



MICHIGAN **ARTS & CULTURE** COUNCIL

FY26 Experience Support Guidelines

*For Municipalities, Tribal Entities, PreK-12 Schools,
Colleges/Universities, and Non-Arts and Culture Nonprofit Organizations*

Application Deadline: Thursday January 22, 2026, 5:00PM EST

(Grant Period: Projects occurring March 1, 2026 through December 31, 2026.)

Available FY26 Experience Support Funding Opportunities

- Project Support (up to \$20,000)
- Facility Improvement & Equipment (up to \$30,000)
- Professional/Organizational Development (up to \$1,500)
- Field Trips (up to \$1,500)

MACC Mission Statement

The Council guides the distribution of resources to ensure that Michigan communities thrive from the civic, economic, and educational benefits of arts and culture.

MACC Vision Statement

The Council envisions a Michigan where communities celebrate creative expression and every person has access to, or participates in, arts and cultural experiences.

[Michigan Arts and Culture Council](https://michigan.gov/arts) (<https://michigan.gov/arts>)

Project Support

Maximum Request Amount: up to \$20,000

Project Support funding is designed to support the production, presentation, and creation of arts and culture experiences for Michigan communities. Projects may range anywhere from a single, one-day event to a program that takes place over the entire grant period. Experience opportunities resulting from grant funds must be open to the public. Grant funds can only be used for the specific arts and culture-related project that is awarded (under no circumstances may grant funds be used for any portion of the organization's non-arts and culture-related programs).

(PreK-12 applicants that previously submitted project requests under MACC's Arts in Education program should now apply here in Project Support. In the case of PreK-12 schools, the "community" would include a "community" of students, and "open to the public" would mean programming open to any student attending the school).

Project Support - Allowable Expenses

- ✓ Fees related to hiring artists and/or culture bearers such as wages, honoraria, and residencies
- ✓ Expenses directly relating to the specific arts and culture-related project that is awarded, including:
 - ✓ In-state travel expenses including transportation of equipment and lodging for artists/culture bearers
 - ✓ Staff time directly related to the project
 - ✓ Production supplies
 - ✓ Marketing expenses
 - ✓ Fees related to renting a facility for the project
 - ✓ Transportation costs associated with moving art, cultural objects, or arts and cultural equipment

Unallowable Project Support expenses include but are not limited to:

- ✗ Out-of-state travel
- ✗ Incentives for participation including cash awards
- ✗ Scholarships
- ✗ Contributions or donations to other organizations
- ✗ Individual private lesson instruction
- ✗ Fundraising activities
- ✗ Capital improvements
- ✗ Equipment purchases
- ✗ Existing deficits
- ✗ Scholarly or academic activities (including tuition and research) which generate academic credit or formal study toward an academic or professional degree
- ✗ Any other expenses determined not eligible by MACC

Facility Improvement & Equipment

Maximum Request Amount: up to \$30,000

Facility Improvement & Equipment funding is designed to assist organizations with both facility improvements and/or the purchase of equipment related to the arts and culture programming, services, and/or activities the organization provides to its audiences and communities. Organizations may request any combination of facility improvement and/or equipment needs up to the maximum request amount. Organizations applying for Facility Improvement & Equipment must have proof of ownership of the building or evidence of a long-term lease.

Facility Improvement & Equipment - Allowable Expenses

- ✓ Expansion, renovation, or construction of applicant-owned cultural facilities
- ✓ Facility structure or system maintenance of applicant-owned cultural facilities
- ✓ Feasibility studies, architectural drawings/fees, and design fees
- ✓ Construction and project management costs
- ✓ Purchase of equipment directly related to the organization's arts/cultural production

Unallowable Facility Improvement & Equipment expenses include but are not limited to:

- ✗ Costs not directly related to the project/equipment request
- ✗ General operating costs, fundraising including cost of handling grant funds
- ✗ Travel
- ✗ Costs occurring before/after the grant period
- ✗ Purchase of land
- ✗ Purchase of a building
- ✗ Purchase of a vehicle
- ✗ Capital improvements to home offices
- ✗ Projects that take place outside of Michigan
- ✗ Paying consultants of the project that are members of the applicant's board or staff
- ✗ Debt retirement
- ✗ Mortgage payments
- ✗ Preservation or restoration of non-arts and cultural related collections
- ✗ Projects that utilize funding from other state programs as matching funds
- ✗ Projects that already received funding from a previous MACC award
- ✗ Any other expenses determined not eligible by MACC

Please contact MACC staff for questions regarding allowable/unallowable expenses.