



Indiana Arts Commission

FY26-27 Arts Organization Support Scoring Rubric

Instructions for Reviewers:

You will be asked to assign a score of 1 (No) to 4 (Exemplary) to a single question or group of questions within each criteria section of the application.

Scoring:

The scores for an individual question or group of questions in a criteria section are averaged for a score of 1 to 4 for the relevant criteria section. The criteria section scores are then averaged, applying section weights represented by percentages to produce a final score for funding consideration.

Additional Notes:

- Do not compare an application to another application. Each grant application should be reviewed on its own merits against the evaluation criteria.
- Scoring on grammar or writing skills is not part of the evaluation criteria. Focus on the information provided.

SECTION 1: ARTISTIC QUALITY (40%)

	QUESTIONS ASKED: Mission Statement + Applicant Activities	QUESTION ASKED: Artist and Programming Selection + Artistic Example Upload/Link + Social Media/Web Presence	QUESTION ASKED: Key Personnel: Artists and Educators + Key Personnel: Leadership Staff	QUESTION ASKED: Artistic Growth
4 – EXEMPLARY	The applicant demonstrates a clear and thorough understanding of their mission through the work they do. The applicant clearly demonstrates through a detailed description of activities, programs, and services how quality artistic, educational, and/or cultural activities are offered.	Artist/programming selection process, artistic example upload, and links clearly demonstrate exemplary ability to deliver quality artistic activities commensurate with organization budget tier, capacity, and operational context.	The key artistic and leadership personnel are clearly described and the information provided demonstrates they have exemplary ability to provide quality artistic, educational, and or cultural experiences.	The applicant clearly demonstrates a commitment to artistic growth by describing a strong process and providing multiple criteria
3 – YES	The applicant demonstrates an understanding of their mission through the work they do. The applicant demonstrates through a description of activities, programs, and services how quality artistic, educational, and/or cultural activities are offered.	Artist/programming selection process, artistic example upload, and links demonstrate ability to deliver quality artistic activities commensurate with organization budget tier, capacity, and operational context.	The key artistic and leadership personnel are described and the information provided demonstrates they have ability to provide quality artistic, educational, and or cultural experiences.	The applicant demonstrates a commitment to artistic growth by describing a process and providing criteria.
2 – SOMEWHAT	The applicant somewhat demonstrates an understanding of their mission through the work they do. The applicant somewhat demonstrates through a description of activities, programs, and services how quality artistic, educational, and/or cultural activities are offered.	Artist/programming selection process, artistic example upload, and links somewhat demonstrate ability to deliver quality artistic activities commensurate with organization budget tier, capacity, and operational context.	The key artistic and leadership personnel are somewhat described and the information provided somewhat demonstrates they have ability to provide quality artistic, educational, and/or cultural experiences.	The applicant somewhat demonstrates a commitment to artistic growth. Process and criteria are provided but they lack specificity or clarity.
1 - NO	The applicant does not demonstrate an understanding of their mission and the work they do. The applicant does not describe how activities, programs, and services provide quality artistic, educational, and/or cultural activities.	Artist/programming selection process, artistic example upload, and links do not demonstrate ability to deliver quality artistic activities commensurate with organization budget tier, capacity, and operational context.	The key artistic and leadership personnel are not described and the information provided does not demonstrate they have ability to provide quality artistic, educational, and/or cultural experiences.	The applicant does not demonstrate a commitment to artistic growth. Process and criteria are not provided.

SECTION 2: COMMUNITY BENEFIT, INCLUSION AND ACCESSIBILITY* (30%)

	QUESTION ASKED: Community Benefit	QUESTION ASKED: Engaging Underserved Populations	QUESTION ASKED: Accessibility plans and accommodations
4 – EXEMPLARY	Applicant provides a thorough and clear description of the community(ies) they serve using a variety of descriptors (e.g., socioeconomic, geographic, survey data). Applicant clearly and compellingly articulates how the community benefits from its activities.	Applicant provides strong and compelling evidence that they will directly engage underserved populations in activities, programming, and/or services. They provide a thorough description and/or examples of activities designed to be inclusive of underserved populations.	*Accessibility is reviewed by IAC staff and Regional Arts Partners for completion and compliance with The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) section 504 requirements.
3 – YES	Applicant provides a description of the community(ies) they serve using some descriptors (e.g., socioeconomic, geographic, survey data). Applicant articulates how the community benefits from its activities.	Applicant describes how they will directly engage underserved populations in activities, programming, and/or services. They provide a description and/or examples of activities designed to be inclusive of underserved populations.	*Accessibility is reviewed by IAC staff and Regional Arts Partners for completion and compliance with The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) section 504 requirements.
2 – SOMEWHAT	Applicant somewhat provides description of the community(ies) they serve using broad or vague descriptors (e.g., socioeconomic, geographic, survey data). Applicant somewhat articulates how the community benefits from its activities.	Applicant somewhat describes how they will directly engage underserved populations in activities, programming, and/or services. They may provide a description and/or examples of activities designed to be inclusive of underserved populations.	*Accessibility is reviewed by IAC staff and Regional Arts Partners for completion and compliance with The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) section 504 requirements.
1 – NO	Applicant does not provide a description of the community(ies) they serve nor use any descriptors (e.g., socioeconomic, geographic, survey data). Applicant does not articulate how the community benefits from its activities.	Applicant does not describe how they will directly engage underserved populations in activities, programming, and/or services. They do not provide a description nor provide examples of activities designed to be inclusive of underserved populations.	*Accessibility is reviewed by IAC staff and Regional Arts Partners for completion and compliance with The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) section 504 requirements.

SECTION 3: ORGANIZATIONAL PLANNING, IMPACT, AND MANAGEMENT (30%)

	QUESTION ASKED: Applicant Goals + Applicant Evaluation	QUESTION ASKED: Board Engagement.	QUESTION ASKED: Financial Position
4 – EXEMPLARY	Applicant defines clear and specific goals that align well with activities, programming, and/or services. Applicant provides a thorough plan to evaluate progress toward achieving stated goals.	Applicant clearly and thoroughly describes sound board practices using concrete and specific details.	Applicant demonstrates a clear and thorough understanding of its current financial state and provides a clear description of revenue generation and expense management. Applicant provides a clear two-year financial outlook.
3 – YES	Applicant defines goals that align with activities, programming, and/or services. Applicant provides a plan to evaluate progress toward achieving stated goals.	Applicant describes board practices and provides details.	Applicant demonstrates an understanding of its current financial state and provides a description of revenue generation and expense management. Applicant provides a two-year financial outlook.
2 – SOMEWHAT	Applicant somewhat defines goals that somewhat align with activities, programming, and/or services. Applicant provides some information on how they plan to evaluate progress toward achieving stated goals.	Applicant somewhat describes board practices and but lacks detail and/or specificity.	Applicant somewhat demonstrates a clear and thorough understanding of its current financial state and somewhat provides description of revenue generation and expense management. Applicant somewhat provides a two-year financial outlook.
1 – NO	Applicant does not define goals that align with activities, programming, and/or services. Applicant does not provide information on how they plan to evaluate progress toward achieving stated goals.	Applicant does not describe board practices nor provide details.	Applicant does not demonstrate an understanding of its current financial state and does not provide a clear description of revenue generation and expense management. Applicant does not provide two-year financial outlook.