

STATE OF THE ARTS 2023 GRANT GUIDELINES

The St. Johns Cultural Council State of the Arts (SOTA) Grant Program annually funds grants for artist professional development and arts, culture, and heritage projects in St. Johns County, Florida. Applicants must be individuals residing or organizations based in St. Johns County. In 2023, we are awarding six \$1,500 grants to individual artists or arts organizations.

Awarded applicants are required to attend the award ceremony in the early evening on December 7, 2023, at The Waterworks, 184 San Marco Avenue St. Augustine, FL 32084.

General Information and Grant Guidelines:

- Applications for SOTA grants will open on September 1, 2023, and must be submitted electronically no later than **5:00 p.m. on Friday, September 30, 2023**. Incomplete or late applications are not eligible for funding.
- Applicants must use the *2023-24 State of the Arts Grant Application* available through the [St. Johns Cultural Council online grant portal](#). Only applications submitted through the online grant portal will be accepted.
- Technical review of completed applications may be requested by email to grants@historiccoastculture.com at least ten days prior to the application deadline.
- There are no matching requirements. The grant request can fully fund the proposed activity or supplement its budget.
- The grant narrative should include details about ALL aspects of the project, including in-kind support (donated space, materials, volunteers, etc.), and provide information about collaboration with other artists or arts organizations.
- Notification of grant awards will be made within thirty days after the application deadline.
- Activities must take place, and funds must be expended, within St. Johns County during the grant period. The “grant period” is defined as no longer than one year from the original date of grant award notification.
- Multiple applications for the same project are not permitted.

For Public School Teachers/Schools Only:

- Applications must be for new programs or substantial enhancements to existing programs in St. Johns County public schools.
- Preference will be given to projects that integrate the arts with other content areas.
- Funds are granted only for programs or projects that are artistic in nature, but teachers of any discipline may apply.
- If an awarded teacher moves to another school, equipment or permanent materials purchased with grant funds become the property of the applying school unless the school agrees to allow them to go with the teacher to another St. Johns County School.
- Teachers submitting grants for artists or arts organizations to provide programs at a school must submit a letter of support from the School Principal and the partnering artists or organizations, if any.

Allowable Grant Expenditures include:

- Production costs
- Materials
- Salary or stipends for project staff
- Artistic, administrative, technical, consultant fees
- Tuition and travel expenses for professional development
- Insurance for public art projects

Non-allowable Grant Expenditures include:

- Capital expenditures or debt reduction
- Fundraising events or other contributions/donations
- Hospitality costs (private entertainment, food, or beverages)
- Expenses incurred or obligated prior to or after the grant period
- Re-granting or donations to other entities

Additional Requirements for Grantees:

- Logos of the St. Johns Cultural Council and the Florida Division of Arts and Culture must be included in all grant-related publicity / printed materials. Logos may be downloaded from the SJCC website.
- The State of the Arts Grant Program must be acknowledged in public announcements related to the funded activity.

- Grantee must provide at least two weeks prior notice of public events related to the grant-funded activity to the Cultural Council by email to grants@historiccoastculture.com.
- A written final report of the funded event, project, or professional development activity must be submitted through the online grant portal within 60 days after the completion of the project. The report should include:
 - web links to or attached copies of social media notices, print publicity, press releases, programs, flyers, agenda, etc.;
 - feedback from audiences or participants;
 - a final project budget; and
 - at least three (3) high-resolution jpg images illustrating grant activity.

If a funded project is not completed before applying for a new grant, a progress report will be required. Applicants that fail to meet this requirement will not be eligible for future SOTA grant awards from the St. Johns Cultural Council.

Evaluation Criteria

The grant review panel will evaluate proposals based on the following criteria, for a total of 100 possible points:

Artistic and Educational Merit: The quality of the activity is based on its content and the resumes and experience of participating artists or learning outcomes and current Florida educational standards. **40 possible points**

Management Capability: The administrative and production experience of the project organizer(s) and the ability to implement the proposed activity. **20 possible points**

Impact to Target Audience: Who is your target audience and in what positive ways will this activity impact them? **30 possible points**

Marketing Plan: How will you share information about this project with your target audience and others? **5 possible Points**

Other Financial Support: What other sources are funding this activity? **5 possible points**

Please email grants@historiccoastculture.com with any questions or for assistance with the application process.