

WV Artists and Arts Organizations,

The State Arts Office of the West Virginia Department of Arts, Culture and History (WVDACH) and the West Virginia Commission on the Arts (WVCA) is closely monitoring the news regarding COVID-19, also known as the novel Coronavirus. We understand the impact this situation is having on our grantees and constituents regarding programming, events, and maintenance of cultural facilities. We also understand that many artists and non-profit organizations are forgoing public performances, events, and school programs in order to put health and safety first.

At the State Arts Office, our job is to support the arts and your work is at the core of our efforts. We have created a [Google survey](#) in order to gather information on how COVID-19 is affecting the arts community in West Virginia and what steps artists and arts organizations are taking to prepare and respond. Please take a few minutes to fill out this survey.

While there are many helpful resources regarding preparations and procedures for preventing, identifying, and addressing COVID-19, we have assembled a collection of WVDACH/WVCA arts-specific resources and information. Below is a list of FAQs and resources. These will be periodically updated as we receive more information.

GRANTEES:

- **Q.** We may have to cancel or reschedule a portion and/or our entire grant project. What options are there?
 - **A.** If you need to cancel or reschedule a grant-funded project due to COVID-19, please contact the grant program coordinator (listed below) to discuss options. This will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Please note that any options and procedures discussed with grant coordinators will require approval from the Curator of the Department of Arts, Culture and History.

APPLICANTS:

- **Q.** Will any upcoming FY21 application deadlines be changed?
 - **A.** No. The WVDACH and WVCA will continue to accept grant applications at our published deadlines. The majority of our grant application deadlines have already passed, with the exception of our Cultural Facilities and Capital Resources grant, which is due April 1st.
- **Q.** Will my application be reviewed on schedule?
 - **A.** Yes. All FY21 grant applications will be reviewed on schedule. Our grant panels review grants remotely in addition to reviewing and scoring grants during an in-person meeting. If travel restrictions are still in place at the time of

scheduled grant panel meetings, they will be conducted virtually via web-conferencing.

- **Q.** What if our organization has already submitted an application (i.e. for a grant program with a March 1st deadline) but we need to make a change to our project as a result of COVID-19?
 - **A.** Applicants should notify the grant program coordinator of any significant changes in their project that occurs after having submitted an application. Our staff will work with you to determine the appropriate course of action.

- **Q.** Will there be any effect on the roll out of the new Mini Grant programs?
 - **A.** Yes, the posting of our two new Mini Grant programs to our website will be delayed. We will announce when those guidelines and applications are posted.

IMPORTANT:

If you need to postpone or cancel all or part of a grant project, please contact the appropriate grants coordinator to discuss options. Our staff is currently working remotely and will be available to discuss options and answer questions via email. If you need to talk to someone via telephone, Lance Schrader, director of arts, is maintaining regular office hours. He may be reached at (304) 558-0240.

Contact:

Lance Schrader, Lance.E.Schrader@wv.gov, Ext. 145

- Director of Arts

Paul Neil, Paul.R.Neil@wv.gov, Ext. 148

- Office Secretary

Jenna Green, Jenna.R.Green@wv.gov, Ext. 725

- Cultural Facilities and Capital Resources

Jack O'Hearn, Jack.J.OHearn@wv.gov, ext. 155

- Community Arts Project Support, EZ Arts Access, Arts Partners

Barbara Smoot, Barbie.J.Smoot@wv.gov, Ext. 154

- Grants Coordinator

Jim Wolfe, James.D.Wolfe@wv.gov, ext. 717

- Arts in Education, STEAM Power WV

Elizabeth Yeager, Elizabeth.A.Yeager@wv.gov, Ext. 152

- Professional Development for Artists, Travel and Training

SELECTED RESOURCES:

www.ArtsReady.org

- Webinars related to the arts and COVID-19, links to CDC guidance on health, safety, and mass gatherings, additional links and resources

www.cerfplus.org

- Artist and arts organizations preparedness, protecting yourself and your career, additional resources

www.springboardforthearts.org

- Principles for Ethical Cancellations put out by a Minnesota-based organization

www.nyfa.org

- Emergency Grants Listings, [Rauschenberg Emergency Grant](#), additional resources

www.usdac.us

- U.S. Dept. of Arts & Culture, Community Care in the Time of Coronavirus

[Remote Teaching Facebook Group](#)

- Online Art & Design Studio Instruction in the Age of “Social Distancing”

[Advocacy for Relief](#)

- Compose your message to leaders about the arts nonprofits need for COVID-19 relief

www.americansforthearts.org

- COVID-19 Resources and Response Center, [Coronavirus Impact Survey](#)

www.ncaper.org

- National Coalition for Arts’ Preparedness & Emergency Response

www.socialdistancingfestival.com

- Platform for live streaming events amid the COVID-19 crisis