



Culture Works Funding Programs

Overview of Panelist Responsibilities

Culture Works invites members of the community to serve on the panels and selection committee that select recipients for funding through our grant and scholarship programs. This document provides an overview of panelist responsibilities for each program.

To nominate yourself or a colleague for panel service, [please submit a nomination form here](#). Submission does not guarantee placement on a panel. For more information, please contact Karen Maner, Culture Works Director of Grantmaking, at kmaner@cultureworks.org.

Artist Opportunity Grants:

The Artist Opportunity Grant program provides funding for individual artists living in Montgomery County, Ohio, to further their careers through professional development opportunities and through opportunities associated with the creation of new works. Individual grants range from \$500–5,000. This program is a partnership between the Montgomery County Arts and Cultural District (MCACD), which provides the funding for the grants, and Culture Works, which serves as the program administrator.

Artist Opportunity Grant panelists must:

- Attend a one-hour panelist orientation in early October (virtual).
- Review and score applications between early October and mid-November. (The number of applications varies year to year, but in the most recent cycles, panelists have reviewed around 30.) All scoring is completed online.
- Participate in a full-day public panel meeting in mid-November (virtual). At this meeting, panelists discuss each application and make their funding recommendations. Applicants and the general public are invited to attend to listen to discussions.
- Serve as the Primary Reviewer (discussion leader) for several applications.

Term of service: Panelists are selected for a one-year term but may serve for up to three years by invitation.

Estimated time commitment: 40 hours

Community Arts Grants:

Community Arts Grants provide general operating support to organizations that enrich and inspire the Dayton Region through world-class performances, exhibitions, and acclaimed educational programs for all ages. The funding for these grants comes from our annual Campaign for the Arts—a community-wide fundraising effort that draws support from thousands of individuals, local companies, and foundations.

Community Arts Grant panelists must:

- Attend site visits for applicant organizations between March and May. Site visits are scheduled according to each organization's regular performance or exhibition schedule. Panelists are provided with two complimentary tickets to each event they are assigned.
- Attend a one-hour panelist orientation (virtual).
- Review and score around 10 applications between mid-April and mid-May. All scoring is completed online.
- Participate in a half-day public panel meeting in mid-late May (virtual). At this meeting, panelists discuss each application and finalize scores. Applicants and the general public are invited to attend to listen to discussions.
- Serve as the Primary Reviewer (discussion leader) for several applications.

Term of service: Panelists are selected for a one-year term but may serve for up to two years by invitation.

Estimated time commitment: 40 hours

Leonard P. Roberts Memorial Scholarship:

In recognition of Mr. Roberts' career as a businessman and his passion for the arts, Culture Works offers scholarships to local students who demonstrate outstanding participation in and patronage of the arts. Candidates must be graduating high school seniors living in the Dayton Region (Butler, Clark, Darke, Greene, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, or Warren County) or college students at any level who live in and attend college in the Dayton Region. Scholarships are awarded in the amount of \$1,000–\$4,000. The total amount available to award each year is around \$20,000.

Scholarship Selection Committee members must:

- Read and score 20 scholarship applications within a three-week period using an established rubric (typically in May). All scoring is completed online.
- Attend the Scholarship Selection Committee Meeting (virtual) to discuss applications with other committee members and make award decisions. This meeting typically occurs the first Thursday in June from 4–6pm.

Term of service: Committee members are selected for a one-year term but may serve for up to three years by invitation.

Estimated time commitment: 15 hours

Special Projects Grants:

The Special Projects Grant program provides funding for Montgomery County organizations to create arts and cultural projects that engage the community. Small to mid-sized arts and cultural organizations, other nonprofits, schools, colleges and universities, municipalities and government agencies located in Montgomery County can apply for up to \$10,000 to support arts and cultural projects, such as festivals, exhibitions, performances, artists' series, and in-school arts programming. This program is made possible by funding from the Montgomery County Arts and Cultural District (MCACD) and is administered by Culture Works.

Special Projects Grant Panelists must:

- Attend a one-hour panelist orientation in mid-May (virtual).
- Review and score applications using an established scoring rubric between mid-May and mid-June. In recent cycles, panelists have reviewed 15-20 applications. All scoring is completed online.
- Discuss applications during a full-day public panel meeting in mid-June (virtual). At this meeting, panelists discuss each application and make funding recommendations. Applicants and the general public are invited to attend to listen to discussions.

Term of service: Panelists are selected for a one-year term but may serve for up to three years by invitation.

Estimated time commitment: 40 hours