2024-2025 Innovative Artist Project Grant Guidelines
Please read the guidelines carefully as they have been updated for clarity.

The Innovative Artist Project Grant, offered annually by the United Arts Council of Catawba County, is made possible by the sale of donated items at a silent auction held annually at the Jingle Bell Bash. These dollars are matched with funds from the Arts Council's operating budget.

PURPOSE OF THE GRANT:
- to fund the most innovative and creative projects or experiences **that benefit the residents of Catawba County**
- to create **exposure and a focus on Catawba County** with the support of artists

GUIDELINES:
- The Innovative Artist Project Grant is open to artists of any discipline for innovative and creative arts projects.
- While arts organizations may apply, priority will be given to proposals submitted by individual artists.
- Due to the source of matching funds, the funds must be granted for projects that benefit Catawba County residents.
- While there are no restrictions on an applicants' place of residence, priority will be given to individual Catawba County artists.
- An artist or organization may be funded more than once, but the highest priority will be given to projects that are truly new or provide a new experience to this area.
- The United Arts Council of Catawba County must be recognized in all publicity and printed materials for the project for which funds are granted.
- Projects may take place after the Council's fiscal year end on June 30, 2025 upon approval by the grant panel; however, the funds must be requested no later than June 15, 2025.
- Grant requests may not exceed $4,000.
- A final report will be due at the completion of the project.
- Any funds not granted will be carried over to the following year.
- Applications must be submitted through the online form on the Arts Council website by **Thursday, March 21, 2024.** You will then receive a response indicating that your application has been received and is complete. If you do not receive such a reply, please call our office to assure the application has been received electronically.
- Applicants will be required to appear before a grant panel on **Wednesday, April 10, 2024.** Time is TBD.

Technical Instructions for Online Application Forms

Beginning in 2024, the United Arts Council of Catawba County is transitioning to an online application system for most of our grants. Most applications will include the same questions and attachment requirements from previous years, although they may be formatted differently to better fit an online format.

To begin your application, go to our website at artscatawba.org and click on the Grants and Scholarships tab. Under each grant title, there will be a brief description of the grant, downloadable guidelines, and a link to the application form. Click on the Application Form link to begin your application.

At any point in your progress, you may save your application and come back to it later. At the bottom of each form, there is a button labeled "Save". Once clicked, you can either send the application link to your email, or you may copy the link to save elsewhere. There is also a button labeled "Print" at the very end of each application that allows you to print a copy of your entire application.

We strongly recommend that you complete your work, especially narrative questions, in a separate document first, then paste your answers into the application. This ensures that if any glitches or errors occur on the website, you will not lose any progress. Note that most narrative questions do have a character limit, so keep that in mind when working outside the form.

You will be able to upload attachments directly into the online form, so there is no need to email us anything unless explicitly stated. If an application requires any attachments, such as operating budgets or support materials, there will be a place to do so within the form. There are restrictions on what file types you can upload (almost always PDF), so please pay careful attention to the instructions on each grant's attachment section.

Once the application is complete, you will click on the "Submit" button at the very end of the application. You should immediately receive an email stating that your application has been submitted. If you do not receive an email, please contact grants@artscatawba.org to confirm if we have received your application.