

2019 Operating Support Guidelines

Operating Support Grants fund programming by cultural nonprofit organizations, increasing the variety of cultural experiences available to residents and visitors in Central Florida. This comprehensive grant program recognizes the high value of arts and culture for our region and the established institutions which provide cultural programming for the public year-round. Funds for these grants are raised through the United Arts campaign, Arts for ALL Fund.

Calendar

Panel Observations <i>of Your Programming</i>	Year-round	Invite panelists directly 3x/year by sending email to: LargeBudgetPanel@GoogleGroups.com , MidsizeBudgetPanel@GoogleGroups.com , or SmallBudgetPanel@GoogleGroups.com .
Applicant Orientation Webinars (optional, but recommended)	Tues June 26, Wed Jun 27, Tues July 17 (changes only), Wed July 18	See details and RSVP at www.UnitedArts.cc/United-Arts-Events . Brief update on changes offered on Tues July 17.
Update Nonprofit Search by – required for Large & Midsize	June 15, 2018 (returning applicants); Aug 16 new applicants	FY17 financials must be up to date in the portrait. Please also upload the FY17 990 as soon as it is available.
Update OrlandoAtPlay.com with full season by	June 29, 2018 (returning applicants); Aug 16 new applicants	Events and exhibits posted by 6/29 will be published in <i>Orlando Arts Magazine</i> . (Story ideas for the season preview are due 6/19 to Cindy@UnitedArts.cc .)
Apply Online By	5 pm Thursday, August 16, 2018	<u>Late or incomplete applications WILL NOT BE REVIEWED.</u>
Schedule Site Visit By	September 4, 2018	
Site Visit Webinars (required)	Late August / early September TBA	
Panel Site Visits <i>with Applicant Staff/Board</i>	Late September & October 2017 (see right)	Small Budget: Wednesday, September 19 – Tuesday, October 16 Midsize Budget: Monday, September 24 – Friday, October 26 Large Budget: Monday, September 24 – Tuesday, October 30
Panel Funding Meetings <i>(closed – applicants should stay available by phone)</i>	Late October & November 2018 (see right)	Small Budget – Tuesday, October 23 Midsize Budget – Friday, November 2 Large Budget – Tuesday, November 6
Notified of Funding By	December 14, 2018	
Funding Period	January – December 2019	
Quarterly Reports Due	Jan 25, April 1, July 1, & Oct 1, 2019	For 25%, 25%, 25%, and 15% of funding
Final Report Due	February 1, 2020	For final 10% of funding

What's New This Year?

- The threshold to enter the small budget category has been raised from \$25,000 to \$75,000 in three-year average revenue.
- Large budget groups that fall below the \$900,000 three-year average revenue threshold will be given two years to increase their budget to \$900,000, or drop down to the midsize budget category.
- A new webinar on site visits will be provided in the fall; attendance will be required for all applicants.
- Large Budget groups eligible for a two-year grant will be notified in December, with acceptance deadline in January, and will submit an updated budget form for the following application deadline in August.

- Narrative
 - Target marketing question renamed “Target Marketing & Community Engagement” to acknowledge the elements of community engagement (such as relationship building) that are necessary to make target marketing successful. The definition and criteria have not changed.
 - New checklist question on types of target marketing & community engagement efforts.
 - New questions on amount & percentage of marketing budget spent on diverse media outlets.
 - New question on frequency of target marketing to each demographic.
 - Note new recommendations in “General Panel Comments for All” document regarding target marketing and community engagement for diverse audiences. This document is provided in the forms folder.
- Forms
 - Form B (Three-Year Financial Comparison):
 - Changed United Arts – Designated Gifts to United Arts – Designated Donations & Pledges (net of fees).
 - Attestation added in application re not including depreciation/amortization, art purchases, capital, or endowment, in the main body of the form (these items should be included in the Other Information section only).
 - Updates to glossary.
 - Form C Statistics: new sections on staff and artist diversity, and current year added for board diversity.
 - Form C-2 Footnotes for Statistics: added examples for “source of statistics” section.
- Panel review
 - Board racial/ethnic diversity target raised from 17% to 20%. This will continue to increase over time.
- Grantee requirements
 - Organizations based in, or providing the majority of programming in, the City of Orlando and/or Orange County will also be required to include those logos in marketing materials.
 - Grantees must pay their obligations - including staff, artists, contractors, and vendors.

