

Approved Uses of Grassroots Arts Funds

The three, primary uses of Grassroots funds are to:

1. Provide Operating Support to Designated County Partners.

A Designated County Partner may use up to 50 percent of its Grassroots grant funds for general operating support. These funds may be used to support administrative costs associated with the organization's operations including salaries, benefits, space rental, equipment rental, contract personnel fees, utilities, insurance, telephone, postage, office supplies and marketing fees.

2. Provide Program or Operating Support through Subgrants to Arts Organizations that do not receive Operating Support from the North Carolina Arts Council.

DCPs located in counties with 50,000 or more residents are required to subgrant at least 50 percent of their Grassroots allocation to other organizations in their counties to conduct arts programs.

DCPs located in counties with fewer than 50,000 residents must use 50 percent of their funds for arts programs that they conduct OR for subgrants to other organizations for arts programs utilizing qualified artists. In either case, DCPs are expected to provide support to qualified arts organizations in their counties that consistently present quality arts programs and **that are not already receiving operating support** from the N.C. Arts Council. For complete information on subgranting, visit section IV (*page 22*).

3. Support quality arts programs that reach and impact a broad cross-section of the county's citizens and youth.

Grassroots funds may be used to support quality arts programs that a DCP conducts in its county or for local programs funded through subgrants to other arts organizations. In most cases, qualified artists are required for projects that receive Grassroots funding.

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Examples of arts programs that are commonly funded with Grassroots funds include:

- Performances
- Festivals
- Art Exhibitions
- Arts camps and after-school programs
- Artist Residencies for schools
- Artist fees for classes and workshops
- Website development

- Research
- Marketing expenses for Art Walks and Studio Tours
- Royalties, props, sets, and costumes for theatre performances
- Equipment rental

Racial and Cultural Diversity

To ensure that Grassroots arts programs reflect the racial and ethnic diversity of our state, each DCP is required to spend a percentage of its annual county allotment on programming that reflects African American, Asian American, Latino and Native American cultures. This requirement is met through supporting arts programming conducted by artists, ensembles, or organizations of color. It is not reached by counting or estimating the percentage of audience members or participants of color.

The minimum amount the DCP must spend on multicultural programming is provided on an allocation chart by county and is available for download at <http://ncarts.org/resources/local-council-resources>

The requirement can be met in four ways:

1. The DCP can hire artists or ensembles of color* to conduct arts programs.
2. The DCP can award subgrants to African American, Asian American, Latino, or Native American organizations. The organization does not have to be an arts organization, but the funds must be used for arts programming.
3. The DCP can award subgrants to other organizations to hire artists or ensembles of color* to conduct arts programs.
4. The DCP may award subgrants to African American, Asian American, Latino, or Native American arts groups to hire an organizational consultant to provide technical assistance and capacity building for the organization. This option must be pre-approved by the Arts in Communities Director, and the organization receiving Grassroots funds for technical assistance must formally commit to the scope of work with the consultant. In addition, the organization must be provided with a choice of professional consultants to conduct the work.

*The majority of ensemble artists must be African American, Asian American, Latino, and/or Native American.

Additional Funding Policies for Grassroots Funds

1. Tribal organizations that receive Grassroots funds must represent state or federally recognized tribes. North Carolina's state-recognized tribes include Coharie Tribe, Eastern Band of Cherokee, Haliwa-Saponi Tribe, Lumbee Tribe, Meherrin Tribe, and Occaneechi Band of Saponi Nation, Sappony Tribes, and the Waccamaw Siouan Tribe.

An approved list of tribes can be found at: <http://ncadmin.nc.gov/about-doa/divisions/commission-of-indian-affairs>

2. Colleges, universities and libraries may receive grants for arts programs that are community-based or generate regional arts involvement. Grants may not support their internal programs, administration or operating expenses (i.e. library books, band activities, equipment purchases).
3. Grassroots funds may not be awarded to individuals.
4. Grassroots funds may not be used for art supplies or equipment purchase.
5. Grassroots funds may be used for student transportation to regional arts exhibits and programs on a limited basis. Prior approval from the Arts in Communities Director is required, and documentation of the expense must be included in the organization's final report.
6. Subgrants may not be awarded for prizes, competitions, scholarships, tuition or financial awards.
7. Religious organizations or churches may not receive Grassroots funds unless the programs are presented outside regular church services, engage the larger community and do not contain religious content.
8. Grassroots funds may not be used for activities associated with a school's internal arts programs, such as in-school student performances, the purchase of art supplies, or student arts competitions and publications.
9. Municipalities (city/county government) and community organizations may receive grants for arts programs that use qualified artists to conduct programs that involve the greater community. Grants may not support internal programs, administration or operating expenses.
10. Because the N.C. Symphony is a state agency and receives state funds, including funds specifically for its touring and education programs, no Grassroots funds may be granted to the N. C. Symphony, the N.C. Symphony Foundation or to pay for performances or education programs of the N.C. Symphony.