

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 8 de diciembre a las 12 PM (mediodía) PT.

基金仅接受英文申请，申请快速简单。请找一位可以协助您翻译的朋友，并在太平洋时间 12 月 8 日中午 12 点（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 8 tháng 12 lúc 12 giờ tối (Trưa) theo giờ PT.

The **East Bay Relief Fund for Individuals in the Arts** is a pooled fund led by **Kenneth Rainin Foundation** with support from the Walter & Elise Haas Fund. The Fund makes available \$337,500 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) is administering this Fund.

The East Bay Relief Fund for Individuals in the Arts is in response to the ongoing economic crisis, and ensuing financial needs of individuals, that has resulted from the coronavirus pandemic—a federally recognized “qualified disaster.” The arts and culture sector remain especially hard hit, effectively disrupting artists and arts workers’ ability to earn income. Individuals are the backbone of arts and culture—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 have made the economic impacts of COVID-19 more difficult financially on them.

ABOUT THE FUND

The East Bay Relief Fund for Individuals in the Arts makes available \$337,500 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 reserve as much of the Relief 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, actual amounts awarded may be less than the maximum amount in order to support as many requests as possible. In addition, it is likely that not everyone will receive funding. We realize that being declined for relief-funding support is hard at any time, and will feel even worse leading up to the holidays. 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 in order to encourage requests for support. Additionally, we anticipate another round of relief funding will be offered in 2022. Details will be shared next year.

The Fund is being administered and adjudicated by the Center for Cultural Innovation (CCI), a trusted intermediary focused on the economic security of people in the arts.

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 your artistic and cultural practices or professional role have been 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 Counties;
- 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.

APPLICATION PROCESS

In order to provide relief funding before the end of this year, the Fund will accept applications during a relatively short period from November 16 – December 8, 2021. Applicants will be notified about their award status on December 14, 2021. 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.

The 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.

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, or bank statement. Make sure to block out any sensitive information. *We are requesting this information as proof of Alameda or Contra Costa county residence.*
- **Role(s) in Arts & Culture Sector:** 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, 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 artistic and cultural practice 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]

**The East Bay Relief Fund for Individuals in the Arts does not require social security or tax identification numbers, and CCI will neither request nor collect these items so as to encourage everyone who meets the target populations to apply.*

REVIEW PROCESS & TURN-AROUND

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

Grantees 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 in lieu of direct deposit, if preferred, but may take additional time to receive. Note: CCI does not have any control of 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.

- **Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at 9 a.m. PT:** Application Cycle Opens
- **Wednesday, December 8, 2021 at 12 p.m. (Noon) PT:** Application Cycle Closes
- **Tuesday, December 14, 2021:** Notifications Made
- **Tuesday, December 14, 2021 – Tuesday, December 21, 2021 at 5 pm PT:** Payment processing (*Grantees who sign and return their grant agreements after December 21 at 5 p.m. will have their payment processed on or after January 3, 2022. For this reason, we strongly encourage signing the grant agreement and activating your Tipalti payment processing account as soon as possible in order to receive payment before the end of the 2021 year.*)

HOW TO APPLY

Applications will be accepted beginning November 16 at 9 a.m. PT and accepted until December 8 at 12 p.m. (Noon) PT. 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.

Additionally, 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 December 8, 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 or 213.705.9112.

If you are experiencing issues with the Submittable platform, contact Submittable directly at support@submittable.com. You may also reach out to CCI at grants@cciarts.org or call us at 213.705.9112. 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.