
FY2019 Young Professionals Grant Program Guidelines



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Purpose

The attraction and retention of young professionals to our region is a top priority for Greater Cincinnati. Compared to our peer regions across the country, Cincinnati is seeing slower growth in this key demographic. Maintaining a workforce that is diverse in age is vital to a thriving, growing community. Business and civic leaders, including the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber, are focused on finding ways to build awareness among young professionals about Cincinnati and to engage more deeply those that are already here.

ArtsWave's research on arts engagement in our community revealed the power of the arts to attract, engage, and retain residents. Community members who reported a high level of arts engagement also showed high levels of civic engagement, reported a growing circle of friends, and had a higher opinion of the quality of life in Greater Cincinnati. The arts deepen roots in the region. As part of the Blueprint for Collective Action, ArtsWave's 10-year action plan, we are being intentional about creating and funding more arts activities and programs that target young professionals and help them to become more deeply rooted in Greater Cincinnati.

The ArtsWave Young Professionals (YP) Grant Program began in 2016 and is an initiative that provides funding to support programming that engages young professionals. The funding to support the FY2019 YP Grant Program will come from donations made by young professionals to the 2018 ArtsWave Community Campaign.

Who May Apply

ArtsWave believes that strong arts create strong communities, and actively seeks to promote access, equity, and inclusiveness in its grantmaking. ArtsWave will not award grant support to organizations that, in their constitution, bylaws, or practices, discriminate against a person or group because of age, race, national origin, ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation, political affiliation, or religious belief. In doing so, we seek to promote respect for all people.

To be eligible for the FY2019 YP Grant Program, an organization must meet all the following criteria:

- Have a primary mission to provide programs or activities in areas directly concerned with arts or cultural heritage for the general public;
- Be based in the Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN MSA, which includes the following counties: Brown, Butler, Clermont, Hamilton and Warren Counties in Ohio; Boone, Bracken, Campbell, Gallatin, Grant, Kenton, and Pendleton Counties in Kentucky; and Dearborn, Ohio and Union Counties in Indiana; and
- Have a 501(c)3 tax status.

Eligible Requests

ArtsWave recognizes there is a lack of resources dedicated to programming specifically for young professionals. This grant program is designed to provide both seed funding to support the development of new programming, as well as short-term operating support for existing programming with a demonstrated impact.

To be eligible for the FY2019 YP Grant Program, the proposed programming should:

- Be participatory, social, and recurring
- Encourage personal investment in the organization and/or community
- Seek to increase engagement among young professionals who are already engaged
- Strive to reach young professionals that are not already engaged
- Have a plan for long-term sustainability

Proposed programming must begin before December 31, 2018, or a solid plan must be in place to begin programming within the first quarter of 2019.

Grant Amounts

Grant awards will be given up to \$25,000. There is no matching funding requirement for this grant; however, priority will be given to proposals that have a financial commitment from other sources (including in-kind).

Letter of Interest

All interested applicants must complete a Letter of Interest (LOI) through the online grant submission system. The LOI consists of three sections:

1. Organization Profile
 - a. Name
 - b. EIN
 - c. Address
 - d. Website
 - e. Twitter Handle
 - f. Instagram Handle
 - g. Chief Professional Officer Contact Information
 - h. What is your organization's annual budget?

- i. Provide your 30 second “elevator speech” that you share to describe your organization and its role in the community? (75 words)
- j. Describe your organization’s target population/audience, including geographical reach. (75 words)

2. Program Summary

- a. Is this a new program? Yes/No
- b. Provide a brief written summary of your proposed program. (300 words)

3. Grant Contact Information

To access the online Letter of Interest form, click [here](#).

LOIs must be submitted via the online grantmaking system by May 15, 2018 5:00 p.m. for consideration. Late LOIs will not be accepted.

LOI Review Process

The LOIs will be screened by a review panel comprised of members of the ArtsWave YP Committee. Each committee member will submit a list of those applicants they believe should advance to the full application stage. Based on the popular vote, up to 10 applicant organizations will be asked to submit a full application.

Key Dates

Letter of Interest Due	Invitations to Apply Sent	Full Application Due
5/15/18 by 5:00pm	Early June	7/11/18 by 5:00pm

Funding Decision	Grant Payment	Programming must begin by	Progress Report to Committee
Late August	Mid-September	12/31/2018	Feb 2019