Organization Eligibility

New applicants must send three years of financial statements and a list of recent programming (three years) to Mary@UnitedArts.cc before applying for the first time. In order to apply, the organization must have:

- Nonprofit 501(c)3 corporate status, in good standing with State of FL Division of Corporations & the IRS (United Arts will verify current 501(c)3 status at www.irs.gov and current good standing with the State of Florida Division of Corporations at www.sunbiz.org.);
- Completed three years of operations, providing cultural programming (defined as production, presentation or instruction of performing, visual, literary or media arts, the sciences, or history and heritage);
- Principal office located, and provide programming (3 years) in, Lake, Orange, Osceola or Seminole counties;
- Arts/cultural primary mission;
- Over \$75,000 three-year average cash operating revenue;
- Local governing board (may include members who reside outside Central Florida) that meets at least quarterly and operates under a set of bylaws;
- Must provide equal access and opportunity in employment and services and may not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, gender, ancestry, national origin, geography, age, varying abilities, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, familial status, citizenship status, or socioeconomic status.
- Organizations not meeting some criteria (or that produce only one event per year) may be eligible for the Mini-Grant program instead. Organizations can also ask permission to apply for the Mini-Grant instead.

Organizations are NOT eligible if they are:

- Other designated Local Arts Agencies (see Mini-Grant program);
- A public or private entity governed by a county, municipality, school district, community college, college, university, or an agency of state government;

- Media companies (TV/radio/print);
- Faith-based organizations (see Mini-Grant program);
- Fraternal or sports organizations;
- Political causes, candidates, organizations, or campaigns;
- Hospitals, health, and disease-specific organizations;
- Organizations that are a local arm of a state or national organization (see Mini-Grant program);
- Organizations that are adjuncts to for-profit organizations (“Friends of” organizations are eligible to apply only in lieu of the parent nonprofit organization); or
- Organizations that are primarily touring production presenters, with budgets over \$5 million (eligible to apply for support only for programming that is originally created by the institution, and as funds are available).

In all cases, final eligibility decisions are made by United Arts staff. Each organization is limited to one Operating Support application per deadline. An organization may receive funding for more than one year, but a new application must be submitted each year. Approval of one year of funding carries with it no assurance of continued funding in subsequent years. Applicants must be in good standing with any prior grant reporting, if applicable.

Programming Eligibility

The proposed programming must be cultural (arts, sciences, or humanities), must occur in Lake, Orange, Osceola or Seminole counties, and must be open to the public. Examples include performances, exhibitions, festivals, arts education, and commissioning of new works. In support of this programming, this grant funds both operating expenses (which could include overhead such as salaries, rent, technology, etc.) *and* programmatic expenses. Grant dollars *cannot* be used for any of the following activities:

