GOAL
In partnership with the Bonfils-Stanton Foundation, The Denver Foundation created The COVID-19 Arts & Culture Relief Fund to provide emergency support to struggling arts organizations across Metro Denver.

The fund is designed to offset lost revenue arts organizations in Metro Denver face due to the impact of COVID-19, and to help ensure organizations are able to maintain staff, artist engagement, and minimal operations while planning for future sustainability.

In a first round of funding in August 2020, $1.2M was distributed through the fund to 41 nonprofit organizations across Metro Denver.

ELIGIBLE ORGANIZATIONS

- 501c3 in good standing or fiscally sponsored organizations with a strong track record of programming and community service.
- Primary mission is to provide arts and culture programming to the public.
- Must have demonstrated sustained arts and cultural offerings for a minimum of two years.
- Priority will be given to organizations that engage and support diverse communities, particularly those that have been and remain financially vulnerable.
- Priority will be given to organizations that offer substantial public benefit through free/discounted admissions/ticketing, scholarships, and engagement to communities that are traditionally underresourced.
- Priority will be given to organizations with limited or no access to other relief funds, limited or no endowments, and/or limited or no cash reserves.
- Organizations that applied and/or were funded in round one are eligible to apply in round two.

GRANT
- $5,000-$50,000

BUDGET SIZE
- Minimum $25K, maximum $15M

GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS
ALLOWABLE USE OF FUNDS

• Funds may be used for costs associated with sustaining operations, retaining employees and artists, rent, and other expenses. These should focus on new and emergency circumstances, particularly those that respond to the need for social distancing, isolation, and quarantine. Expenses related to re-imagining post-pandemic programming and operations are also eligible.

INELIGIBLE USE OF FUNDS

• Capital
• Endowment
• Renovations
• Reduction of accumulated debt prior to COVID-19
• Purchase of major equipment
• Regranting
• Stand-alone one-time festivals, conferences, or events
• Independent projects, films, and publications
• Programs offered as part of a larger institution (college, medical center etc.)
• Religious affiliation

APPLICATIONS

To apply, please visit The Denver Foundation’s application portal:

https://apply.denverfoundation.org/Accounts/LogOn

Applications are due by January 27, 2021 at 5 p.m. MST.