

Central Appalachia Living Traditions: Folk & Traditional Arts Experiences Grants FAQ 2023-2024

Q: How do you define the folk and traditional arts?

The folk and the traditional arts refer to art and creative practices that are based in and reflective of the knowledge, practices, and creativity of cultural communities. According to the National Endowment for the Arts, “Community members may share a common ethnic heritage, cultural mores, language, religion, occupation, or geographic region. These vital and constantly reinvigorated artistic traditions are shaped by values and standards of excellence that are passed from generation to generation, most often within family and community, through demonstration, conversation, and practice.”

Q: What do you consider a NEW project or a project that expands and/or diversifies existing programming?

A: New projects constitute initiatives that will first launch within the project period of this grant (March 1, 2024 – February 28, 2025). Projects that expand or diversify existing programming could include a new component of an existing program, such as a new showcase at an ongoing festival, a new episode series of an existing podcast, or a documentation initiative within an existing archival collection. These new components must launch within the grant project period and must meet all other grant criteria.

Q: What do you mean that an archival collection or fieldwork must have a “significant public-facing component”?

A: To be eligible for this grant opportunity, any proposed documentation work, such as fieldwork or oral history interviews, must be tied to a public-facing component. Examples may include a digital archival collection that will be accessible online and shared with the documented community, a public exhibit created from materials generated during fieldwork, a podcast created from audio interviews, a performance series of artists/practitioners documented in the collection, etc. We encourage you to conduct any documentation project in collaboration with the documented community at every step of the process, from project design to final product. If an archival collection is to be compiled from already existing materials, those materials should be made accessible to the public and home community, through open online access, repatriation of materials, and/or direct outreach.

Q: Can I apply as an individual artist/practitioner?

Yes! Of course, your proposed project must meet all grant criteria. If funded, you will be required to submit a W9 form, and you will be issued an IRS 1099 form for the grant amount. No fiscal sponsorship is required.

Q: If I am applying as an individual artist/practitioner do I need to be a resident of Appalachian Regional Commission-designated Appalachian counties in Ohio, Virginia, or West Virginia?

Yes, both organizational and individual applicants must be located in or residents of an Appalachian Regional Commission-designated Appalachian county in Ohio, Virginia, or West Virginia. In some cases, organizations and artists/practitioners that are located adjacent to but primarily serve communities in the designated counties will be considered, as long as the proposed project serves communities in the designated counties and meets all other grant criteria. See a list of ARC-designated Appalachian counties [here](#).

Q: Does my organization need to be located in an Appalachian Regional Commission-designated Appalachian county in Ohio, Virginia, or West Virginia?

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