



2023 Creative Corps Inland SoCal Guidelines & Instructions

Background

In 2021, the California state budget allocated a one-time statewide funding of \$60 million to the California Arts Council (CAC) to implement the California Creative Corps (CCC) that will create jobs in the arts and develop the infrastructure for California artists to engage more deeply in public work in a sustainable way. The Inland Empire Community Foundation (IECF) was awarded a \$4.75 million grant from the CAC to administer the California Creative Corps Program in the Inland Empire.

Creative Corps Inland SoCal

IECF, Arts Connection- The Arts Council of San Bernardino County, Riverside Arts Council and California Desert Arts Council, are coordinating to regionally implement the statewide Creative Corps program. Named Creative Corps Inland SoCal, it is primarily a media, outreach, and engagement campaign that will support Inland SoCal artists, cultural practitioners, and nonprofits in new work to create awareness in four key areas identified by the state: Public health and pandemic recovery, water and energy conservation, disaster preparedness and recovery, civic engagement, and social justice.

Goals

- Put artists, creatives, and culture bearers to work in service to their communities.
- Fund projects and work that address one or more of the four (4) key topics that were identified at the state level:
 - Public health awareness and pandemic recovery
 - Public awareness of environment-related issues, such as water and energy conservation, climate mitigation, and emergency preparedness, relief, and recovery
 - Civic engagement and voter participation
 - Social justice and community engagement
- Serve communities in Quartile 1 (highest priority) on the California Healthy Place Index map – or HPI map.
- Regrant directly to artists; and regrant to organizations and agencies to hire artists.

Tribal Commitment

We acknowledge that we are embarking on new work on unceded ancestral and traditional tribal lands. We are committed to supporting our ongoing relationships with tribes and affirm our intentions for creating ongoing relationships that honor the culture and practices of Native communities and to strengthen our awareness of historical and contemporary issues throughout this work. We invite Native artists and culture bearers into this work. Visit native-land.ca to find out more about on whose land you currently reside.

Accessibility

Applicants must demonstrate that programs, projects, services, information and facilities where funded activities are to take place, including online spaces, will be accessible for individuals with disabilities, including but not limited to individuals who are Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Deaf-Blind, have difficulty speaking, have a physical disability, visual disability, developmental disability, learning disability, mental illness or chronic illness.

DEI Statement

Creative Corps Inland SoCal is committed to:

- Ensuring the just and equitable disbursement of resources.
- Bringing together stakeholders with differing backgrounds and life experiences that will enhance our ability to increase opportunities for ALL arts service organizations, artists, culture bearers to succeed.
- Engaging in a continual practice of listening, learning, and implementing.

Who Can Apply (Eligibility)

I. Organizations

- Nonprofit, public benefit organizations with evidence of tax-exempt status under Section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code and not classified as a private foundation
- Fiscally sponsored organizations:

An applicant organization that is without nonprofit status must use a California-based fiscal sponsor with a federal 501(c)(3) designation to apply for funding. Fiscal sponsors must have a minimum two-year history of consistent engagement in arts programming and/or services prior to the application deadline. A Letter of Agreement between the fiscal sponsor and the applicant organization must be signed by a representative from both parties and submitted with the application. If a grant is awarded, the fiscal sponsor becomes the legal contract holder with IECE.

- Local government unit, municipality, or a Tribal authority.
- Organizations that operate so that they do not discriminate in the hiring of staff or in providing services on the basis of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, national origin, or disability.
- Organizations that are located and serve residents of Riverside County and/or San Bernardino County

II. A) Individual Artists, Creatives, or Culture Bearers/Practitioners OR

B) Individual Artist applying on behalf of a Collective

- 18 years or older
- Residents of Riverside or San Bernardino County
- Proposed project work should take place in Riverside or San Bernardino county and serve a community in Quartile 1 on the HPI

Healthy Places Index- this is our focus for projects and funding allocations

Applicants must demonstrate strong, ongoing relationships with communities that fall within the lowest quartile of the [California Healthy Places Index](#) and will support meaningful engagements with those communities. The HPI map uses indicators of health – economic circumstance, education, and social factors to rank census tracts from highest to lowest in the order of their impact as social drivers of health. On the HPI map, they are shown in quartiles with dark blue representing Quartile 1 – indicating areas of the highest need on the Healthy Places Map. This grant requires a focus on service to Quartile 1, or highest priority communities, on the census tract version of the HPI map, which are represented in dark blue.

See attachment for list of Zip Codes pertaining to HPI highest priority communities.

