



CAPITAL REGION CREATIVE CORPS Frequently Asked Questions

What types of projects will be eligible for funding?

We expect a wide variety of projects for this program and encourage applicants to take a creative approach to project development. The strongest proposals will combine deep knowledge and understanding of a community and the priority issues that face that community, and develop an approach in which artists are instrumental in developing vehicles to frame and communicate information about or a response to those issues.

What is the California Healthy Places Index and how do I use it?

The HPI is a tool developed by the Public Health Alliance of Southern CA to advance equity through open data and map communities based on the social determinants of health. For more information about how to use the index for this grant, see the video tutorials and training video on the OAC Creative Corps [webpage](#).

What do you mean by cross-sector work?

A cross-sector project is when two or more community organizations come together to focus their expertise and resources on a complex issue that is of importance to the community they serve. For the purpose of this grant, an arts organization and/or artists must be involved in the design and implementation of the project.

Can you give an example of a cross-sector project?

One example is an arts collective working with a community-based health organization to address long term effects of Covid-19 on a particular population. Together, they could discuss the health-related issues and

community barriers to seeking support, and then design and produce a series of posters, strategically placed in certain locations, to draw attention to these health issues in a way that would engage the community to take action. Other good examples of cross-sector projects can be found online in a collection of Creative Placemaking [Field Scans](#).

Why isn't Placer County part of this region, but El Dorado County is? What constitutes the Capital Region?

In order to serve the entire state in an equitable manner, the California Arts Council developed the parameters of each region. In the case of the Capital Region, this includes county's adjacent to Sacramento but also counties that are not as geographically close. Every county in the state is represented in this program. Check out the CAC's Creative Corps webpage to learn more about programs serving other counties.

Will there be orientation meetings in every county?

We are working to host a series of informal gatherings or *mixers* in each county. Scheduling restrictions may prohibit a mixer in all 5 counties but we are working hard to host as many as possible and to try to cover a wide geographic area.

How can an individual artist apply to be part of this program?

Although the bulk of projects for the Capital Region Creative Corps will be led by nonprofit organizations, there are multiple ways for artists to engage in this work. Artists can apply as part of an ongoing artistic collective or as employees or contractors with an applicant arts nonprofit. They can work in tandem with an applying community service organization (i.e. a group of environmental artists who work with an environmental protection organization to design a climate mitigation campaign). We will also open a separate application for artists who want to apply for temporary positions in Sacramento City government departments to assist in outreach and engagement around one of the four focus areas.

What is a marginalized community?

Marginalized populations are groups and communities that experience discrimination and exclusion (social, political and economic) because of unequal power relationships across economic, political, social, and cultural dimensions. They can include people of color, LGBTQ+, low-income individuals, incarcerated individuals, the disabled, senior citizens and more.

Must the project be located in Quartile 1 communities only?

Yes, projects should focus on one of the California Healthy Places Index Quartile 1 communities. Note that rural communities are also a primary target for this program and projects focused on rural communities will be considered competitive. Every community in Alpine County is eligible for this program. Applicants who may be unsure as to whether their project fits these guidelines should reach out to program staff.

Does the fiscal sponsor have to be a nonprofit organization?

Yes, only nonprofit organizations who have nonprofit 501(c)(3) status for at least two years prior to the application deadline are eligible to be fiscal sponsors. Fiscal sponsors will be required to provide proof of eligibility and submit a letter of intent to provide sponsorship to the applicant. An applicant cannot change fiscal sponsors during the program period.

Is there a minimum of time to establish a relationship between organizations?

Strong applications will demonstrate some history or working together in partnership or engaging in some level of intentional activity prior to the grant period. This demonstrates that trust has been built, familiarity is established and a community has already been engaged by both parties. In some cases, when there is strong alignment between missions and values, a new partnership can also have powerful impact. Without requiring a specific timeframe we ask that applicants make a strong case for why their partnership should be considered. For the Large Grant Program (\$300,000), we ask that a partnership is already in place.

Is there a metric that determines a fair wage for artists?

OAC does not use a specific metric in determining fair wages for artists but looks to an organization’s understanding of the field and wages appropriate for the discipline. It is useful to reference one of many wage scales available online (<https://www.artsgreensboro.org/fair-pay-for-artists/>) or one provided by service organizations in your chosen discipline. Applicants will be asked to provide a budget outlining hourly fees for artists.

Can a nonprofit work with an organization in a different county?

Yes, an organization can partner with another entity in a different county. The project, however, should be limited to one county (unless a case is

made for crossing over to adjacent counties), and specifically provided to a Quartile 1 or rural community.

Will a nonprofit applicant be able to do an open call to artists for a proposed project?

Applicants will not be prohibited from doing open calls to artists but it is preferable to have committed artists when submitting the application. This allows the review panel to determine the strength of the team working on the project. Problems could arise if an organization was funded and then could not secure the artists needed to complete the campaign in the timeframe allotted. Also, it is important for a panel to evaluate the qualifications of the artists completing the work.

What constitutes a campaign? Can you provide examples.

For Creative Corps, a communication campaign will use a purposeful promotional strategy to change knowledge, attitudes, behavior or policy in a specific, intended community via the discipline provided by artists and creative workers co-designing the campaign. An example would be an emergency preparedness campaign in a rural community with an isolated, senior population. A theater company could develop an engaging play or short film, in collaboration with a senior support organization in that community, and then perform or screen it for residents at a community-wide event.

Can we propose a work of public art, such as a mural, as part of this project?

Temporary art in public places takes on many forms that can be a good fit for a media or communications campaign. Some examples can include billboard campaigns, bus shelter art, wall projections, performance-based street activation, pop-ups, etc. Murals in public places, due to the probable length of the installation and maintenance requirements, may not be the best option for a campaign. It is important to note that most art on government property involves multiple levels of permitting and regulation that need to be reviewed by appropriate parties. For this reason, applicants should consider the feasibility of artwork in public spaces and be sure to check in with the appropriate authorizing party before application submission. In most cases, letters of commitment from the appropriate regulatory parties will be necessary attachments to the application.