# **Grassroots Arts Program**

**Full Application Webinar** 

January 21, 2025



## **Grassroots Arts Program Applications**

#### Due:

March 3, 2025 at 11:59 pm

#### **Grant amount:**

**Allotment Table: 2025-2026** 

#### **Project period:**

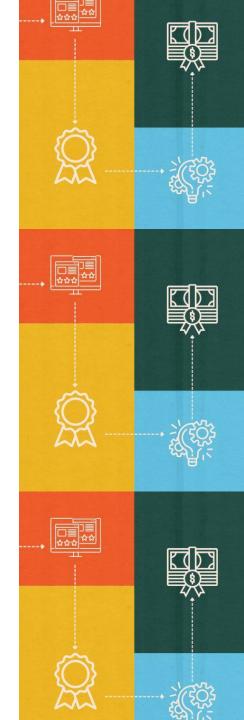
July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2026

#### **Designated County Partners (DCP)**

In most counties, local arts councils have been nominated by their county governments and approved by the N.C. Arts Council as Designated County Partners (DCPs) to manage and program Grassroots Funds. DCPs are required to submit a Full Designated County Partner Application on a three-year rotation (view the full application schedule), or an Update Application.

#### **Provisional County Partners (PCP)**

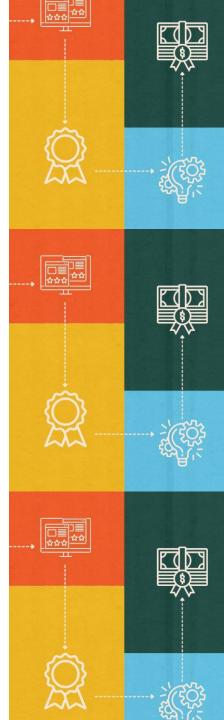
In counties without DCPs, the N.C. Arts Council has selected an organization to serve as the Provisional County Partner (PCP) to oversee the distribution and management of Grassroots funds on a temporary (year-to-year) basis. PCPs must apply annually.



# Levels of Partnership with N.C. Arts Council

Both levels of partners must follow standards of practice in the field – DCP Standards.

- DCPs can spend up to 50% of their grant on operating expenses
- PCPs can spend up to 20% of their grant on operating expenses



# **Grassroots Grant Guidelines for FY2025-26**

#### **Scope and allowable expenses**

Designated County Partners may use up to 50 percent of their grant funds for general operating support. They must use the remaining 50 percent in the following ways:

- Partners with county populations above 50,000 must subgrant at least
   50 percent of their allocations to other organizations.
- Partners with county populations below 50,000 must use 50 percent of their funds for self-conducted arts programs or for subgrants to other organizations.



# Racial and Cultural Diversity

- Grassroots partners are required to spend a percentage of their grant on programming that reflects African American, Asian American, Latino, and Native American cultures.
- The minimum amount of investment is included on the County Allocation chart annually.
- Requirement is met through supporting arts programming conducted by artists, ensembles, or organizations of color.



Image Courtesy Arts & Science Council























# Matching the Grassroots Grant

- Legislation stipulates each grant must be matched dollar for dollar with cash from local sources during the fiscal year
- Matching ensures that there is an investment in the project and in your community
- Partners may either match the county allotment with their own budget or by using the cash match from subgrantees
- Subgrantees also must match their grant
- School PCPs should match with staff and teacher salaries





















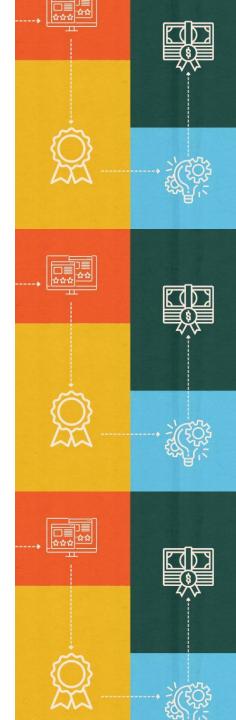




## How we make funding decisions

North Carolina Arts Council staff performs a preliminary review of each Grassroots grant application to check for completeness and compliance. Arts Council staff troubleshoots potential problems directly with DCPs to ensure that each application is complete prior to the grants panel meeting.