- Capital expenditures (including acquisitions or equipment), or any building, renovation or remodeling of facilities;
- Deficit reduction, bad debts, contingencies, fines and penalties, interest payments, litigation costs, or any other comparable financial costs;
- Contributions to cash reserves and/or endowment funds;
- Lobbying or attempting to influence federal, state, or local legislation;
- Fundraising events, activities, and related expenses (e.g., benefits, dinners, sporting events, etc.);
- Awards, prizes, or scholarships for use outside the applicant’s programming;
- Tuition for academic study;
- Projects produced by K-12 students or undergraduate students (no professional artistic staff involved);
- Food or beverage for hospitality or entertainment functions;
- Regranting, contributions, or donations;
- Projects benefiting for-profit organizations;
- Private events closed to the general public and activities restricted to an organization’s membership (including school competitions, recitals and graduations – professional competitions are eligible if applications and events are open to the public);
- Staff travel or projects outside of Lake, Orange, Osceola or Seminole counties;
- Projects in the following areas: acrobatics, aerobic dance, beauty pageants, clowning, comedy, cosmetology, face painting, fashion shows, karaoke, juggling, magic shows, martial arts, mineralogy, gemology, modeling, nature presentations, quiz bowls or travel presentations; or
- Projects of a religious nature designed to promote or inhibit religious belief and/or practice and that have no basic underlying secular theme or topics.

Budget Categories & Request Amounts

Operating Support Grants are divided into three categories. For repeat applicants, eligibility for budget category is determined by United Arts staff as of the prior year application, using Form A. The maximum request for this cycle is 8% or 9%, as a percentage of the organization's 3-year average operating cash revenue; this percentage will be re-calibrated each year based on fundraising forecasts.

Organizations will request this percentage of the 3-year average revenue in the online application & Form A, but can only budget a slight increase (10% more than the prior year grant funding) on

3-year Average Operating Cash Revenue	Budget Category	Maximum Request Amount	Range of Last Year's Grants
\$900K & higher	Large Budget	8% of 3-year average	\$22,900 - \$199,600
\$250K to \$899,999	Midsize Budget	9% of 3-year average	\$4,300 - \$30,000
\$75K to \$249,999	Small Budget	9% of 3-year average	\$2,100 - \$9,080
Under \$75K	Apply for Mini-Grant	\$2,500 mini-grant	\$1,000 - \$2,500

the budget form (Form B). This keeps expense projections reasonable. Panels can award up to the request amount if the application scores well and funds are available. Funding is very competitive; last year's grants ranged from 1.4% - 6.5%.

Large and Midsize Budget organizations must post a portrait on Nonprofit Search, and update it annually by June 15. Large Budget organizations must have a full-time, paid executive director. Large Budget organizations that fall below the \$900,000 three-year average threshold will be given two years to increase their budget to \$900,000, or drop down to the midsize budget category.

Panelist Nominations

Volunteer panelists come from a variety of disciplines and nonprofit/business expertise. Each budget category has a separate panel. Panelists serve for 2-year terms, with a 3rd year extension possible, and at least 25% rotating off each year. Terms can start as early as December 1, and new panelists are sometimes needed mid-year. To self-nominate, use the panel nomination form at UnitedArts.cc/grants. To nominate someone else, send their name, email address and why you would nominate him/her to Mary@UnitedArts.cc. Encourage knowledgeable board members, staff and supporters to apply! Requirements include:

- Bio/resume listing qualifications, including arts expertise, business expertise, and past panel service if applicable.
- Time and willingness to commit to a two-year term, including significant time to attend arts events/exhibitions (about 15 each year), site visits (2-3 in late September or October), application review (October), and panel meeting (late Oct/Nov).
- Two prior years of no conflicts with organizations in the budget category (listed on the panel nomination form). Conflict includes employment, volunteering, serving as a consultant, family connection, financial benefit, and personal bias. Conflict with one budget category wouldn't prevent serving on the panel for another budget category.

Panel Observations of Applicant Programming (Year-Round)

As soon as the prior year's panel meeting is over in November, panelists can start making observations for the following year's review. Panelists will select events or exhibitions from the applicant's program offerings to evaluate for the artistic merit criterion.

- All panelists conduct *observations* for all organizations in the budget category (as opposed to *site visits*, for which two panelists are assigned to visit each applicant organization – see below).
- Applicants are encouraged to add panelists to their general email list.
- Applicants should send up to three personal invitations per year to the panelists (suggested timing: December, April and August; or according to the timing of the season's key productions), using the listserv LargeBudgetPanel@GoogleGroups.com, MidsizeBudgetPanel@GoogleGroups.com, or SmallBudgetPanel@GoogleGroups.com. This email can include a brief welcome message, suggestion of the best

events to attend over the next few months (or open hours for museums), and contact info for free tickets. This email should not include any non-event info.

