



Rhode Island State Council on the Arts
General Operating Support for Organizations Workshop
For April 1, 2022 Deadline

Land Acknowledgment.



Housekeeping.

- Closed captioning is available for this session.
- Session will be 90 minutes long (or less). 45 minutes for the presentation and 45 minutes for Q + A.
- The presentation portion of this session will be recorded and shared publicly. To make sure you aren't "featured" in the presentation, please turn off your cameras.
- If you have questions during the Presentation portion, please put them in the chat. I will try to answer them during the context of the presentation, but if not will answer them at the end.
- During the Q + A, questions will be accepted via chat or by unmuting and speaking. ***TODD HIT RECORD***





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Meet your program director!



Todd Trebour (he/his)
Organizations Program Director
RI State Council on the Arts



About the General Operating Support for Organizations (GOS-O) program.

Provides multi-year unrestricted operating support to arts and culture organizations and culturally specific organizations across Rhode Island that meaningfully engage and inspire their community through arts and culture programming.



What happened with Investments in Arts and Culture (IAC)?

- Previous general operating support program.
- Restructured in collaboration with Working Group between May – October 2020.
- The working group consisted of 36 people from 22 RI-based arts and culture organizations around the Ocean State, participating organizations varied in size, communities engaged, and artistic discipline/cultural tradition.
- Organizations represented included organizations in IAC and members of the RI Expansion Arts program.



Goals of General Operating Support for Organizations (GOS-O) program.

1. Provide multi-year unrestricted operating support for arts and culture organizations throughout the state through a competitive grant program.
2. Include organizations that are evaluated by peer review panels as being responsive and accountable to the cultural needs of their identified communities*.
3. Through extensive recruitment and a streamlined entrance process, includes organizations that better represent the diversity of the state along the following parameters:



Goals of General Operating Support for Organizations (GOS-O) program.

- *Racial:* only five BIPOC centered* organizations are in this program as of 2020. RISCA has set a goal of at least ten BIPOC centered organizations in the program by 2025.
- *Geographic:* there are towns and communities that have no organizational representation in GOS-O. RISCA has set a goal of including at least three organizations from three different, unrepresented towns or cities in the GOS-O program by 2025.



Goals of General Operating Support for Organizations (GOS-O) program.

4. Provide a just and equitable distribution of funding that helps address the damage done by generations of institutional racism.

For this goal to be realized, additional funding consideration will be given to organizations that represent historically and/or continuously marginalized communities or constituencies in their mission, programming, staff leadership, and board. In this specific context, historically and/or continuously marginalized communities may include but are not limited to BIPOC* communities, such as African and African American, Arab, Asian and Asian American, Latinx, Middle Eastern, Native American and Indigenous, or Pacific Islander communities; people with disabilities; or others who can make a case for being historically and/or continuously marginalized.



How do I access the GOS-O application?

- Login into RISCA grant system:
<https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=artsri>
- Select **Apply** from the blue header bar at the top of the Applicant Dashboard page.
- Enter the code “RISCA2023” in the **Enter Access Code** field in the top right hand corner, and then click the grey **Enter Code** button.
- The three different GOS-O applications will appear – choose the application that matches your average annual budget size (more about that in a future slide).



What are the deadlines for this program?

- Deadline is April 1, 2022 at 11:59 pm
- All organizations in the previous IAC program must reapply.
- Grants are three year grants – organizations will submit a full application once every three years according to a schedule based on organizational budget size.

Upcoming re-application schedule

- Budgets over \$500,000: FY24 – Deadline is April 1, 2023
- Budgets from \$100,000 - \$500,000: FY25 – Deadline is April 1, 2024.
- Budgets under \$100,000: FY26 – Deadline is April 1, 2025.
- In the summer of 2025, a BIPOC majority working group will re-evaluate this program, assessing whether or not the program is achieving it's goals.



For the sake of determining which deadline I apply at and what my grant award could be, how do I calculate by annual budget?

Budget size for determining application and grants awards will be based on the three year average of your organization's total expenses listed in your 990s from your 2018, 2019, and 2020 fiscal years.

If your organization files a 990 EZ, your total cash expenses should be listed on the first page of your 990 (Part I, line 17). If your organization files a standard 990, your total cash expenses should also be listed on the first page of your 990 (Part I, line 18).



Who is eligible to apply?

- New applicants apply in the year in which they become eligible, and then reapply when their budget cohort is up for full reapplication.
- Nonprofit arts and culture OR culturally specific organizations. Organizations can be fiscally sponsored if their annual budget is under \$50,000.
- A semi-independent cultural entity that is either 1) associated with a university or 2) a subdivision of a larger nonprofit, only if they meet the following additional eligibility criteria:
 - Manage their own budget.
 - Have at least one full-time (min. 30 hours per week) compensated administrative staff position dedicated solely to the operation of the cultural entity.
 - Have an advisory board that meets regularly to discuss policy, strategic direction, and resource development plans to ensure long-term sustainability.