Applications are then formally reviewed and evaluated by a geographically and racially diverse grants panel comprised of arts and cultural specialists (peer leaders of arts organizations) and N.C. Arts Council board members. Each application is evaluated within groups of applicants with comparable budget size. Work samples are reviewed for each applicant and used for context to evaluate quality programming.



## **Grassroots Panel Meeting - Criteria**

#### **Quality Programming**

Programs recognized for artistic quality and support visual, literary, performing, and traditional arts. Programming is responsive to community needs and demonstrates improvement and innovation. Programming choices engage the county's population across geographic, cultural, social and economic strata.

#### **Services and Support**

Organization maintains strong relationships with county arts organizations. Programming and services show commitment to individual artist support. Organization appropriately compensates artists for services.



## **Grassroots Panel Meeting - Criteria**

#### **Arts in Education**

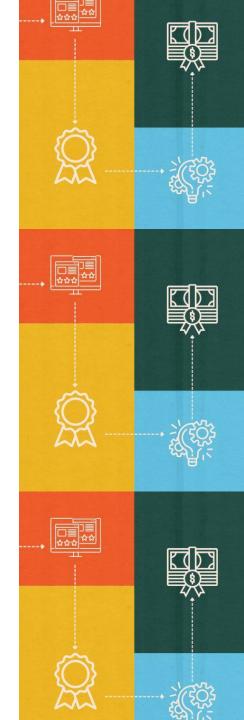
Organization conducts or supports arts in education programs led by qualified artists. Programming shows commitment to comprehensive arts education.

#### **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility**

Organization demonstrates a commitment to racial and cultural equity, as well as accessibility and inclusion in its governance, administration and programming.

#### **Organizational Strength**

Organization demonstrates stability and fiscal responsibility through effective board and staff leadership, sound administrative practices and strategic planning.



## **Getting Started**

#### **Application Tools on the Local Arts Council Resources Page**

Local Arts Council Resource Page | NC Arts Council

- DCP Application schedule
- Grassroots Arts Program Base County Allotment Table: FY2025-2026

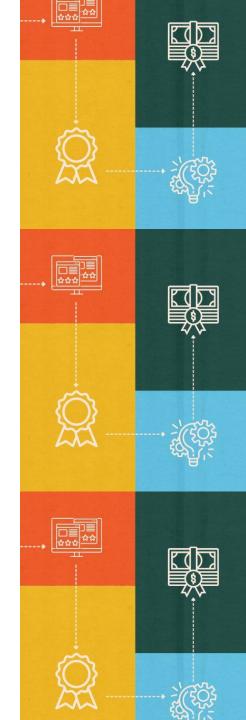
#### **Grassroots Grant Guidelines**

Grassroots Arts Program (GAP) Grants | NC Arts Council

Copy narrative questions into word document

#### **Financial information**

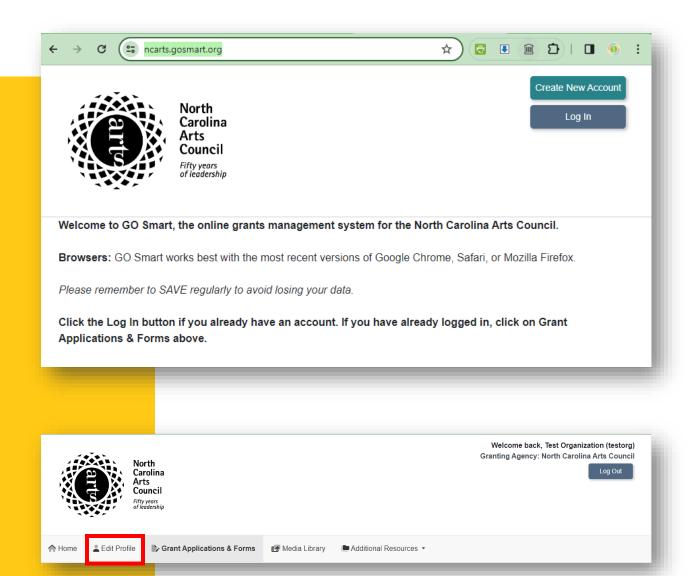
You will need financials for FY 2023-24 (final numbers), FY 2024-25, and FY 2025-26.