- Applicants are asked to make available at least 2 free tickets per panelist per year, based on space available, and with sufficient advance notice. Dates/programs offered are at the applicant's discretion (such as offering access to a dress rehearsal in lieu of a sold-out event).

Evaluation Criteria

Panelists will judge applicants based on the following criteria:

Artistic (or Historic/Scientific) Merit (40%)

- *Please note that this criterion when applied to history or science organizations should be interpreted as historic/scientific and educational merit of exhibits, programs, staff, experts, and so on.*
- artistic product perceived as high quality by audience, peers and critical reviews
- innovation and creativity in programming and artist selection
- vision, creativity, professionalism and leadership of artistic staff
- programming appropriate to the mission of the applicant organization

Management & Fiscal Responsibility (35%)

- effectiveness and efficiency of organization
- professionalism of administrative staff
- effective board/staff interaction
- presentation of a clear and realistic budget
- organizational stability
- demonstrated evidence of strong or developing financial support from the community
- existence and quality of strategic plan for the organization
- for large budget organizations, cash reserves and commitment to grow endowments.

Outreach & Education (25%)

- Evidence of a commitment to diversity¹ in staffing, artist selection and board recruitment
 - *5 points designated for board racial/ethnic diversity – with defined targets increasing over time*
- Increased awareness, access and inclusivity in the experience of art and creativity for diverse communities
 - *2 points designated for strong target marketing and community engagement efforts to racially/ethnically diverse communities and collateral/website that reflects the racial/ethnic diversity of the community*
- programs marketed locally, regionally, nationally and/or internationally
- efforts to reach and educate new audiences
- programs attract visitors as well as residents
- activities have local, regional, national or international impact
- accessibility efforts

¹ Specific questions and criteria are included for racial/ethnic diversity and accessibility for people with varying abilities to better evaluate efforts in these areas. However, applicants are welcome to describe under "Other Diversity Efforts" any other efforts towards diversity & inclusion.

Panel Scoring Rubric

The following rubric will be used by the panelists to score applications. Staff recommendations are provided for board diversity, and target marketing and community engagement efforts. The panel can vote to allow scores lower than 65 points for a particular applicant, if there are significant concerns.

	What to Evaluate	Low (D-C)	Med (B)	High (A)
Artistic Merit (Historic, Scientific)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [Artistic] product Selection of programs, [artists] or exhibits [Artistic] staff leadership (Historic, Scientific) 	30 31 32 33 (Low quality or off mission)	34 35 36 37 (good quality, appropriate to mission)	38 39 40 (innovative / visionary)
Management & Fiscal Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Admin staff leadership Board Strategic plan Budget clear/realistic Financial stability, growth, reserves 	25 26 27 28 (ineffective, unstable)	29 30 31 32 (some concerns but making progress)	33 34 35 (effective, growing)
Outreach & Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diversity: audience, artists Marketing locally, regionally, & beyond Reach and educate new audiences Access for persons with varying abilities 	10 11 12 (limited efforts or only plans)	13 14 15 (demonstrated increase in diversity, reach, accessibility)	16 17 18 (a model which reflects the community)
Board Racial/Ethnic Diversity	Increase racial/ethnic diversity of board to better reflect the community (24% Lake, 54% Orange, 60% Osceola, 34% Seminole)	0 1 2 0 pt - No diversity; 1 pt - <17%, no growth; 2 pts - <17% but more than last year	3 4 3 pts - 17%-19%, no growth; 4 pts - 17%-19% and more than last year	5 20% or more
Diversity—Marketing & Engagement	Strong target marketing and community engagement efforts, collateral / website that reflects the community	No points	1	2

