

# East Bay Relief Fund for Individuals in the Arts

Las solicitudes se aceptarán solo en inglés. La aplicación es breve y sencilla. Por favor, encuentre un amigo que pueda ayudarlo a traducir y enviar su solicitud antes de la fecha límite del 28 de septiembre a las 12 PM (mediodía) PT. Se ofrece asistencia limitada en español. Para más información y ayuda, contacte a [grants@cciarts.org](mailto:grants@cciarts.org) o 415.288.0530.

该基金只接受英文申请，申请快捷方便。找一位可以帮助您翻译的朋友，并在9月28日中午12:00（中午）截止日期之前提交您的申请。

Đơn đăng ký sẽ chỉ được chấp nhận bằng tiếng Anh. Ứng dụng này rất ngắn gọn và đơn giản. Vui lòng tìm một người bạn có thể giúp bạn dịch và nộp đơn đăng ký của bạn trước hạn chót là ngày 28 tháng 9 lúc 12 giờ trưa (Trưa) theo giờ PT.

The **East Bay Relief Fund for Individuals in the Arts** is a pooled fund led by the **Kenneth Rainin Foundation** with support from the Hellman Foundation, Phyllis C. Wattis Foundation, Gerbode Foundation, East Bay Community Foundation, Walter & Elise Haas Fund, and San Francisco Foundation. The Fund makes available \$499,896 to help the region’s artists, teaching artists, culture bearers, and nonprofit arts workers who comprise the various and diverse cultural communities of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. The Center for Cultural Innovation (CCI), a trusted intermediary focused on the economic security of people in the arts, is administering this Fund.

The East Bay Relief Fund for Individuals in the Arts (the “Fund”) is in response to the ongoing economic crisis, and ensuing financial needs of individuals, that have resulted from the coronavirus pandemic—a federally recognized “qualified disaster.” The arts and culture sector remains especially hard hit, effectively disrupting artists’ and arts workers’ ability to earn income. Individuals are the backbone of arts and culture—providing exhibitions and performances, educational arts programming, community-

anchoring cultural enterprises, and services by nonprofit arts organizations—and they need financial help to remain in our communities and contribute to making them meaningful and vibrant.

The Fund is for artists, teaching artists, culture bearers, and nonprofit arts workers who need financial help as a result of this federally recognized qualified disaster. Grants will be distributed to reflect the diversity of the East Bay—Alameda and Contra Costa Counties—including those who are of historically underserved communities and whose marginalized status has made the economic impacts of COVID-19 more difficult financially for them.

This is the third year of support provided by a Kenneth Rainin Foundation-led pooled relief fund. The first year of support, in 2020, distributed \$744,100 to 515 individuals in the arts throughout Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. The following year, in 2021, \$380,304 was distributed to 223 individuals in the arts throughout Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. Over these three years of support, pooled fund members included Akonadi Foundation, City of Berkeley - Berkeley Civic Arts Program, City of Oakland - Cultural Affairs Division, Richard Diebenkorn Foundation, Fleishhacker Foundation, Gerbode Foundation, Walter & Elise Haas Fund, Hellman Foundation, William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, Nion McEvoy and Leslie Berriman, Oakland Covid-19 Relief Fund, San Francisco Foundation, Shuler-Heimbürger Family Fund at the East Bay Community Foundation, Phyllis C. Wattis Foundation, and individual donors.

#### **ABOUT THE FUND**

The East Bay Relief Fund for Individuals in the Arts makes available \$499,896 in financial support to artists, teaching artists, cultural bearers, and nonprofit arts workers who are permanent residents of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.

Applicants will be asked to describe their financial needs, and we ask that you only apply if you have or are anticipating immediate needs. This is because we want to preserve as much of the Fund as possible for those facing significant financial threats. The Fund will prioritize the financial needs of individuals who are of cultural communities that are historically underserved and are particularly financially vulnerable—Black, Indigenous, Latinx, foreign-born immigrant, trans, and people with disabilities—and distribute the funds throughout the two-county East Bay region.

Individuals may apply only once for up to \$2,000. Funds are unrestricted and can be used in any way that alleviates financial hardship. We anticipate that the number of applications will exceed the funds we have available. Hence, the actual amounts awarded may be less than the maximum amount offered in order to support as many requests as possible. In addition, it is likely that not everyone will receive funding. However, if you are in this fund's target population and are experiencing significant financial hardships, we encourage you to apply. The application is deliberately simple to encourage requests for support.

#### **OPERATING PRINCIPLES**

CCI will operate the Fund with the following ethos:

- *Trust:* We intend to operate this Fund in a way that provides some relief from stress, anxieties, and isolation. To that end, we ask for relatively little by way of documentation. We trust that those who apply have met the criteria and that their artistic and cultural practices or professional role are contributing to the East Bay's rich and varied cultural vitality.

- *Generosity*: No funder can fully address the financial impacts of the coronavirus pandemic. Before applying, we ask individuals to self-assess their financial state of need. This way, we can stretch the Fund’s resources by helping more people and those with the most urgent needs.
- *Sensitivity*: We recognize how debilitating it can be to live with financial precarity. We are committed to notifying all applicants as quickly as possible after the program deadline, and issuing payments promptly.