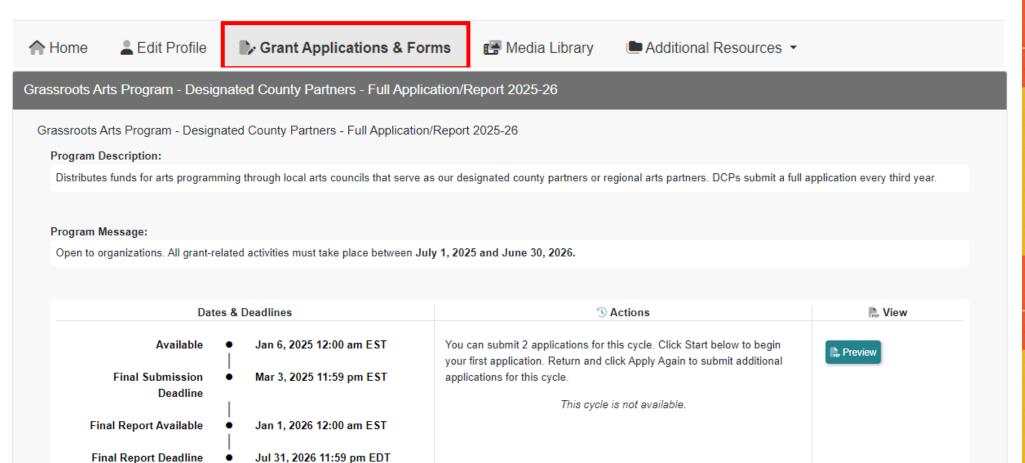
## **Apply Online**

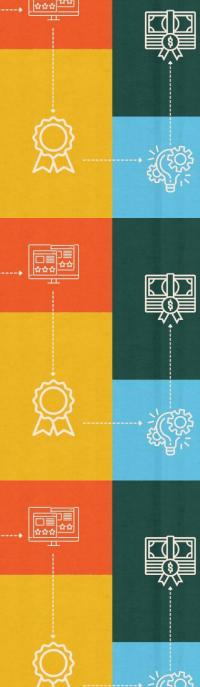
 Online grant application portal: <u>ncarts.gosmart.org</u>

 Applicant Profile - Remember to update your profile information.



## **Find Your Application**



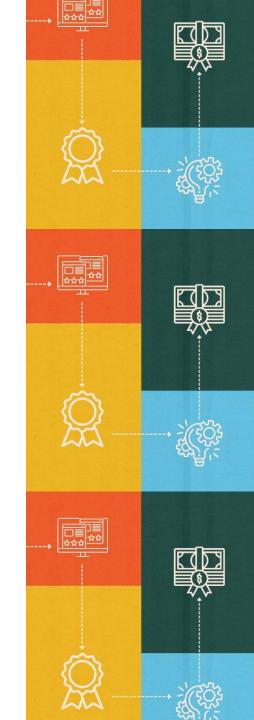


# **Grassroots Arts Program Application**

**Online Application Form** 

## **Application sections**





#### Before you begin

North Carolina Arts Council staff are available to answer questions and provide assistance as you prepare your grant application.