Financial Review

Each panel is assigned a finance reviewer (who is a CPA) who evaluates the financial statements of applicant organizations, and reports to the panel in an ex-officio capacity. The analysis includes the organization's current stability, future sustainability, and financial management (budget planning, recordkeeping). Key metrics:

- Cash Ratio = Cash Balances / Current Liabilities (red < 0.5; yellow < 0.7)
- Current Ratio = Current Assets / Current Liabilities (red < 0.8; yellow < 0.9)
- Unrestricted Net Assets to Debt = Unrestricted Net Assets / (Current Liabilities + Long Term Debt) (red < 1; yellow < 2)
- Days Cash on Hand = Cash Balances / Total Expenses (red < 30 days; yellow < 60 days)

The first three metrics calculate the organization's ability to repay its debt; the final one evaluates how long the organization could survive on its cash reserve. If two or more of these metrics are in the danger zone, the finance reviewer will emphasize that in his or her report to the panel and provide scoring guidance.

Funding Decision Process

- Get help:** Make an appointment with Mary Giraulo (contact Mary@UnitedArts.cc), anytime up to 2 days before the application deadline. Get help strategizing your response to panel comments or discussing narrative drafts or other areas of the application. You can also view past applications from other grantees.

- **Staff Review:** Staff initially review applications.
 - The staff review checklist is provided to applicants; each applicant is encouraged to self-check, or ask for a courtesy review (notify Mary@UnitedArts.cc that your draft application is ready in the system, at least one week in advance of the application deadline).
 - Staff may contact applicants for additional materials (only the most critical information), so please watch email closely. Incomplete applications will be rejected. If the primary contact for the applicant organization will be out of town during late August / early September (staff review) or late October / early November (panel meetings), designate a contact person and include this in the application or notify Mary@UnitedArts.cc.
- **Panel Review:** Applications are reviewed by panelists starting in the second half of September.
- **Panel Site Visits:** Two panelists will be assigned to meet with the applicant's staff/board leadership in late September or October. Applicants will be provided with contact information to schedule the meeting, which must be set in stone by Sept 1. The applicant should provide a formal presentation of how the organization meets the evaluation criteria, including any responses to last year's panel comments.
- **Panel Meetings (closed to the public / applicants):** Each panel will discuss applications in a closed meeting; applicants will be notified of the date to stay near the phone in case of questions. Advisory members include the panel chair (UA board member; only votes to break a tie) and a finance reviewer that will offer financial review comments (CPA; non-voting). Each application discussion begins with a report from the site visitors and the finance reviewer, then other panelists may add comment. Scores are averaged and written comments are formulated. Funding recommendations are determined by the panel with consideration to score ranking, request amounts, available funding, one year of funding history, and % of 3-year budget funded. If panelists have significant concerns, they may restrict a portion of funding or the entire grant for a particular purpose.
- **Board Approval:** Panel recommendations are approved by United Arts' Executive Committee and Board of Directors.
- **Notification:** The applicant's CEO and Chair will receive panel comments with their grant notification letter via email in December. They are encouraged to contact Mary Giraulo at 407.790.7844 or Mary@UnitedArts.cc for clarifications. If major recommendations were made, the applicant is encouraged to submit a written response; send drafts for feedback, and the final version for forwarding to the panel, to Mary@UnitedArts.cc.

Two-Year Grants (Large Budget only)

Large Budget organizations will be considered for a two-year grant, if they meet the following criteria:

- Received a score of 95 or higher in the last two review cycles;
- No accumulated operational deficit in unrestricted net assets as of the audited financial statements for the most recently completed year, after depreciation has been accounted for; and
- Key leadership in place – executive director, development director, artistic director.

