

San José Creative Economy Fund

2023 Application Preview

The 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.

For San José Creative Economy Fund-related questions (e.g., eligibility, timeline), contact CCI at grants@cciarts.org or call us at 415.288.0530 during our office hours on Wednesdays and Fridays from 10 am to 2 pm. (Office hour appointments are not required but encouraged! Find a time slot [here](#).) 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.

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

Note: If you're looking for the San José Business of Art application, go [here](#).

ELIGIBILITY QUIZ

1. Which opportunity are you applying to?

Options:

- *Creative Economy Fund*
 - *Continue to Eligibility Quiz - Question 2*
 - *Business of Art*
 - *This application is for the Creative Economy Fund only. Please complete the Business of Art application [here](#).*
 - *[Note: No additional eligibility quiz questions will appear if this response option is selected.]*
 - *Creative Economy Fund and Business of Art*
 - *This application is for the Creative Economy Fund only. You must complete a different application (it's brief!) for Business of Art [here](#).*
 - *Note: If this response option is selected, Eligibility Quiz - Question 2 will be automatically generated.*
2. Is your business located in the city of San José?
3. Do you operate a commercial (i.e., *not* a nonprofit) business, including small businesses and sole proprietorships?
4. Does your business have 35 employees or less?
5. Does your San José–based business provide a cultural, creative, or arts-related service or product?
6. Are you in good standing with the City of San José? (This is demonstrated by having an active business tax certificate [aka business license, business permit] and fulfilling any Office of Cultural Affairs or other City department grant reporting requirements, if applicable.)

San José Creative Economy Fund

2023 Application Preview

The Application Preview is for REFERENCE ONLY.

7. Is your proposed project already funded through another Office of Cultural Affairs grant program?

8. Are you a previous Creative Industries Incentive Fund (CIIF) grantee?

Options:

- Yes
 - Have you completed your final report?
 - ❖ *If yes, continue to **SECTION 1: BUSINESS INFORMATION***
 - ❖ *If you have not, you must submit your final report before you will be eligible to apply for 2023 funding consideration*
- *No—Continue to **SECTION 1: BUSINESS INFORMATION***
- *I'm not sure*
 - Continue to **SECTION 1: BUSINESS INFORMATION**
 - (Applicants who are unsure should search their name or the name of their business via CCI's Past Recipient Directory [here](#))

SECTION 1: BUSINESS INFORMATION

1. Business Legal Name

2. OPTIONAL: Business DBA (Doing Business As) Name

3. Business Mailing Address

[Please enter the address where the business conducts its operations in San José and not the address where the business is incorporated, which may be in another city or state. For online or nomadic businesses like "pop-ups," you may enter your residential address if this is where your operations are concentrated in San José. For questions, please contact CCI at grants@cciarts.org.]

4. Business City

5. Business State

6. Business Zip Code

7. Describe your business in one to two sentences. (65 words)

8. What is the business' artistic/creative discipline or area of cultural production? (Select at least one option and no more than three.)

Options: Dance; Design; Education; Folk/Traditional Arts; Humanities/Literary Arts; Media Arts; Multidisciplinary; Music; Musical Theatre; Opera; Social Practice; Theatre; Visual Arts; XR (AR/MR/VR); Write-In Option (25 words)

9. Year Established

10. Business Type

Options: Cooperative; Corporation; LLC; Partnership; Sole Proprietorship; Unincorporated; Write-in Option (25 words)

[This question is for informational purposes only and will not be factored into the evaluation of your application.]

11. OPTIONAL: Provide up to three URLs/handles related to your business.

12. Has the business received funding from the City of San José, including the Office of Cultural Affairs? If so, please list the department, funding program, and award date. If you have received multiple awards from the same department, list only the most

**San José Creative Economy Fund
2023 Application Preview**

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recent. *[This question is for informational purposes only and will not be factored into the evaluation of your application.]*

Options: Yes, No, I'm not sure

- For "Yes" responses:
 - *List the City of San José department, funding program, and award date. If you have received multiple awards from the same department, list only the most recent. [50 words]*

13. What type of workers will your business employ during the grant period (September 2023 - September 2024)? Select all that apply.

[This question is for informational purposes only and will not be factored into the evaluation of your application.]