- Janelle Wienke, Arts in Communities Regional Director: janelle.wienke@dncr.nc.gov
- Sam Gerweck, Arts in Communities Regional Director: <a href="mailto:sam.gerweck@dncr.nc.gov">sam.gerweck@dncr.nc.gov</a>
- I have reviewed the **guidelines** for the Grassroots Arts Program Grant.
- I have reviewed the **General Grant Policies and Eligibility Criteria** for all North Carolina Arts Council grants.
- Check this box to verify that you are aware of and **agree to comply with all requirements** related to the distribution of
  Grassroots Arts Program funds.

#### **Accessibility Assistance**

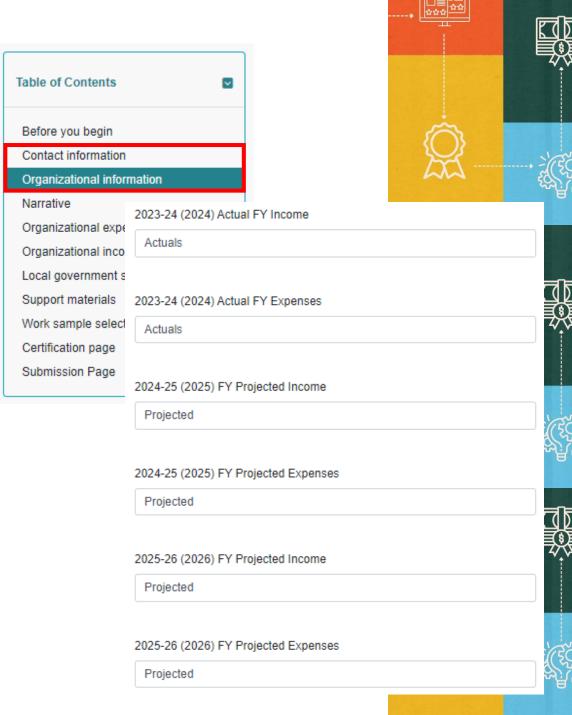
If you need accessibility assistance or accommodation to apply for our grants, please contact the North Carolina Arts Council's Music and Dance Director, Accessibility Coordinator Jamie Katz Court at <a href="mailto:jamie.katzcourt@dncr.nc.gov">jamie.katzcourt@dncr.nc.gov</a> or (919) 814-6502.

# Contact Info & Organizational Information

The **primary contact** is the person who will serve as the main point of contact to the North Carolina Arts Council.

The **authorized signatory** is the person authorized to sign grant contracts and documentation on behalf of your organization.

- Organizational Income & Expenses for FY 23-24, 24-25, and 25-26.
- Budget deficit disclosure
- Upload complete financial statement for FY 23-24.
- Upload board information.



## **Grassroots Arts Program**

**Full Application Narrative Questions** 

#### **Narrative - Grassroots Allocation**

	ative Grassroots allocation amount. Please consult the Grassroots Arts Program – Base County Fiscal Year 2025-26 Table to determine your allocation amount. (required)
2. What is the pr	rojected amount of your GAP allocation that you will spend for operating support? (required)
3. What is the pr	rojected amount of your GAP allocation that you will spend for arts programming? (required)
4. What is the pr programs? (req.	rojected amount of your GAP allocation that you will subgrant to other organizations to conduct arts uired)

#### Table of Contents

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Before you begin

Contact information

Organizational information

#### Narrative

Organizational expenses

Organizational income

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## **Narrative – County Overview**

5. Briefly describe the county you serve, including population and demographics. Describe any notable economic, social, and cultural changes in your county over the past three years. Describe how your organization contributes to the local and state economy. Include employment, visitor statistics, and other forms of economic impact you track. (required)

What is your county known for?
How many incorporated towns are in your county?
Who are the largest employers?
List any major schools/universities.
Who are your community partners?
Include economic data

Character Count: 0 out of 5000

6. Describe the key artistic programs and activities your arts council has planned for 2025-26. Indicate whether these programs occur annually and how they serve the geographic diversity of your county. Describe how your program choices demonstrate improvement or innovation. If chosen, describe the artists selected for these programs and indicate which programs utilize Grassroots funding. (required)

Key artistic programs. Not past programs but planned programs for next year.