Artistic, Cultural and Creative Disciplines (ie performing arts, visual arts, media, theater, etc).

- **Dance** - contemporary, hip-hop, ballet, jazz, tap, house, dance and movement traditions and forms of all cultures; circus arts
- **Literary Arts** - poetry, zine-making, spoken word, excerpts from novels, literary criticism, essays, prose; literature, architectural research, creative writing, poetry, scriptwriting, spoken word
- **Media Arts** - animation, video, digital photography, film, podcasts, other forms of new media; cinema, digital arts, visual arts, graphic design
- **Music** - traditional/culturally specific, folk, jazz, hip-hop, punk, classical, composition, vocal production, recording, group performance, instrumental works
- **Theatre** - devised, original works, playwriting, productions; readers theater
- **Traditional, Cultural, and Folk Arts** - basketry, embroidery, weaving, woodcarving; storytelling, puppetry, community circles and gatherings, intergenerational learning, paper mache
- **Visual Arts** - murals, exhibitions, 2D & 3D works, photography, sculpture, clay works, curatorial training; ceramics, metal working, textiles, woodworking and carving, drawing, painting, printmaking, moving image, illustration, arts and crafts, fiber arts, assemblage
- **Multi-media** – creative combinations of media genres, hybrid forms of technology and experimental works
- **Social Practice Arts** – an art medium that focuses on engagement through human interaction and social discourse
- **Culinary and culturally-specific practices**
- **Other Creative Process**

Four Focus Areas - Examples and Inspiration

Applicants must focus on at least one of the four focus areas below. Examples of projects were uplifted directly from artists at our listening sessions. ***The following examples are only an introduction to creative ways to engage these topics. We invite you to craft projects that push the boundaries of civically and socially engaged art projects, and we encourage you to think broadly about how artists might become more integrated into community-based work long after the grant has ended.***

I. Environment-related issues

Local Example: [Noe Montes - local photographer captures Air Pollution in the Inland Empire](#). Photographer Noé Montes was commissioned by the California Air Resources Board to travel through the Inland Empire and document the impacts of air pollution. In this personal photo essay, he shows how the goods movement industry is changing the landscape and affecting residents' quality of life.

- Community based murals or creatively placed murals
- Annual water conservation festival
- Create more green space in unused or abandoned spaces within community

II. Civic Engagement & Voter Participation

- Film festival with storytelling that attracts a multigenerational audience that encourages civic engagement
- Podcasts that uplift community issues
- Dialogue based gatherings and education focused events and workshops
- Coordinated content and illustrations to promote voter awareness

III. Social Justice & Community Engagement

Local example: [Bridges that Carried Us Over Project: Documenting Black History in the IE](#). The “Bridges That Carried Us Over Project: Documenting Black History in the IE” is a community-based collaborative initiative aimed at documenting Black history in the Inland Empire.

- Community renovations for basketball courts and parks
- Oral history and documentaries on historical and current community leaders
- Story-telling centered events and projects

IV. Public Health & Pandemic Recovery

Local Example: [A Space Between Us](#) is a series of artworks documenting pandemic stories from residents throughout San Bernardino, CA by artist Tamara Cedré in collaboration with her community as part of the Your Actions Save Lives state-wide art campaign to stop the spread of COVID-19.

- Health education and outreach for available services, including mental health
- Social determinants of health awareness (ie. homelessness services, through symposium)

Grant Categories and Amounts:

\$2.4 million is available to grant to Nonprofits

- 1) Nonprofits and agencies who will employ artists & culture bearers - \$25,000 to \$150,000
 - 80% of funds must be used to hire artist(s) and/or culture bearer(s)
 - No more than 20% of funds may be used for administrative and program expenses (supplies)
 - A nonprofit or agency should apply with a lead artist or group of artists in mind, but the nonprofit must submit the application, not the artist.
 - o A nonprofit or agency does not need to have the artist identified at the time of application, but a clear timeline and equitable process for identifying the artist must be included in the application. We recommend applicants under this category attend the workshop on How to Work with Artists. Special pacing and support will apply to applicants of this nature and will receive mentoring from staff.

Artists can only be funded/hired through ONE application. They may be included in multiple applications, but may only be paid through ONE project application.

\$1.4 million is available to grant to Individuals and Culture Bearers

2) Individual Artists and Culture Bearers

- Applying independently - \$10,000 to \$50,000;
- Applying collectively as a smaller group (3 or more artists, creatives, and culture bearers working together), with no affiliation to a 501c3 organization or fiscal sponsorship - \$50,000 to \$100,000
 - o Must identify one lead individual to apply

No more than 20% of funds may be used for program expenses (travel, supplies, etc)

Artists can only be funded/hired through ONE application. They may be included in multiple applications, but may only be paid through ONE project application.