Options: Full-time Employees; Part-time Employees; Contractors/Freelancers; Seasonal Employees (For each option chosen, you will be prompted to enter the number of workers that will be employed. See below)

- ❖ *How many full-time employees will you employ?*
- ❖ *How many part-time employees will you employ?*
- ❖ *How many contractors/freelancers will you employ?*
- ❖ *How many seasonal employees will you employ?*

14. How much revenue did your business report earning in your most recently filed income tax return? (This question is for informational purposes only and will not be factored into the evaluation of your application.)

Options: \$0-\$50,000; \$50,001-\$100,000; \$100,001-\$200,000; \$200,001-\$300,000; \$300,001-\$400,000; \$400,001-\$500,000; Greater than \$500,001

15. Upload a copy of your active City of San José business tax certificate (aka business license, business permit). [.doc, .docx, .png, and .pdf files accepted. If you recently registered your business and are waiting to receive a copy of your tax certificate, you may upload documentation that confirms the business' successful tax payment.]

SECTION 2: PRIMARY CONTACT

1. Primary Contact Legal First Name
2. Primary Contact Legal Last Name
3. OPTIONAL: Primary Contact Other Names (e.g., Stage, Artist, Preferred, or Chosen Name)
4. Primary Contact Title
5. Primary Contact Phone Number
6. Primary Contact Email
7. How did you hear about this opportunity?

Options: San Jose Office of Cultural Affairs newsletter, SJOCA Social Media, CCI Newsletter; CCI Website; CCI Workshop; CCI Social Media; Consultant; Friend/Colleague; Write-in Option (25 words)

SECTION 3: PROPOSAL DETAILS

San José Creative Economy Fund

2023 Application Preview

The Application Preview is for REFERENCE ONLY.

1. Provide a brief one to two-sentence summary of your request. Begin your summary with "To support..." (65 words)
[The request summary will be used to introduce your proposal to panelists and should briefly describe your project. Should you be awarded funding, this summary may be used in your grant contract and public-facing announcements.]
2. Amount Requested: (Whole numbers only. Do not insert commas or other punctuation)
[Applicants may request \$1,000 - \$8,000. We encourage you to ask for what you need to fully realize the project, as partial funding may be awarded. Note that the amount requested will not affect the application's evaluation.]

SECTION 4: NARRATIVE

Applicants are strongly encouraged to consider the review criteria in the [Guidelines](#) when composing their narrative responses. Regarding format, responses can be bulleted or complete sentences, whichever is easier, so long as the concept is clear and easy to understand. Word limits vary; as a reference, 350 words are roughly three or four paragraphs. *Note: Do not use hyphens/dashes ("- " or "-- ") to begin a paragraph.*

1. **Business Description:** Describe the business, including details about the product or service that you offer, your audience/clientele, location (virtual or physical location), and any cultural communities that are represented or centered by the business. (350 words)
2. **Project Description:** Describe the proposed project, including what funding will support*, the scope of work, current stage of development (e.g., preparing for launch, already in implementation, nearing completion), timeline, and specific goals. **If hiring a consultant for a professional service (e.g., business coaching or bookkeeping), upload a letter of commitment from the consultant in SECTION 6: SUPPORT MATERIALS.* (350 words)
3. **Project Outcomes:** Describe how the proposed project will: 1) contribute to San José's cultural vibrancy; 2) grow and achieve greater financial resilience for the business; and 3) have an economic impact (e.g., attract visitors, generate sales tax, and create jobs) in San José. (350 words)
4. **Team Bios:** Provide bios for the project team or staff and include relevant experience as it relates to the project. (350 words)

SECTION 5: BUDGET

The project budget is a tool for conveying to panelists what the applicant needs to realize their proposed project fully. Artist fees and compensation, staff salaries, space improvement costs, supplies and materials, equipment, and consultants are line item expenses that may be reflected in the project budget.

San José Creative Economy Fund

2023 Application Preview

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In addition, we encourage applicants to compensate artists, staff, designers, contractors, et al. with a fair living wage. Wages must also be compliant with State, local, and federal laws.

Resources for considering appropriate rates and ranges are available at the [Teaching Artists Guild Pay Rate Calculator](#), [Working Artists and the Greater Economy \(W.A.G.E\) Fee Calculator](#), and [MIT's Living Wage Calculator](#).