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

- Must be a current, full-time resident of Alameda or Contra Costa County;
- Must be an artist, teaching artist, culture bearer, and/or nonprofit arts worker; and
- Cannot have a conflict of interest (family or financial relationships) with the boards, staff, and directors of CCI and funders of the Relief Fund.

**Note: Receiving funding through another CCI grant program—including past Relief Funds—does not impact your eligibility for the 2022 East Bay Relief Fund for Individuals in the Arts. Therefore, as long as you meet the three criteria above, you are eligible to apply.**

#### **TIMELINE**

- **Wednesday, September 7, 2022, at 9 a.m. PT:** Application Opens
- **Wednesday, September 28, 2022, at 12 p.m. (Noon) PT:** Application Deadline
- **Wednesday, October 5, 2022, by 5 p.m. PT:** Notifications Made

#### **APPLICATION PROCESS**

The Fund will accept applications from September 7 – September 28, 2022. Applicants will be notified about their award status on October 5, 2022. Please note the amount awarded may be less than the amount requested in order for the Fund to benefit as many individuals as possible. If the Fund receives so many requests that the amount that can be awarded would be substantially reduced, a lottery system that is weighted to prioritize those of historically underserved and financially vulnerable communities—Black, Indigenous, Latinx, foreign-born immigrant, trans, and people with disabilities—will be used to distribute the funds throughout the two-county East Bay region.

Grants will be unrestricted and can be used toward any expenses that alleviate financial pressures due to the COVID-19 federally recognized qualified disaster. Rather than a final report, grantees will receive a survey about the impact and use of the funds. The survey responses will provide important information about how to help those in the arts.

**PLEASE NOTE: We consider financial needs to be sensitive and personal information, and therefore, we won’t release the names of grantees or applicants, but we will share data about how many applications we received and the number of applications that were funded.**

#### **PREPARING YOUR APPLICATION**

You will need to prepare the following for your application:

- **Name & Address:** Documentation must be uploaded that shows your name and address as those listed in your application. This can be a driver’s license, utility bill, current lease agreement, or bank statement, to name a few examples. Make sure to block out any sensitive information. *We are requesting this information as proof of Alameda or Contra Costa County residence.*
  - The Fund does not require social security or tax identification numbers, and CCI will neither request nor collect these items to encourage everyone who meets the target population to apply.
  
- **Role(s) in Arts & Culture Sector:** You must enter a link to your website or to another website where you and your artistic work are featured. You can link to YouTube, Soundcloud, Instagram, Facebook, etc. If you are a culture bearer, teaching artist, or nonprofit arts worker, you will provide the name of your primary employer or cultural business; your occupation/title; and the URL of a site that verifies your arts-related work. *We are requesting this information as proof of having a public-facing role in the arts and culture sector.*
  - Optional Support Material: IF you are unable to link to a website, you may upload a single attachment that demonstrates your artistic and cultural practice, such as a photo of a public performance, news article, or marketing materials, which further helps us understand your role in the sector if it is not easily recognizable in the URL(s) you provided.
  
- **Narrative:** Describe your current financial situation, what loss of income you have been facing since mid-March 2020, and why you need the funds now. [350-word limit, which equates to roughly three paragraphs]

#### **REVIEW PROCESS & PAYMENT TURN-AROUND**

Funding recommendations will be made by CCI. Notifications will then be sent to all applicants regarding their application status.

Fund recipients will need to review and sign CCI’s grant agreement before payment processing can commence. Payments will be made via direct deposit after grantees create an account with Tipalti, CCI’s direct deposit payment processing platform, and may take three-five business days. Checks are available instead of a direct deposit, if preferred, but may take additional time to receive. Note: CCI does not have any control over when payments will be received. Once grantees successfully open an account with Tipalti or CCI submits a check request, we will not be able to track payment processing by grantees’ financial institutions or delivery by USPS mail. What we can share is that in the thousands of transactions CCI has processed, three to five business days is customary.

#### **HOW TO APPLY**

Applications will be accepted beginning September 7 at 9 a.m. PT and accepted until September 28 at 12 p.m. (Noon) PT. A full application preview is available on CCI’s website, [here](#). Completed applications must be submitted by the deadline—no exceptions will be made.

**The East Bay Relief Fund for Individuals in the Arts online application can be accessed at:**  
<https://centerforculturalinnovation.submittable.com/submit>

Applications will be accepted online ONLY through CCI’s Submittable platform. All applicants MUST create an account in Submittable before they will be able to access the grant application.

Applications will be accepted in English only. The application is brief and simple. Please find a friend who can help you translate and submit your application by the deadline of September 28, 12 p.m. (Noon) PT.

#### **QUESTIONS & SUPPORT**

We're here to help! If you have questions about the Fund or the application process, contact CCI at [grants@cciarts.org](mailto:grants@cciarts.org) or 415.288.0530. For Deaf applicants and those with hearing loss, contact CCI using the [California Relay Service](#)—our staff are trained in making and receiving these calls.

If you need technical assistance—such as troubleshooting a file upload or resetting your password—contact Submittable by filling out the help form at the bottom of [this page](#) (<https://www.submittable.com/help/submitter/>). You may also reach out to CCI at [grants@cciarts.org](mailto:grants@cciarts.org) or call us at 415.288.0530.