Who is eligible to apply? Other considerations:

- Have arts and culture stated as a central part of your organization's mission.
- Be in continuous operation and exhibiting or producing arts and culture programming for each year of the past five years.
- Present public programming in ADA accessible spaces.
- For new applicants: Have high scores in the Project Grant for Organizations (formerly Arts Access) or Project Grant in Education program.



Other Things to Know.

- **This is NOW a competitive program.** Not everyone is guaranteed a grant.
- Panel representation requirements.
- Listening in on panel discussion.
- GOS-O grantees are ineligible to apply for or receive funding from any other RISCA grant program during their grant award period, with the exception of the Cultural Facilities grant program
- If you receive a grant, you must credit RISCA on all marketing materials.



Other Things to Know.

- RISCA grant awards are contingent upon the availability of funds.
- Notification in relationship to state fiscal year.
- Necessity of final report receipt prior to payment processing.
- Payments can take 8-12 weeks.
- Requirement of ADA compliant spaces.
- You must submit a brief final grant report to RISCA via the online grant system and have a 60-minute meeting with Todd.



How are grant awards determined?

GOS-O applicants will not request specific grant amounts. Rather, grant awards will be determined by the following factors:

- Panel ranking and funding recommendation.
- Organization's annual operating budget.
- If the organization represents historically and/or continuously marginalized communities or constituencies in their mission, programming, staff leadership, and board, e.g. fits RISCA's definition of a BIPOC centered organization.
- The amount of funds allocated for organizational support by the Council.

Award amounts are estimated and ranges could change from what is listed.



How are grant awards determined?

Budget Class	Award Range	"Middle" Award	Award Increments
under \$50K	\$3,000 - \$5,000	\$4,000	\$3,000; \$4,000; \$5,000
\$50-\$100K	\$4,000 - \$7,000	\$5,500	\$4,000; \$5,500; \$7,000
\$100-\$250K	\$5,000 - \$9,000	\$7,000	\$5,000; \$7,500; \$9,000
\$250-\$500K	\$6000 - \$13,000	\$9,500	\$6,000; \$9,500; \$13,000
\$500K-\$1M	\$8000 - \$17,000	\$12,500	\$8,000; \$12,500; \$17,000
\$1-\$2M	\$10000 - \$21,000	\$15,550	\$10,000; \$15,500; \$21,000
>\$2M	\$15,000 - \$40,000	\$27,500	\$15,000; \$21,250; \$27,500; \$33,750; \$40,000



How does RISCA define BIPOC centered organizations?

BIPOC centered organizations: A BIPOC centered organization is an organization with a mission and programming that is explicitly reflective of a community or communities of color, and where the board, staff, artists, and collaborators, include a significant representation of that community. A BIPOC-centered organization is defined by the following organizational characteristics:

- Primary mission, intentions, and practices are BY, FOR, and ABOUT art, heritages, histories, cultures and communities of color.
- Executive Leader (Executive Director, Managing Director, Producing Artistic Director, CEO, President) identifies as BIPOC.
- Board is at least 60% BIPOC-identifying individuals, per the definition above.
- Staff is at least 60% BIPOC-identifying individuals, per the definition above.

Organizations must fit all four criteria to satisfy definition. Organizations self attest to fitting the definition. RISCA staff will review ask for more information if needed.



How are grant awards determined for BIPOC centered or disability centered organizations?

Budget Class	Award Range	"Middle" Award	Award Increments
under \$50K	\$4,500 - \$7,500	\$6,000	\$4,500; \$6,000; \$7,500
\$50-\$100K	\$6,000 - \$10,500	\$8,250	\$6,000; \$8,250; \$10,500
\$100-\$250K	\$7,500 - \$13,500	\$10,500	\$7,500; \$10,500; \$13,500
\$250-\$500K	\$9,000 - 19,500	\$14,250	\$9,000; \$14,250; \$19,500
\$500-\$1M	\$12,000 - \$25,500	\$18,750	\$12,000; \$18,750; \$25,500
\$1-\$2M	N/A	N/A	
>\$2M	N/A	N/A	



Questions so far?



Starting your application: things to gather.

- **501(c)(3) Determination Letter.** We are required to grant out federally-sourced funds to 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations. If you are not a federally registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit, this is a letter you will need from your fiscal sponsor.
- **SAM-UEI.** SAM-UEI is a 12-character Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) assigned by the federal System for Awards Management (SAM).
- **Your FY2018, 2019, and 2020 990s.**
- **A board approved budget from your current or most recently completed fiscal year.** This can be provided in whatever format works for your organization. Similar to the 990s, we are requesting this for compliance purposes.