1. **Upload a 1-page version of your budget.** If your total expenses are projected to exceed the requested grant award amount, list your additional income sources and their status (.xls, .xlsx, .doc, .docx, and .pdf file formats accepted). *When making your plans, please consider that partial funding may be awarded.*
 - A sample project budget is available [here](#). (Note: The sample project budget is for applicants' reference. You are not required to use this template.)
2. **Enter the total amount of income** (including pending and prospective funds):
(The amount entered should match the income total in your uploaded budget.)
3. **Enter the total amount of expenses:**
(The amount entered should match the expense total in your uploaded budget.)
4. **Budget Notes:** Explain any items that need clarification to help panelists interpret your budget. Additionally, if your budget is not balanced (i.e., your income exceeds your expenses or vice versa, your expenses exceed your income), explain your intentions. For example, how will excess income be utilized if there is a net profit? Alternatively, how will you secure the funds needed if there is a deficit, where your income sources fall short of your expenses? It's OK if your budget is not balanced; however, you will want to explain any discrepancies so that panelists can understand your plans.

Budget notes can be bulleted or in a narrative format—whichever is easier, so long as the concept is clear and easy to understand. We strongly encourage each applicant to provide budget notes; however, if you have none, enter “Not applicable.” *(150 words)*

SECTION 6: SUPPORT MATERIALS

Support materials accompany the review of applications and are critical in helping panelists acquaint themselves with your business. Generally, it is best to select recent support materials (2019 or later) and, if applicable, materials related to your project. We also recommend avoiding support materials with poor visibility or audio quality.

Panelists will review materials for up to five (5) minutes in total. If you upload text or image-based materials, five pages equate to 5 minutes. Please note that if you are submitting more than one type of support material, you cannot submit the recommended total for each type. For example, you can submit 3 minutes of video and two pages of text or image-based materials but NOT 5 minutes of video and five pages of text/image-based materials.

San José Creative Economy Fund

2023 Application Preview

The Application Preview is for REFERENCE ONLY.

Requirements

- Only one support material is required; however, applicants can submit up to three.
- **Support materials must be uploaded directly to Submittable. We will not accept documents that link to an external platform. Failure to upload support materials directly to Submittable will result in your application being marked as incomplete and, therefore, ineligible for funding consideration.**
- There is a size limit of 400 MB per uploaded file and 800 MB for the complete application submission. If uploading a video, cue the video to the desired start time or include playback instructions in the support material description, if applicable.
- We strongly advise all applicants to test their materials for functionality before uploading. Corrupted, password-protected, or otherwise inaccessible support materials will render the application incomplete and ineligible for review.
- Each uploaded support material must be accompanied by a one- to two-sentence description that includes contextual information and viewing/playback instructions if applicable. For example, “Contractor bid per signage replacement, 2023” or “Promotional video for a woman-owned business pop-up that I produced as part of the February 2022 XYZ Festival. Start sample at 00:05:03 and play until 00:08:18.”
Note: the field to enter the support material description will appear AFTER your file is uploaded. It is otherwise not visible.

We will accept the following file formats:

- **Video:** .avi, .mp4, .mov, and .mpg files accepted. If your video is more than 5 minutes, include the desired start/end times in the support material description. We recommend the MPEG4 (H.264) format with a minimum 640x480 resolution and MP3 audio. Resizing your video to these specifications before uploading it will help your video look better.
- **Text/Image-Based Materials:** .doc, .docx, .png, and .pdf files accepted. Up to five (5) letter-size (8.5 x 11 inches) pages of ephemera accepted. We recommend combining individual ephemera into a single document. Examples of text/image-based materials include marketing materials, press, letters of support, letters of commitment, project bids, brochures, and other collateral.

For technical assistance (e.g., 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.

SECTION 7: 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.*

**San José Creative Economy Fund
2023 Application Preview**

The Application Preview is for REFERENCE ONLY.

- *I will use my business.*
 - ❖ Provide the business 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. **Image:** Upload a landscape-oriented photograph (2019 or later) that is representative of your business with a description that includes the names of any individuals in the photo (L to R), location, photographer credit, and year. [.jpg, .png, and .pdf file formats accepted] Note: the field to enter your image description will appear AFTER your image is uploaded. It is otherwise not visible.

SECTION 8: CERTIFICATION

I certify that I have read and met the eligibility requirements stated in the Creative Economy Fund guidelines and that all the 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.

[check box] By checking this box, I certify that the above is true.