



## **Arts Council of Greater Lansing, Inc. Young Creatives Grant**

Arts Council of Greater Lansing – 1208 Turner St., Lansing, MI 48906  
(517) 853-7582 [www.lansingarts.org](http://www.lansingarts.org)

### **Application Guidelines - Deadline: August 1, 2026**

Founded in 1965, the Arts Council of Greater Lansing is a nonprofit arts organization dedicated to fostering arts and culture in the capital region by providing community arts leadership, funding, educational programs, and direct support services to local arts and cultural nonprofits and artists. Committed to empowering the creative community and to cultivating partnerships that stimulate community development through the arts, the Arts Council works to promote the value of the arts as essential to building a vibrant capital region.

#### **Purpose:**

The Young Creatives Grant was established to support and increase access to arts education for underserved youth ages 5-17. Funded by the Arts Council of Greater Lansing through its Arts Advancement Endowment Fund and the Michigan State University Federal Credit Union, this program provides grants of up to \$1,500 to selected organizations to provide scholarships for children with financial need to attend classes and programs **OR** funds to support **free** arts/cultural programming with an educational focus targeting underserved youth. Applicants may only apply for funds in one of the two provided categories, not both. Awards are competitive.

#### **Eligibility:**

- Applicant organization must be located in the greater Lansing area, with a majority of the organization's programming dedicated to arts and cultural projects. First priority will be given to arts and culture organizations with arts and culture as a sole mission.
- Organizations must be a Michigan public or private not-for-profit corporation as evidenced by an Internal Revenue Service 501(c)(3) letter of determination or a copy of the Articles of Incorporation as filed with the State of Michigan, Department of Commerce. Public universities and units of government are exempt from having to furnish proof of non-profit status.
- Applicant organizations must have a legal address and physically operate within the tri-county region (Ingham, Eaton, or Clinton counties).
- Activities must take place in the greater Lansing region between October 1, 2026 and September 30, 2027.
- Grant funds may only be used to support the cost of student attendance at an arts and cultural educational program **OR** expenses to host a **free** programmatic activity for underserved youth.
- Applicants must be current members in good standing of the Arts Council of Greater Lansing.
- Applicants with unmet obligations on prior grants i.e. late/incomplete reports, may not apply.

#### **Grant Review Process:**

- Applications will be reviewed by the Arts Council staff for eligibility.
- A community review panel will be appointed by the Arts Council and is made up of qualified artistic professionals selected on the basis of their familiarity with, and expertise in, a broad spectrum of artistic practices. During the review panel meeting, applications are discussed, evaluated and scored according to the guidelines and selection criteria.
- The panel may opt to award full or partial funding to any eligible applicant.
- Decisions of the panel may not be appealed.
- The Arts Council Board of Directors reviews and makes final decisions regarding the community review panel's recommendations prior to notification and announcement of grants.

#### **Selection Criteria:**

##### **Selections for awards will be based upon the following:**

- A complete application with a clear, focused summary
- Appropriate listing of classes and timeline, location and facility for camps/classes
- Evidence of educational impact, artistic merit and management
- Evidence of increased access to quality arts and/or cultural education for underserved youth
- Evidence of appropriate daily activities and outcome-based learning through sample lesson plan
- Evidence of the use of evaluation to inform decision-making

**Awards:** All applicants will be informed of the panel's decisions after September 1.

**Application Process:**

- Guidelines are available electronically at the Arts Council's website at [www.lansingarts.org](http://www.lansingarts.org)
- The application is available online at [lansingarts.slideroom.com](http://lansingarts.slideroom.com). A free applicant account is required to apply
- All applications must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. **August 1, 2026**.

**Grant Contract Terms:**

- The project will be carried out in compliance with the project description, budget and dates.
- No funding will be provided for activities taking place outside of October 1, 2026 – September 30, 2027.
- Access to local participation in the project will not be limited on the basis of age, sex, religion, race, gender, color, creed, sexual orientation, national origin or disability.
- No more than one grant per organization will be awarded within this program.
- The Arts Council of Greater Lansing retains the right to audit the books, records, documents and accounting procedures and practices of the contractor relevant to the contract.
- The Arts Council of Greater Lansing logo and the following credit line must appear on all promotional materials:



*"This activity is made possible in part by a grant from the Arts Council of Greater Lansing and Michigan State University Federal Credit Union."*

- In order to evaluate the success of the project, the Arts Council of Greater Lansing requires that the applicant submit a final report along with attached financial information and documentation within 30 days of the completion of the project, or by October 31, 2027, whichever is earlier.
- Applicants that do not submit a final report are deemed ineligible for any future Arts Council grant funding.

**Availability of Funds:** The total amount of scholarship funds available for FY27 is \$7,500.

**Preview of Slideroom application:** Please see the next page.

**APPLICATION (A full application description can be found in Slideroom)**

**I. YCG – Applicant Information**

**II. YCG – Project Information**

**III. YCG – Budget Information**

**IV. YCG – Required Attachments**

**a. Project Narrative**

- i. Describe the camp/class provided by your organization to youth between October 1, 2026 - September 30, 2027.
- ii. Describe the top five reasons the Arts Council should fund your programmatic or scholarship objectives and goals with this grant.
- iii. Describe key personnel, artists and management involved in the project.
- iv. Describe a plan to reach potential under-served applicants/attendees and promote the scholarship opportunity and or programmatic activity.
- v. Describe how the organization will evaluate the impact of student attendance via scholarships/free admissions and use it to inform future decision-making.
- vi. Give a brief description of the demographics your organization serves on a regular basis.
- vii. Describe how you will know if the program is successful in reaching under-served youth.

**b. Proof of Non-Profit status**

**c. List of Current Board of Directors and Affiliations**

**V. YCG – Certification and Assurances**

**GRANT APPLICATION MUST BE SUBMITTED BY 11:59PM AUGUST 1, 2027.**

*The Slideroom system will not accept applications after this time. Incomplete applications will not be accepted by the Slideroom system.*



*Thank you to the **Michigan State University Federal Credit Union** for supporting the Young Creatives Program by providing partial funding for this grant opportunity*