



Farash Foundation Creative Arts Request for Proposals

Release Date: April 10, 2025

Due Date: May 15, 2025

I. Background

The Max and Marian Farash Charitable Foundation works to illuminate the potential of the communities we live in through meaningful grantmaking. In the spirit of our founders, Max and Marian Farash, the foundation focuses on partnering with big thinkers and visionary organizations of all sizes to provide resources and to take risks on bold new initiatives. As a private charitable foundation, we provide grants to organizations within Monroe and Ontario counties, as well as Jewish organizations and initiatives both locally and globally.

In 2023, the Farash Foundation launched a new Creative Arts strategy focusing on small to mid-size arts organizations with visual, literary, and performing arts at their center. This evolving strategy prioritizes organizations that provide readily accessible opportunities to experience creative arts, and additionally have arts education programming as part of their regular operations. For a community to thrive, we need to foster imagination and creativity so individuals of all backgrounds have abundant opportunities to experience diverse forms of creative expression.

II. Purpose

Creative Arts institutions in Monroe and Ontario counties, NY, are invited to apply for flexible support. These funds are unrestricted operating grants that can be used in any capacity the organization decides. It is not necessary to designate these funds to any program or budget item for the purpose of this grant. The funds are to be used at the organization's discretion. The Farash Foundation intends to provide organizations with flexible support to help offset financial capital needs. It is the Foundation's hope that in doing so, organizations are better positioned to think of their long-term and future needs.

III. Who Should Apply

- The Foundation accepts proposals from Creative Arts organizations in Monroe and Ontario counties in New York State.
- Creative Arts organizations are defined as those utilizing creative expression and imagination through visual, literary, and performing arts, including music, theater, dance, spoken/ written word, and/or film as the primary medium to advance its mission.
- Only those organizations with operating budgets of \$2 million or less are eligible to apply.

IV. How to Apply

Applications will be considered for requests up to three years in duration. If you apply for a multi-year grant, please indicate the total three year budget and a breakdown for each individual year. Proposals are to be submitted via online application. Visit the Farash Foundation grant portal [here](#) to get you and your organization registered, and to access your FLUX account. A pdf of the proposal questions is available here.

Applications will not be reviewed if submitted in a format other than the online application.

VI. Proposal Review Process

- The Foundation will use a blend of financial data, qualitative information from your proposal and your requested amount to determine the award. If necessary, staff may reach out to you for additional information in reviewing your request.
- As a general guideline, flexible funding grants will not exceed 10% of the grantee's annual operating budget.
- If awarded, the Foundation will work with grantees to clarify and understand outcomes at the outset of the grant period.

VII. Keys to Our Decision Making

- Organization's mission aligns with Farash Foundation's mission and Creative Arts grantmaking [strategy](#).
- Organization's work has the potential to significantly impact the availability of diverse arts programming in the community it serves.
- Organization offers creative arts education/Instruction (ex. classes, youth programming and spaces to learn).
- Organization eliminates barriers to accessing creative arts (ex. cost, location, transportation, adaptive access, cultural affinity).
- Organization demonstrates a commitment to increasing audience engagement (ex. Increasing attendance, expanded performances).

Additional Considerations

Arts organizations applying to the Creative Arts grant program must:

- have the creative arts explicitly stated as a central part of its core mission, vision, focus and legal purpose
- create, perform, present, or promote artistic programming and/or services and
- at least 51 percent of its annual expenditures are allocated specifically to creative arts programming and/or services.

VIII. Reporting

To learn more about you, celebrate your successes, and be a thought partner through challenges, the Foundation will request a post-grant narrative report and budget, sharing what you learned and how funds were expended.

IX. Important Dates and Activities

Date	Activity
April 10, 2025	Creative Arts Flexible Funding requests for proposals opens
April 17, 2025 1:00pm-2:00pm	Creative Arts Flexible Funding RFP Information Session (virtual) Please use the following link to register
April 29, 2025 1:30pm-3:00pm	Creative Arts RFP Workshop and Technical Assistance (in-person) Please use the following link to register
May 15, 2025	Applications due in FLUXX

X. Additional Information

- It can take 1-3 business days to register in Fluxx, so if you are not already in the system, register before May 9th.
- The Foundation will accept and review grants submitted by the deadline date of May 15, 2025. Applications received after this date will not be considered.
- Once we have received your proposal in our FLUXX Grant Portal, our Program Officer may contact you with follow-up questions.
- The Foundation anticipates that proposals will be presented for consideration at our July 2025 Grants Committee meeting with funds available in August 2025.

Restrictions and Additional Considerations

Grants cannot be used for research, grants, or scholarships for individuals, or lobbying, or attempts to influence legislation. Please note that incomplete proposals will not be considered.

Questions about this opportunity may be addressed to:

Marcus Bliss

Program Officer

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