Eligible groups will be notified in mid-December, and will have one month to accept the opportunity. By the next application deadline, two-year grantees will submit a revised budget form which projects forward two years. The grant amount in the second year may vary, based on funds available. Two-year grantees must show continued financial stability in quarterly reports, or will be required to apply the second year. Two-year grantees are still required to keep their Nonprofit Search portrait up to date and post their events info on OrlandoAtPlay.com.

Grant Payment Schedule

Grantees will sign an award agreement in December or January before receiving grant funds. The first 90% of funds will be paid quarterly (25% the first three quarters, and 15% the fourth quarter), contingent on quarterly reports; the final 10% will be contingent on the final report, due February 1.

Grantee Requirements (During the Grant Period)

- **Request Permission for Changes:** Significant programming or budget changes must be requested in advance; changes may or may not affect the grant award amount. Grant funds that are unused by December 31 must be returned to United Arts.

- ❑ **Notification:** grantees must keep Mary@UnitedArts.cc and FloraMaria@UnitedArts.cc on their email list, renew required insurance policies when they expire, and notify United Arts of any contact changes or changes in IRS tax-exempt status. United Arts will add grantees to its email list including resources and opportunities.
- ❑ **Legal:** grantees must comply with fair labor standards and a drug-free workplace; maintain a finance committee and independent audit committee of the board (per the Sarbanes-Oxley Act); and comply with PCI (see www.PCICompliance.org) and the US Patriot Act. Grantees must pay their obligations.
- ❑ **Insurance:** At the time of award acceptance, all grantees are required to provide a Certificate of Insurance, listing United Arts as certificate holder and proving current coverage for the funding period for the following types and limits of coverage, from an insurance carrier with a current Best's Rating of A – Class VIII:
 - Commercial General Liability, \$500,000. United Arts must be additional insured (usually listed in the notes field).
 - Commercial Auto Liability, \$500,000 (unless covered under Commercial General Liability policy)
 - Workers' Compensation, as required by law (if the applicant employs more than three paid staff)
 - Employee Dishonesty/Crime – for Large Budget organizations, \$50,000 or 25% of the grant award, whichever is greater; for Midsize and Small Budget organizations, \$10,000 or 25% of the grant award, whichever is greater. For organizations with no employees, either the Commercial General Liability or Directors & Officers' policy must cover volunteer theft.
 - Directors & Officers' Insurance (required for Large Budget organizations only; recommended for all)
 Grantees must submit a new copy of the insurance certificate whenever one of the policies expires. Any organization that believes it cannot meet the coverage requirements may *request* a reduction or waiver, including an explanation of the need, signed by a board representative and accompanied by a quote in writing from a potential insurer. A request for reduction or waiver does not ensure acceptance.
- ❑ **Electronic payment:** Grantees must sign up for payment via ACH (electronic deposit), whereby funds will be direct deposited into the grantee's business account. This provides more prompt delivery of grant funds by alleviating mail time and bank holds.
- ❑ **Inclusion:** grantees must provide equal access and opportunity in employment and services and may not discriminate on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, gender, ancestry, national origin, geography, age, varying abilities, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, familial status, citizenship status, or socioeconomic status. United Arts expects that the make-up of the staff, board, audience, volunteers, artists, scientists, historians, etc. involved with grantee organizations be inclusive of the diversity of the community and compatible with the organization's mission.
- ❑ **Acknowledgement:** grantees must acknowledge the grant in all publicity and materials (whether printed, online, verbal, or other), with the United Arts logo and statement "(Name of Grantee Organization) is funded in part by United Arts of Central Florida, home of OrlandoAtPlay.com and JAArtsEd.com." United Arts may publicize the grant using quotes and photos from applications and reports. Organizations based in, or providing the majority of programming in, the City of Orlando and/or Orange County will also be required to include those logos.
- ❑ **AEP Survey:** Grantees must participate in Americans for the Arts' "Arts and Economic Prosperity" Impact Survey (which occurs every five years) to maintain eligibility for grants.
- ❑ **Financial statements:** Grantee's board of directors must review year-to-date financial statements at least quarterly. For full-year financial statements, requirements are as follows, based on three-year average revenue:
 - Small Budget – internally prepared financial statements will suffice
 - Midsize Budget, with revenue averaging \$250,000 to \$499,999 – must provide compiled financials
 - Midsize Budget, with revenue averaging \$500,000 to \$899,999 – must provide reviewed financials
 - Large Budget – audited financials required, plus management letter and response if any
 Full-year financial statements according to these requirements must be provided to United Arts no later than six months after the end of the fiscal year (two months for internally prepared statements).
- ❑ **Recordkeeping:** grantees must keep information (including description and photos of the funded programming, press or publicity about the programming including use of logos or acknowledgement statement, and financial records) for the final report. Also keep records about the grant activities and financials for at least five years after the grant period is completed; such records must be available for audit by United Arts representatives.