What We Do Not Fund – see Attachment "[What We Do Not Fund](#)"

Timeline

- November-December 2022: Information sessions and outreach
- January-February 15, 2023: Regional Listening sessions
- February 16 to March 10, 2023: Program Design Team co-design RFP
- **March 16, 2023: RFP Announcement and Opening**
- **May 1, 2023: Application Submission deadline**
- Week of June 5: Decision making meeting
- June 15: Grant awards announced
- July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024: Funded grants performance period
- July 1, 2024 to September 15, 2024: Culmination events/activities, final reports

Workshops and Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance (TA) Workshops	Date (2023)	Time
Online Information session: View Here	March 30th	5-6:30pm
Project Narrative: Register Here	April 4th	5-6:30pm
Budgeting for Large Grants: Register Here	April 6th	5-6:30pm
Working with Artists - for cities and other- Register Here	April 12th	5-6:30pm
Accessibility Considerations and Tips: Register Here	April 13th	5-6:30pm
Virtual Office Hours, Networking and Support		
Networking (Public Health): Register Here	April 4th	3:30-5pm
Support and TA (IECF): Register Here	April 11th, 18th & 25th	3:30-5pm
Networking (Civic Engagement): Register Here	April 5th	12-1:30pm
Support and Mentoring (CDAC): Register Here	April 12th, 19th & 26th	12-1:30pm
Networking (Environment): Register Here	April 6th	12-1:30pm
Support and Mentoring (AC): Register Here	April 13th, 20th & 27th	12-1:30pm
Networking (Social Justice): Register Here	April 7th	12-1:30pm
Support and Mentoring (RAC): Register Here	April 14th, 21th & 28th	12-1:30pm
Mixers & Info Session		
Riverside at the Eastside Arthouse: Register Here	March 25th	5-7 pm
San Bernardino at The Garcia Center for the Arts: Register Here	March 31st	6-8pm
Joshua Tree Area at Mojave Desert Land Trust: Register Here	April 1st	5-7pm
Coachella Valley Area at CREATE Center for the Arts: Register Here	April 6th	5-7pm

Victorville - Artists of the High Desert : Register Here	April 4th	6-8pm
Needles Center, Palo Verde College: Register Here	April 5th	12-2pm
Blythe - Nizhoni Sanctuary Register Here	April 10th	5:45-7:45pm

Data Collection, Evaluation and Reporting Expectations

The California Arts Council requires successful applicants receiving awards to collect data and have tracking systems in place to organize and maintain data for reporting, accountability, and evaluation purposes. Creative Corps Inland SoCal will provide assistance and help identify tools on how to track activities in ways that are accessible, easy and unintimidating.

Application Review Criteria

A review panel will evaluate completed and eligible applications based on the following criteria: Health equity, Organizational/Individual Capacity and Readiness, Program Design and Implementation, Community Engagement, Accessibility.

HOW TO APPLY

1) Complete the application form on the online portal.

A. Organizations, agencies and tribal government: [Apply Here](#)

B. Artists, culture bearers, and collectives: [Apply Here](#)

2) Please submit the following supplemental documents in **PDF** format.

Organizations, Agencies, Departments, Tribal Governments

- Your current 501(c) (3) final determination letter from the IRS, if applicable
- Project Budget Page & Budget Narrative
- 2023 operating budget (Current calendar or fiscal year)
- Fiscal sponsors: An applicant organization that is without nonprofit status must use a California-based fiscal sponsor with a federal 501(c)(3) designation to apply for funding. Fiscal sponsors must have a minimum two-year history of consistent engagement in arts programming and/or services prior to the application deadline. A Letter of Agreement between the fiscal sponsor and the applicant organization must be signed by a representative from both parties and submitted with the application. **If a grant is awarded, the fiscal sponsor becomes the legal contract holder with IECE.**

Artists, Culture Bearers, Collectives

- Letter(s) of recommendation from community partners (**One** for Individuals applying solo; **Two** for individual applying on behalf of a Collective)
- Artistic work, past or relevant work samples (At least **one** for individuals applying solo; two for individual applying on behalf of a Collective)

- Project budget page and Budget narrative
- For Collective applicant, an MOU or collective agreement signed by all artists working on the project

Questions: Email questions to creativeIE@iegives.org

Notification of Results

All applicants will be notified of the results, in writing, by June 15, 2023. Please do not contact IECF before this date once the application has been submitted.