

**CALI Catalyst Application Preview**  
**FOR REFERENCE ONLY**  
(effective May 27, 2025)

**The CALI Catalyst Application Preview is for REFERENCE ONLY.**

*All applications must be submitted online through CCI's Submittable platform, [here](#). We will not accept applications submitted by mail or email using this form. Responses to all questions/prompts are required unless otherwise noted.*

*For technical assistance (e.g., password or upload issues), request support at: <https://www.submittable.com/help/submitter/>. Submittable's business hours are 9 am – 5 pm MT. They aim to respond within 24 business hours.*

**Responses to all questions/prompts are required unless otherwise noted.**

**ELIGIBILITY**

To be eligible for funding consideration, applicants (i.e., individuals and teams) must be artists or arts workers and reside full-time in California. Does the applicant (and all team members, if applicable) meet these criteria?

- Yes [[Proceed to next question](#)]
- No [You are ineligible for consideration]

To be eligible for funding consideration, applicants' change-making action in the arts and culture sector must have taken place or started (i.e., the action is still in progress) on or after January 1, 2020. Does the applicant meet this criterion?

- Yes [[Proceed to APPLICANT TYPE](#)]
- No [You are ineligible for consideration]

**Note to Applicants:**

CCI has enabled the submitter collaboration tool, which enables groups of applicants to work together on collective applications. For information about how to utilize this tool, visit Submittable's knowledge base [here](#).

**APPLICANT TYPE**

Are you applying as an individual or as the lead member of a team?

- A. Individual [[Proceed to Section 1A](#)]
- B. Lead Team Member [[Proceed to Section 1B](#)]

**SECTION 1: CONTACT INFORMATION**

**1A. Individual Applicant**

1. Legal First Name
2. Legal Last Name
3. OPTIONAL: Other Names Used (Stage, Artist, Preferred or Chosen Name)
4. Pronouns
5. Street Address
6. City
7. State
8. Zip Code
9. County

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10. Email Address
  11. Phone Number
  12. OPTIONAL: Personal Website
- [PROCEED TO SECTIONS 2-7]

**1B. Lead Team Member Applicant**

1. Lead Team Member Legal First Name
2. Lead Team Member Legal Last Name
3. OPTIONAL: Other Names Used (Stage, Artist, Preferred or Chosen Name)
4. Lead Team Member Pronouns
5. Lead Team Member Street Address
6. Lead Team Member City
7. Lead Team Member State
8. Lead Team Member Zip Code
9. Lead Team Member County
10. Lead Team Member Email Address
11. Lead Team Member Phone Number
12. OPTIONAL: Lead Team Member Website
13. Which of the following best describes your team?  
*Note: Your response is for informational purposes only and will not be verified by CCI.*
  - A collective.
  - A cooperative.
  - A mutual aid group.
  - An informal group united by a common cause.
  - Write-in Option [50 words max]
14. List the name(s) of your team members. (Please note that your response is for informational purposes only and will not be verified by CCI.)

[PROCEED TO SECTIONS 2-7]

**SECTION 2: CHANGE-MAKING DETAILS**

1. Funding Amount: \$7,500  
*Note: CALI Catalyst awards grants of up to \$7,500 in unrestricted funds, which are subject to certain 501c3 tax-exempt requirements, such as limitation on political activity and lobbying, private benefit (benefiting a person rather than furthering tax-exempt purposes), and private inurement (benefit to individuals affiliated with the organizations offering and managing this grant).*
2. In one sentence, describe the change-making action that took place or that is currently in progress.  
[65 words max]
3. Which historically underrepresented communities were directly impacted by the change-making action? Select all that apply.  
*Note: The narrative and support materials submitted must reflect how the selected groups were impacted.*
  - Black
  - Indigenous

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- People of Color
  - LGBTQIA+
  - People with Disabilities
  - Rural communities
  - Write-in Option [50 words max]
4. Which sectors were impacted by the change-making action?
- Nonprofit arts and culture sector
  - Commercial arts and culture sector
  - Both the nonprofit and commercial arts and culture sector
  - Neither the nonprofit nor commercial arts and culture sector
    - ❖ If you selected “Neither,” describe who/what has been affected. [75 words max]  
*Note: In order to be eligible, the change-making action(s) must have impacted a part of the arts and culture sector.*
5. What is the applicant’s role(s) in the arts and culture sector? Select up to three.
- Artist
  - Arts Administrator
  - Creative
  - Cultural Practitioner
  - Cultural Producer
  - Culture Bearer
  - Teaching Artist
  - Specialized Technician
  - Write-in Option [50 words max]

**SECTION 3: NARRATIVE**

Your responses to the questions below will help CCI understand the applicant’s alignment with the review criteria. Please refer to the grant guidelines when composing responses. Regarding word limits, 350 words amount to roughly three paragraphs.

Note: We have enabled rich text formatting, which allows applicants to add bold, underlined, or italicized font and numbered or bulleted lists. However, we will not accept hyperlinks in lieu of narrative details. Additionally, do not use hyphens/dashes (“-” or “--”) to begin a paragraph— using these will cause Submittable to reject your response.

1. **Overview:** Describe the action that you undertook that resulted in tangible change within the arts and culture sector. Include relevant dates, the circumstances that prompted your action, and your specific role in initiating this change. Explain how your involvement was pivotal or foundational to the action. [350 words max]
2. **Intention:** Explain why you decided to undertake this action. Include your initial goals and expectations. [350 words max]
3. **Impact:** Describe the tangible results of your change-making action within the arts and culture sector. Highlight the tangible and measurable ways in which historically underrepresented

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communities have gained power and influence as a result. If your action is ongoing, provide an update on its progress and its impact to date. [350 words max]

*Note: The support materials submitted must back up the claims made in this section.*

4. **Perspective:** Describe your role and experience within the arts and culture sector. Your response must include how long you have been in the sector, roles you've held, communities you've supported, and any other factors that have shaped your perspective. Share any first-hand knowledge you bring to the field through your lived, professional, or creative experience. [350 words max]

#### **SECTION 4: SUPPORT MATERIALS**

The following materials are required to verify the applicant's role(s) in the arts and culture sector, demonstrate that the change-making action was public-facing, and provide further context for the action's direct impact and results.