All kinds of arts programming – visual, music, dance, theatre, traditional/folk, etc.

What artists are you bringing in? How Did you choose them?

Community engagement and collaborative programs.

Talk about how you integrate diversity and inclusion into your programming.

How are theses programs serving you ENTIRE county?

Do not include fundraisers.

Character Count: 0 out of 5000

7. Describe the services you provide to arts organizations in your county and how you partner with them. (required)

Beyond subgranting.

How do you maintain relations with county arts organizations?

What is your method of keeping your finger on the pulse on what your local arts organizations

are doing in your county?

How do you support each other's missions?

8. Describe the services you provide to individual artists in your county and your participation in the Artist Support Grant program. (required)

Do you have a directory? Community resource portal?

Host roundtables and meetings?

Continuing education and training opportunities?

Arts markets?

Fiscal sponsorship?

Gallery space? Studio space?

9. Describe the overall process your organization uses to subgrant Grassroots funds to other groups in your county. Include information on how you publicize the availability of funds; the timeline of your process; the assistance you offer to applicants; your application review system; and the composition of your subgrant panel. (required)

How do you recruit new and diverse applicants?

Do you have workshops? Do you offer individual applicant meetings?

Where do you promote?

What is your panel make-up? Recruitment process, race, age, profession, geography?

Monitoring and reporting progress. How do you plan for and avoid last minute problems?

10. Describe the arts-in-education programs you conduct and/or fund that benefit children and youth in your community. (required)

How many schools do you serve?

Afterschool, during school, summer camps?

Community workshops?

Who are your teaching artists?

11. Describe how your organization engages populations in your county who have limited opportunities to experience arts programs because of factors such as educational background, geography, ethnic or cultural diversity, or economic constraints. Include outreach or artistic programs you conduct and fund for the aforementioned communities. (required)

How is DEAI (diversity, Equity, accessibility, and inclusion) part of your overall mission? How do you connect with populations in your community?

Do you have an advisory committee devoted to diversity ad inclusion?

Who are your partners?

Subgrants? Internal programs?

## Narrative - Organizational Strength

12. State the names, titles, and responsibilities of key staff members. Provide salary ranges and benefits for staff positions. Describe the board of directors' system for evaluating organizational leadership. (required)

Character Count: 0 out of 3300

13. Describe your board of directors and their key responsibilities, including committee participation requirements. Describe your organization's board rotation policy and how new members are recruited and trained. Also, describe the board's system for evaluating organizational leadership. (required)

Board member qualifications, demographics, and committees

Responsibility of board members to recruit

Board member expectations

Financial requirements

14. Describe your organization's planning process and the timetable for updating strategic plans. Briefly summarize the key goals and objectives of your current strategic plan. (required)

What are the key points of your current plan?

When was your last strategic plan? If your board committed to creating one every 3 years?

What is your evaluation process like? How do you inform the process?

How often do you refer to this plan?

Anything new, interesting, or a point of departure?

## Narrative - Organizational Strength

15. Briefly describe the facilities in which your organization conducts its primary operations. Indicate whether you own or lease space or occupy donated space. (required)

Tell us about you space of operation Partnership with the city or county? What is unique about your space?

16. Describe your organization's financial condition. Include information about any debt, deficits, endowments, surpluses, or cash reserves. Describe how your organization exercises effective fiscal control and accountability. *(required)* 

Tell us about your financial policy and procedures. What's you external auditing process like? Do you have a finance committee? Line of credit? Cash reserves?

