11:59pm September 30, 2025.

Application Requirements

- Artist resume or CV, list of performances, exhibitions, or published works with specifics. (Maximum two pages.)
- Artist Bio (up to 500 words)
- Artist Statement (up to 200 words)
- A description of why you are seeking funds. (500 words max.)
- Description of how your artistry impacts the St. Petersburg community. (300 words max.)

- Include up to 5 work samples completed within the last five years.
- Support materials (i.e., letters, articles, reviews, programs, and other promotional materials as evidence of your artistic and professional achievements.
- Budget showing how the \$5,000 grant will be spent (see list of allowable expenses).

Goals, Criteria & Scoring

A review panel will be comprised of the Arts Advisory Committee Chair, the Public Arts Commission Chair and the Director of Arts, Culture and Tourism for the City of St. Pete. All have a deep knowledge of artistry, diversity, fiscal responsibility and city grants. The panel will evaluate all applications and announce the grant awards by June 30, 2025.

A total of **100 points** is possible. **Only scores of 80 and above will be considered for funding.** Funding decisions will be based on the following:

1. Creativity & Innovation: A unique approach to the art form that is distinct from others in your field and pushes boundaries. **(20 points)**
2. Impact: Your artistic practice should make a positive impact on a specific community, the public, or the world at large. **(20 points)**
3. Community Connection: Your involvement in the community, including collaborating or engaging with other artists, organizations, or community members in a way that fosters connectedness and belonging - particularly in terms of equity, diversity, and inclusion. **(20 points)**
4. Business Growth: This grant will enable you to grow and advance your artistic practice. This could include developing new skills, exploring new ideas or techniques, or taking risks in your work or the work you represent. **(20 points)**
5. Completeness and clarity of the application. **(10 points)**
6. Artistic excellence as demonstrated by work samples and professional resume (including any combination of education, artistic training, and level of achievement and/or evidence of commitment to personal artistic development). **(10 points)**

Allowable Expenses

- **MATERIALS/SUPPLIES:** Purchase of materials and supplies.
- **EQUIPMENT:** Equipment purchases or rentals.
- **PRESENTATION/ DOCUMENTATION:** Costs related to producing materials such as slides, discs, catalogs, portfolios, demo tapes, manuscripts, music charts, etc.
- **SERVICES:** Vendor or facility rentals.
- **TRAINING/WORKSHOPS/CLASSES.** Education directly related to your arts practice or arts business growth.

Excluded Expenses

- Expenses that are not reimbursable include, but are not limited to, alcoholic beverages, vehicle rentals, personal rent, entertainment, gratuities, or meals.
- Expenditures made before June 1, 2025.

Accountability

In all publicity, websites, printed, or production materials related to the grant project, the recipient must credit the City of St. Petersburg's Department of Arts, Culture, and Tourism for support in the same font size or larger as any other sponsors.

Reporting

- Grantees are responsible for submitting a final report to the City with information pertaining to expenses that were made as a result of the grant funding (using the report template in their agreement) by October 20, 2025.

Payment

All grant recipients are considered independent contractors and will receive a 1099. Recipients are responsible for any tax obligations under federal, state, or local laws. You are required to submit an IRS W-9 form before we can issue a check.