- ❑ **Final Report:** an online form will be provided with the award agreement. A brief narrative, financial/statistics/insurance updates, proof of acknowledgement, and four photos will be required. This report will be due by February 1, to receive the final 10% of funds and maintain eligibility for future funding.

Application Tips

For questions or tech support: Contact Mary at Mary@UnitedArts.cc or 407.790.7844.

- Go to www.UnitedArts.cc/grants to download forms (“save as”) and start the online application. If you have applied for ANY grant program in the past, you can request your password from the website. If you are a new user, create a new profile. United Arts staff can link your profile to past grants if a report is pending.
- Start early!
 - Allow time to request information from other staff/volunteers, to get CEO and board approval of the completed application, etc. Allow time for uploads and reducing document sizes. It’s also recommended to ask others to read your application, especially someone not familiar with your organization.
 - Character limits for narrative questions: be aware that the online application system counts every space and bullet as a character.
 - **Check for Errors:** View the “Application Packet” (link at top of the application) to check that your narrative is formatted correctly and your uploaded documents will be viewed by the panel. Possible errors include: “print area” in Excel may not be set correctly; unusual file types may cause errors; zipped folders are *not allowed*; when pasting from Word, automatic paragraph breaks disappear; etc.
 - Large and Midsize Budget organizations must maintain a *Reviewed* portrait on the Central Florida Foundation’s Nonprofit Search, at www.cffound.org/nonprofit_search/, and it must be up to date (including the most recent financials) *and submitted* online by June 15 of each year. The portrait is promoted to the public, and will help organizations become aware of how they line up with best practices in the nonprofit sector. To get started with a portrait, contact Mary Meghan Flanagan at mflanagan@cffound.org or 407.872.3050 x116. **Make sure to press “submit”** on the Review Changes page; Foundation staff evaluate the portrait for completeness before issuing the “Reviewed” logo and publishing the portrait.
 - Most organizations must submit the solicitation of contributions registration annually with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services. (Exempt: nonprofit libraries, art galleries, performing arts centers that provide educational programs to 50,000+ school children per year, and museums open to the public.) Apply at <https://www.freshfromflorida.com/Business-Services/Solicitation-of-Contributions>.
- Save often.
- Submit early! **Applicants who do not submit the fully completed application by the 5:00 pm deadline with ALL required materials/attachments WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR REVIEW and their grant request will be rejected.** Leave extra time in case of questions or computer trouble. Missing documents or fields will prevent submission of the application. *Contact and programming information for all grantees will be made available to the press, and United Arts may use quotes or pictures from applications or reports in publicity.*
- Don’t stop here!
 - If you have education programs for schools, they may be eligible for Arts and Culture Access funding from United Arts (see www.UAArtsEd.com/page/guidelines).
 - Apply for grants from other funders, especially the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs (www.Florida-Arts.org) and Orange County Arts & Cultural Affairs (www.UnitedArts.cc/grants).
 - Let us know what we can do for you as your local arts agency!