### Narrative - Organizational Strength

17. Describe your organization's fundraising strategies. Include information on your annual fund campaign and fundraising events. Specify the percentage of annual revenue these activities contribute to your operating budget. (required)

Annual Fund timeline and plan. Signature fundraisers.

18. Describe your organization's marketing strategies. Include information on how you use your website and social media for promotion. Explain how you evaluate the success of your efforts.

Annual marketing plan
Social media strategy
Media partners or sponsors

#### **Uploads**

19. Upload a list of your FY2023–24 subgrants using the following template: Previous Year Subgrants List. (required)

Current File:

Sample Subgrants.docx

replace/remove file



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. Please list the subgrantees, subgrant amounts, and descriptions below.

	Organization	Subgrant Amount	Project Description
1			
2			
3			

20. Upload a list of your FY2024-25 program or subgrantees that document how you met the multicultural requirement using the following template: <a href="Previous Year Multicultural Programs List">Previous Year Multicultural Programs List</a>. (required)

Current File:

Sample Multicultural.docx

replace/remove file

To ensure that Grassroots arts programs reflect the cultural and ethnic diversity of our state, each arts council is required to spend a percentage of its annual county allotment on multicultural programming that reflects African American (B), Asian American (A), Latino (L), and Native American (N) cultures. Please list the multicultural artists, their race, the artist's fee and the description of the program. Add or remove rows as necessary.



	Organization	Race	Amount Spent	Project Description
1				
2				
3				

	FY2023-24 (2024)	FY2024-25 (2025)	FY2025-26 (2026)
Personnel			
Administrative			
Artistic			
Educational			
Technical/Production			
Support			
Fringe benefits			
Fees/Employment taxes			
Subtotals:	0	0	0

	FY2023-24 (2024)	FY2024-25 (2025)	FY2025-26 (2026)
Outside fees			
Administrative			
Artistic			
Educational			
Technical/Production			
Support			
Subtotals:	0	0	0

	FY2023-24 (2024)	FY2024-25 (2025)	FY2025-26 (2026)
Travel			
Personnel			
Outside professionals			
Subtotals:	0	0	0
	FY2023-24 (2024)	FY2024-25 (2025)	FY2025-26 (2026)
Marketing Publicity			
Paid advertising			
Design/Printing			
Mailing/Postage			
Subtotals:	0	0	0

	FY2023-24 (2024)	FY2024-25 (2025)	FY2025-26 (2026)
Production/Exhibition expenses			
Transportation/Shipping			
Programs/Brochures			
Catalogs/Publications			
Subtotals:	0	0	0
	FY2023-24 (2024)	FY2024-25 (2025)	FY2025-26 (2026)
Facilities	FY2023-24 (2024)	FY2024-25 (2025)	FY2025-26 (2026)
Facilities Office	FY2023-24 (2024)	FY2024-25 (2025)	FY2025-26 (2026)
	FY2023-24 (2024)	FY2024-25 (2025)	FY2025-26 (2026)
Office	FY2023-24 (2024)	FY2024-25 (2025)	FY2025-26 (2026)

	FY2023-24 (2024)	FY2024-25 (2025)	FY2025-26 (2026)
Accessibility expenses			
Subtotals:	0	0	0
	FY2023-24 (2024)	FY2024-25 (2025)	FY2025-26 (2026)
Remaining operating expenses			
Office supplies / Expenses			
Fundraising			
Interest expenses			
Utilities			
Phone / Internet			
Postage			
Insurance			
Subtotals:	0	0	0

	FY2023-24 (2024)	FY2024-25 (2025)	FY2025-26 (2026)
Subgrant expenses			
Grassroots subgrants			
Grassroots ARPA subgrants			
NCAC Artist Support Grant			
Other subgrants			
Subtotals:	0	0	0
Expense Totals:	0	0	0

Double check that your expense totals match the Organizational Information section

Save Work

Save and Next

Previous

#### Organizational income

Refer to the budget glossary for a definition of budget terms.