Starting your application: things to gather.

- **Support materials from the last three years showing how the work of your organization is meaningful to your organizational and geographic communities.** This can be anything in the voice of community members outside of your organization, e.g. audience members, partner businesses or organizations, students, clients, etc. but not board, staff or employed artists. Examples include: letters of support from community partners or community members inside or outside of the arts sector that are personally impacted by your organization's work; a document of quotes from past or current program participants, etc.
- **Support materials gathered from the last three years showing the artistic and/or cultural programming of your organization (video, images, resume, short bios with links to social media/Vimeo/YouTube, CVs, resumes, etc).**
You can submit up to four.



Starting your application: things to gather.

- **Current list of board members with affiliations.** *If an applicant is using a fiscal sponsor, submit a list of the advisory board/committee(s) guiding the organization's work.*
- **Board and staff demographics chart.** This chart is available within the GOS-O application.
- Any fiscally sponsored organizations with questions?



Questions so far?



Evaluation criteria.

Artistic Vibrancy and Relevancy (50 Points): this criterion reflects an organization's ability to meaningfully engage and inspire its community through arts and culture in order to achieve its mission.

An organization demonstrates this by:

- Having a clear relationship between core programming, mission, and organizational community*.
- Clearly defining the geographic community* and organizational community they engage.
- Demonstrating that the organization understands, works with, and is responsive to its organizational community through its programming.
- Identifying groups in their communities who are underrepresented in their organizational community and programming, and showing evidence of proactively working to engage those groups.
- Building meaningful relationships with community partners, within and outside of the arts and culture sector.



Evaluation criteria.

Organizational Capacity and Ingenuity (40 Points): this criterion reflects the ability of an organization's board and staff to manage resources, plan, evaluate, and – when necessary - creatively pivot their organization and their programming now and for years to come.

An organization displaying strong organizational capacity and ingenuity will:

- Have a diverse* board and staff that is demographically reflective of the organizational community being engaged by the organization.
- Display processes and strategies for responding to challenges that involve engaging their organizational community.
- Engage in policy-making, planning, and evaluation processes – commensurate with the size and capacity of the organization – that incorporate or respond to their organizational community.
- Take actions based on the result of their policies, and planning and evaluation processes.



Evaluation criteria.

Commitment to Diversity, Equity*, Inclusion, and Access* (10 points):

- Exhibit practices that are inclusive and welcoming of all people in their organizational and geographic communities including those who have been historically and/or continuously marginalized and underrepresented, e.g. immigrant groups, BIPOC communities, rural populations, aging populations, people living in poverty, people experiencing homelessness, people with disabilities, incarcerated populations, communities recovering from trauma or disaster, and military service members and veterans.
- Demonstrate practical application of stated DEIA goals through documented recruitment & selection and work processes.
- Show that staff at a variety of levels, board, volunteers, artists and key collaborators include those in their organizational community who have been historically and/or continuously marginalized and underrepresented in both their public-facing programming and administrative work.



Definition of Organizational Community.

***GLOSSARY WITHIN APPLICATION.**

Organizational Community: the constituents an organization engages or intends to engage as directed by their mission and vision. This community should include audience members, artists, students, and other groups that are significant to the organization. Depending on an organization's mission, their geographic community might be different or the same as their organizational community. Descriptions of the community should include demographic and geographic makeup, including information about relevant socioeconomic factors, as well as diversity of age, ethnicity, race, gender, ability, education, etc.



Definition of Geographic Community.

Geographic Community: the constituents who live in the geographic service area of an organization, as defined by an organization's location and (perhaps) their mission and vision. Depending on an organization's mission, their geographic community might be different or the same as their organizational community. Descriptions of the community should include demographic and geographic makeup, including information about relevant socioeconomic factors, as well as diversity of age, ethnicity, race, gender, ability, education, etc.



Questions so far?



Let's walk through the application!



Grant support and other opportunities.

- Drop-in hours.
- One-on-one support (limited slots left).
- Grant draft review (limited opportunities available).
- Arts Administrators of Rhode Island Facebook group.



Equity and Access Workshop Series for Small, Midsize, and Volunteer-Led Organizations.

- Four free workshops between April 6 and May 4.
- Recordings available if you can't attend live - but you will still need to RSVP!
- Link is in chat, but will be send via follow-up email as well.



ISO Arts
Consulting



Contact me!

Email Todd if you have questions:

- todd.trebour@arts.ri.gov



Thank you!