The most helpful materials will prove that the action and its impacts were visible in the community, region, or field and documented in a publicly accessible way, such as press, social media posts that have amassed some attention, official records (e.g., meeting minutes), etc. Examples of support materials that provide context may include relevant URLs, press, screenshots, or photo/video documentation.

The materials provided will not be used to assess artistic "merit" or "excellence," as neither is relevant to the CALI Catalyst program.

**Please check your uploaded support materials to ensure functionality. Applications with inaccessible uploads, such as corrupted or password-protected attachments, will not be reviewed.**

1. Upload a copy of the applicant's résumé, CV, or bio. The uploaded document should reference the applicant's current role(s) in the arts and culture sector and should not exceed two (2) pages.
2. Upload up to three (3) support materials directly related to the applicant's change-making work. Examples may include relevant URLs, press, official records, screenshots, or photo/video documentation.

*Note: The most helpful materials will prove that the action and its impacts were visible in the community, region, or field and documented in a publicly accessible way, such as press, social media posts that have amassed some attention, official records (e.g., meeting minutes), etc.*

#### **SECTION 5: REFERENCES**

Provide two (2) references who can speak to the applicant's demonstration of the review criteria, and speak on behalf of the communities the applicant has positively impacted. References cannot be family members, spouses/partners, or long-time friends, nor should they be engaged in an active financial relationship with the applicant.

Additionally, references must be able to commit to a 15-minute phone conversation with CCI staff at a mutually agreed upon time. Staff can only accommodate phone conversations in English and Spanish. References who are not fluent in English or Spanish are welcome to have a translator on the call. Please specify the preferred language of each reference.

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Further, CCI will only contact the references of top candidates for funding. CCI may also contact individuals in the field of a competitive applicant's work so that the people directly meant to benefit will influence the adjudication process.

**Finally, please note that reference calls do not guarantee funding approval.**

**1. Reference #1**

*Note: References cannot be family members, spouses/partners, or long-time friends, nor should they be engaged in an active financial relationship with the applicant.*

- First and Last Name
- Email Address
- Phone Number
- In up to three (3) sentences, describe the applicant's relationship to Reference #1 and indicate their preferred language. [100 words max]

**2. Reference #2**

*Note: References cannot be family members, spouses/partners, or long-time friends, nor should they be engaged in an active financial relationship with the applicant.*

- First and Last Name
- Email Address
- Phone Number
- In up to three (3) sentences, describe the applicant's relationship to Reference #2 and indicate their preferred language. [100 words max]

**SECTION 6: AWARD ADMINISTRATION**

If you are recommended and approved for funding, the information requested below will expedite the preparation of your grant contract and processing of your award payment. We appreciate your support.

**1. Who will receive the funds if you are awarded a grant?**

*Options:*

- *I will receive the funds.*
- *I will use a business, nonprofit, or fiscal sponsor.*
  - Provide the business, nonprofit, or fiscal sponsor's name and mailing address. If the authorized contract signatory is someone other than yourself, enter their first and last name, title, email, and phone number.
- *I'm not sure; please contact me.*

**2. Bio:** Enter a brief, two-to-three-sentence bio. If applying as a team, enter a bio that describes the work the team is doing and its members. [75 words max]

**3. Image:** Upload a landscape-oriented photograph of the applicant (entire team, if applicable) or a representative image of the applicant's work. (.jpg, .png, and .pdf file formats accepted)

**4. Photo Credit:** Enter the names of any individuals in the photo (L to R), location, photographer credit, and year.

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**SECTION 7: DEMOGRAPHIC SURVEY**

**ALL APPLICANTS:** The information requested in this section is CONFIDENTIAL and will be used for internal purposes only to better capture and understand the populations of California artists and arts workers whom we serve. As such, your responses may be used in summary statistics, but will not impact the evaluation of your application.

**LEAD TEAM MEMBERS:** Please answer the demographic questions as an individual, and not as a reflection of your team.

**Response options for the questions below will be available in the online application, including “Prefer Not to State.”**

- With which gender(s) do you identify?
- Do you identify as LGBTQIA?
- Do you identify as a person with a disability?
- How do you identify?
- What is your age range?
- What is the highest degree or level of education you have completed?
- Do you owe any student loans currently?
- What is your annual household income?
- What is your primary artistic discipline or area of cultural production?
- Select any other artistic disciplines or areas of cultural production in which you work:
- What is your career stage?
- The approximate number of years you have been creating art or engaging in cultural practices with the intent to earn income from your work:
- Estimated percentage of income derived from your art/cultural practice or arts-based business:
- How did you hear about this opportunity?

**SECTION 8: CERTIFICATION**

I certify I have read and met the eligibility requirements stated in the CALI Catalyst guidelines and that all information provided in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I further acknowledge that the Center for Cultural Innovation is not liable for damage or loss of materials submitted.

At any time, if the Center for Cultural Innovation determines that my application is false, misleading, improperly submitted, or fails to further the CALI Catalyst objectives, the Center for Cultural Innovation may, at its sole discretion, suspend or demand the return of funds. Lastly, I agree not to sue the Center for Cultural Innovation if the Center for Cultural Innovation suspends payment or demands repayment.

[check box] **By checking this box, I certify the above to be true.**