Please consult the Grassroots Arts Program - Base County Allotments for Fiscal Year 2024-25 Table to determine your allocation amount.

	FY2023-24 (2024)	FY2024-25 (2025)	FY2025-26 (2026)
Earned revenue			
Admissions/Ticket sales			
Membership & subscriptions			
Contracted services, rentals, etc.			
Concessions/Sales			
Other revenue			
Subtotals:	0	0	0

Contributed support			
Corporate support / Sponsors			
Foundations support			
Individual contributions/Sponsors			
Other private support			
Subtotals:	0	0	0

	FY2023-24 (2024)	FY2024-25 (2025)	FY2025-26 (2026)
Government support			
Federal			
Local-City			
Local-County			
State/Regional			
Anticipated North Carolina Arts Council income			
Additional federal Grassroots from ARPA			
Other government support			
Subtotals:	0	0	0

	FY2023-24 (2024)	FY2024-25 (2025)	FY2025-26 (2026)		
Other sources					
Applicant cash					
Funds transfer from endowment					
Funds released from restriction					
Subtotals:	0	0	0		
Income Totals:					
medite rotals.	0	0	0		
Double check that your income totals match the Organizational Information section					
Previous	the Organizationa	ir information section	Save and Next		

## **Local Government Support Itemization**

Complete information for the current year, FY 2024-25 (2)
---

Please refer to the Grassroots	arant quideline	requirement details if	vou have any	augetions or reach	out to our	staff for assistance
Flease felel to the Glassioots	grant guidenne	requirement details ir	you have any	questions of reach	out to our	Stall for assistance

To view a comprehensive list of your entries, click on the "View PDF" button on this page.

This page accepts multiple answer sets. You have provided 0 answer sets. You must provide no more than 10 answer sets for this page. Save the page to add a new answer set. Click on any answer set to view, edit, or delete that group of answers.

Category of local government support:		
1. Grant or contract		
O 2. External investment		
○ 3. In-kind investment		
Source of local government support:		
Amount:		

### **Support Materials**

Applicants have the option to submit additional support materials to strengthen their grant proposal and provide evidence that builds a strong case for the application.

#### Examples include:

- Current strategic plan
- Bios and resumes of key staff and partners for a new project
- Sample brochures or marketing materials of new initiatives
- Reviews and credentials of artists



1. Upload support materials here:

Current File:

Test Document for uploading to GoSmart.pdf

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2. Upload support materials here:

No file uploaded.

upload file

3. Upload support materials here:

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#### **Work Samples**

Work samples for the Grassroots application should convey the artistic quality of two or three artists that will be part of your programs planned for this grant period. These images may be of a visual artist that will be featured in your gallery, an upcoming artist in residency program or other visual arts program.

Uploading work samples is a two-stage process. Be sure to review this tutorial video on how to attach work samples before proceeding.

Do not submit highly edited promotional materials or images of past events.

For digital video and large files, please use the Web Link Collection Form. You can then upload this form as a PDF document and attach it to your application.



- · You may attach up to 5 image file(s).
- · You have attached 3 image file(s).
- Image file size must not exceed 25.00 MB.



- · You may attach up to 5 audio file(s).
- · You have attached 0 audio file(s).
- Audio file size must not exceed 10.00 MB.



- You may attach up to 5 video file(s).
- · You have attached 0 video file(s).
- Video file size must not exceed 400.00 MB.



- . You may attach up to 5 document file(s).
- · You have attached 0 document file(s).
- Document file size must not exceed 10.00 MB.

