

*If you have any questions as you prepare your application, please contact
Tina Lilly, Grants Program Director, at
tlilly@gaarts.org or (404) 962-4827.*

*Individuals with disabilities requiring assistance with this information or information in a different format please
contact Tina Lilly, Grants Program Director
Georgia Council for the Arts
75 Fifth St. NW
Atlanta, GA 30308
404-962-4827 tlilly@gaarts.org*

**Applicants should thoroughly review the guidelines before preparing the application.
The deadline to submit the applications is August 31, 2016 at 5:00.**

GCA Mission

The mission of Georgia Council for the Arts is to cultivate the growth of vibrant, thriving Georgia communities through the arts

GCA Goals

- **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** Use the arts to promote Georgia's economic growth
- **COMMUNITY IMPACT:** Support strong connections between artists, arts organizations and the public resulting in community connections and an improved quality of life
- **ADVOCACY:** Act as a catalyst for increased public awareness of the value of the arts and of Georgia's rich cultural heritage
- **CAPACITY BUILDING:** Invest in the sustainability and advancement of Georgia's creative sector

Introduction to the Vibrant Communities Grant

The Georgia Legislature allocated funds to GCA specifically to increase the reach of arts grants across the state. These grants are intended to fund arts programs in as many counties as possible.

Timeline for Vibrant Communities

August 31, 2016	Deadline for application
Late September, 2016	Applicants are notified whether or not they received an award
October 1, 2016	Grantees may begin working on projects
Mid-October, 2016	Deadline for grantees to return grant contracts and required forms
Mid-October-May	Grantees may submit a Request for Reimbursement form. This form can only be submitted once the grantee has spent money on the project. The grant will then reimburse the organization for the expenses.
June 1, 2017	Project must be completed and Final Report is due.

Training

GCA will offer an online training webinar on the Vibrant Communities guidelines on August 17, 2016 at 1:00. GCA staff will review the required elements of the application, offer tips on setting up a project, and answer questions from participants. Applicants are not required to participate in the webinar in order to submit an application. To register, go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/vibrant-communities-webinar-tickets-26486807755>

Eligible Applicants

An eligible applicant must be located in a county in which no organization received an FY17 GCA Project, Partner or Arts Education Grant. Eligible organizations located within the following counties may apply:

Appling	Clay	Forsyth	Jones	Oglethorpe	Terrell
Atkinson	Clinch	Franklin	Lamar	Paulding	Toombs
Bacon	Coffee	Gilmer	Lanier	Peach	Treutlen
Baker	Columbia	Glascocock	Laurens	Pickens	Turner
Baldwin	Cook	Glynn	Lee	Pierce	Twiggs
Banks	Coweta	Gordon	Liberty	Polk	Union
Barrow	Crawford	Grady	Lincoln	Pulaski	Upton
Bartow	Crisp	Greene	Long	Putnam	Walker
Ben Hill	Dade	Habersham	Lowndes	Quitman	Ware
Berrien	Dawson	Hancock	Lumpkin	Randolph	Warren
Bleckley	Decatur	Haralson	Macon	Rockdale	Washington
Brantley	Dodge	Harris	Madison	Schley	Wayne
Brooks	Dooley	Hart	Marion	Screven	Webster
Bryan	Dougherty	Heard	McDuffie	Seminole	Wheeler
Burke	Douglas	Henry	McIntosh	Spalding	White
Butts	Early	Houston	Meriwether	Stephens	Wilcox
Calhoun	Echols	Irwin	Miller	Stewart	Wilkes
Candler	Effingham	Jackson	Mitchell	Sumter	Wilkinson
Catoosa	Elbert	Jasper	Monroe	Talbot	Worth
Charlton	Emanuel	Jeff Davis	Montgomery	Taliaferro	
Chattahoochee	Evans	Jefferson	Murray	Tattnall	
Chattooga	Fannin	Jenkins	Newton	Taylor	
Cherokee	Fayette	Johnson	Oconee	Telfair	