## **Certification Page**

By checking off the radio button next to the statement, you are certifying that any statements made in the application are true. (Required)

(required)

I certify that the information contained in this application, including attachments and supporting material, is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

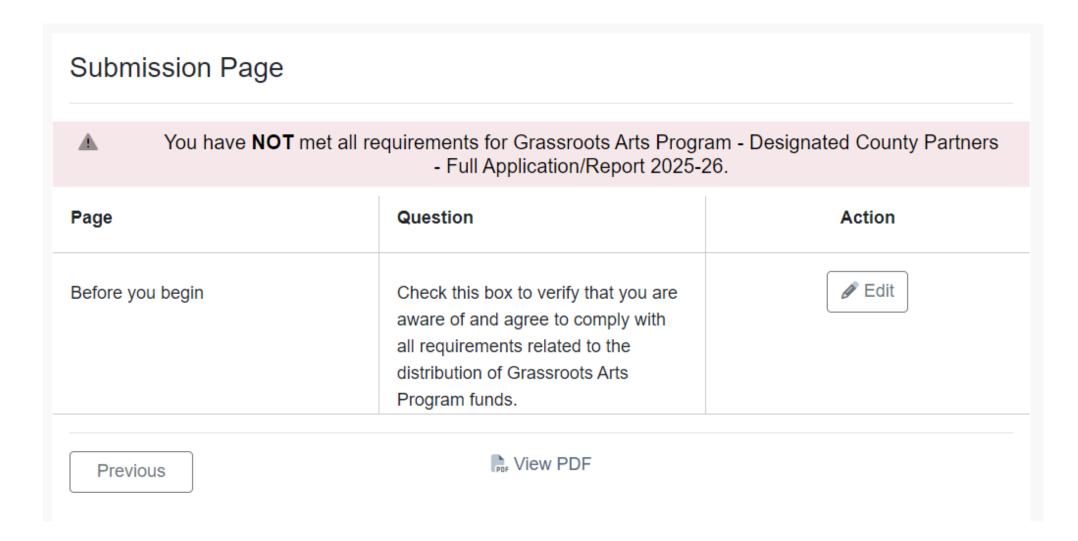
Save Work

Previous

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## **Submission Page**



## **Submission Page**



You have met all requirements for Grassroots Arts Program - Designated County Partners - Full Application/Report 2025-26.

Review your entire application carefully to ensure the information you have entered is correct.

You will receive an email confirmation after your application has been electronically submitted and received.

Are you ready to submit?

Save and Keep Working

**Save and Submit** 

#### **Questions?**

If you need help with your application, or have specific

questions, contact:

Eastern county partners will work with Sam Gerweck.

Eastern North Carolina

Sam Gerweck (919) 814-6523 <a href="mailto:sam.gerweck@dncr.nc.gov">sam.gerweck@dncr.nc.gov</a>

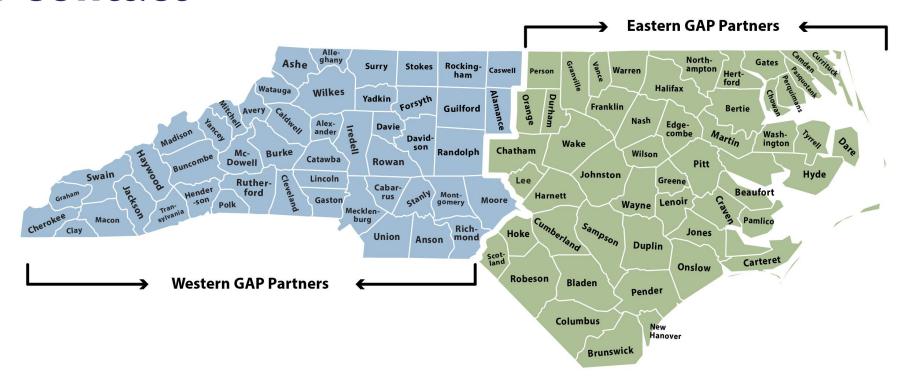
Western county partners will work with Janelle Wienke.



#### Western North Carolina

Janelle Wienke (919) 814-6506 janelle.wienke@dncr.nc.gov

#### **Staff Contact**





# **Grassroots Arts Program**

**Designated County Partner - Full Application Webinar** 







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