An eligible applicant organization must be physically located in one of the Georgia counties listed above and must be one of the following:

- A non-profit organization that has been designated a 501(c)3 organization by the IRS and is registered with the Georgia Secretary of State
- A local government entity (state and federal government entities are not eligible)
- A public library
- A school, college or university

Eligible Applications

Eligible applications must:

- Propose an arts project that will be completed between October 1, 2016 and June 1, 2017. (The grant period cannot be extended. If your application lists project dates that are outside of this period, the

application will be ineligible for review. If you receive an award and then your project is not completed by June 1, 2017, your grant will be cancelled.)

- Propose an arts project that will take place within the county in which the applicant is located
- Include a 50% cash match in the budget
- Not include programming that promotes a specific religious doctrine or political party or candidate
- Not be a fundraising event
- Be the only application from an eligible organization. (Multiple applications from the same applicant will not be considered for funding.)
- Be submitted with no missing components by the deadline of August 31, 2016.

Eligible Projects

Eligible projects could include, but are not limited to:

- performances (theatre, dance, or music)
- art exhibits
- workshops/classes
- demonstrations
- readings
- murals
- sculpture
- residencies
- in-school programs
- festivals

Projects may involve professional artists and/or local community members. For instance, a community could present an exhibit of work by a professional artists or a showcase of work by local non-professionals.

Eligible projects may also include capacity-building projects, such as attendance at an arts conference, the engagement of a consultant to complete a strategic plan, etc.

While this grant will support in-school programs for students under age 18, it will not support programs exclusively for college/university students.

This grant will not support programs that are not arts-based. Examples of ineligible programs include, but are not limited to: history or science-based exhibits or lectures, magic shows, petting zoos, rental of inflatable jumpers, war reenactments, face painters, balloon twisters, cooking/culinary events, jugglers, 5K races and other physical education events, and fireworks.

Artists and Arts Organizations

GCA has compiled a list of artists and programs that could be funded with a Vibrant Communities grant.

Applicants are not required to use an artist on this list. GCA is providing the list as a reference for organizations that are looking for projects for their communities. You may find the Vibrant Communities Artist List here:

<http://gaarts.org/grant-funding/apply-for-a-grant/available-funding>

In addition to using the Vibrant Communities Artist List to find programs, you could contact the following groups to see if they have programs to present in your community:

- Regional arts organizations (organizations that serve multiple counties with arts programming)
- Theatres, dance companies, or other performing arts organizations
- Bands, choral groups or orchestras

- Museums
- Sculptors, painters, photographers, or any other visual artist
- Artist guilds

If you have questions about programs or if you need contact information for arts organizations that serve your area, contact Tina Lilly at tlilly@gaarts.org or 404-962-4827.

Funding Request

Vibrant Communities Grant applicants may request no more than \$5,000 and no less than \$1,000. The budget must show a 50% cash match for the request amount.

Deadline

The application and all required components must be submitted no later than **5:00 PM on August 31, 2016**.

Ineligible Applications

Applications that are submitted after the deadline that do not contain all of the required information or are submitted by applicants that do not meet the eligibility requirements will be ruled ineligible for review and will not be reviewed by the panel. Additional information will not be accepted after the deadline.

False Information

Any grant award made based on false information in the application may be canceled by GCA at any time.

Timeline

Grant announcements will be made via e-mail in in late September, 2016.

Application

To submit an application, go to <http://gaarts.org/grant-funding/apply-for-a-grant/available-funding> and click on [FY17 Vibrant Communities Application Form](#). Complete the required information on the form and then hit SUBMIT at the end of the form. There are more instructions regarding each element on the application form.

These are the elements of the Vibrant Communities application:

- Narrative (required)
- Budget (required)
- Support Material (optional)
- IRS 501(c)3 Letter (required if the applicant is a non-profit organization)