



FY26 Arts Education Program Grant Final Report Guidelines

Contact Emily Yewell Volin, Grants and Arts Education Program Manager, with questions
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UNUSED GRANT FUNDS

GCA expects grant recipients to use all the grant funds awarded for the project proposed and approved through the application process. If a grantee is not going to spend the total grant amount, grantees must notify GCA early enough in the fiscal year for our agency to reallocate those funds to another arts project. If GCA is not informed about unused funds until late in the fiscal year (May-June), there is not sufficient time to reallocate the funds, and they must be returned to the state's general fund. In the recent past, unused funds in one year have had a negative impact on GCA's budget in the following year.

Also, GCA is allowing FY26 grantees to submit Change Forms, which will allow changes to the funded project, including a change of dates up to June 30, 2026, a change of project, conversion to a virtual project, or cancellation of the grant and release of the funds back to GCA. Contact the grant manager if you need to submit a Change Form.

Please help us protect and utilize all of the state's arts appropriation by submitting your Final Report on time and notifying GCA as soon as possible if you believe you will not utilize all your grant funds.

DEADLINE

Arts Education Program Grant Final Reports are **due no later than 30 days after the funded program is completed**. For projects that are completed on June 30, 2026, final reports are due no later than **July 31, 2026**. Final Reports received after the deadline may result in cancellation of the contract balance. In addition, Grant Review Panels for the next immediate grant cycle following the Final Report deadline will be notified if any applicant submits a late FY26 final report, which may impact the organization's final scores.

FINAL REPORT SUBMISSION

FY26 Arts Education Program Grant Final Reports will be submitted via the GCA online grant system – <http://gaarts.org/apply>

ABOUT THE FINAL REPORT

ONLINE FINAL REPORT COMPONENTS

The following will be completed online within GCA's online grant system:

- **General Information and GCA Data**
- **NEA Data**
- **Narrative**
- **Financial Information**
- **Authorized Signature**

The following will be uploaded to the final report in GCA's online grant system:

- **Actual Income and Expense Final Report Form**
- **Supporting Documentation – Examples of GCA Credit**
- **Supporting Documentation – Photos**
- **Supporting Documentation – Curriculum Materials**
- **Letters to the Governor and Legislators**
- **Contractor's Request for Reimbursement Form (CRR)**

The following will be completed via these links:

- **Change of Information Form** - <https://gaarts.org/apply>
This is only required if the person signing the final report is not listed as an authorized official in the organization's original grant application. The Change of Information Form may be found by signing in to GCA's online grants system, clicking Apply at the top of the page, and choosing the Change of Information Form.

GCA ONLINE GRANT SYSTEM

All FY26 Final Reports must be submitted via GCA's online grant system: <http://gaarts.org/apply>. This is the same system through which grantees submitted their FY26 grant applications.

After you log in, go to your Applicant Dashboard. You will see your FY26 Arts Education Program Grant Application. Below the application, you will see a section titled Follow-Up Forms. Under that section heading will be a form entitled Final Report - FY26 Arts Education Program Grant. To access the form, click the EDIT link to the right.

Once you have accessed the FY26 Arts Education Program Grant Final Report:

- If you want a PDF copy of the Final Report, click the Question List button.
- Note that all fields with an asterisk are required fields.
- The system will auto-save every 100 characters typed or every time you click out of a field.
- The narrative fields have character limits. Responses that are longer than the set limit will be saved, **but** an error message will appear informing you that the limit has been exceeded. You will not be allowed to submit the form until the number of characters is below the limit set for that question.
- If you save and exit the system, you will access the draft of your report from your Dashboard the next time you log in. Pick up where you left off by clicking the EDIT link to the right of the listing for the Final Report – FY26 Arts Education Program Grant.

ONLINE FINAL REPORT FORM

The following Final Report components must be completed:

GENERAL INFORMATION AND GCA DATA

Organization's Fiscal Year Start Date – Enter the date the organization's fiscal year begins.

Organization's Fiscal Year End Date – Enter the date the organization's fiscal year ends.

Number of Adults Engaged – Total number of adults engaged in the funded program.

Number of Youth Engaged – Total number of youth (age 18 and under) engaged in the funded program.

Number of Artists Directly Involved – Total number of artists participating in the funded program.

Please be sure that the number of adults engaged, the number of youth engaged, and the number of artists participating reflect the actual figures from your program.

Full-Time Employees – Enter the total number of people employed full-time by the organization receiving the grant.

Part-Time Employees – Enter the total number of people employed part-time by the organization receiving the grant. This total should not include contractors.

Full-Time Jobs Supported by This Grant – Enter the total number of full-time jobs supported in whole or in part by the grant funds received.

Part-Time Jobs Supported by This Grant – Enter the total number of part-time jobs supported in whole or in part by the grant funds received. This total should not include contractors.

Counties Served – Select all counties in which grant-funded programming took place.

Address Where the Funded Program Took Place - In the fields below, enter the address where the funded program occurred. If the program took place in a location without a specific address, enter only the city, state, and zip code.

- *Venue Street Address*
- *Venue City*
- *Venue State*
- *Venue Zip Code*

If the program occurred at multiple locations, enter the additional addresses, including street number and street name, city, state, and zip code for each location.

If the program occurred at more than ten addresses, upload an Excel file with the addresses, including street number and street name, city, state, and zip code for each location.

Length of Program – Number of Days the Funded Program Took Place

GCA Survey Data

The Georgia Council uses the information in this section for the Arts for statistical purposes. For each question, choose the best answer from among the choices provided in the online form.

Alignment with GCA Goals - Choose the GCA goal(s) your program helped support. Choose all that apply.

- Catalyze Economic Development: GCA will spur development through programs and research.
- Enrich Individual Lives: GCA will build access to programs that advance learning in the arts.
- Build Community Vitality: GCA will advance efforts to integrate the arts into community development
- Tell the Story: GCA will coordinate efforts to promote the story of the power of the arts.

Answer the following yes or no questions regarding your FY26 GCA Arts Education Program Grant:

- Would your organization have had to cut back on the scope of the program if you had not received this GCA grant?
- Did your organization leverage this GCA grant to help raise additional money?
- Do you feel that other funders look more favorably on your organization if GCA funds it?
- Would jobs have been affected had your organization not received this GCA grant? For instance, would you have had to cut the number of projected jobs, part-time hours, or number of artists, designers, contractors, etc., if your organization had not received the GCA grant?
- Did this GCA grant allow your organization to reach new audiences?
- Did this GCA grant allow your organization to launch a new collaboration or partnership?

Benefits to the Community

Choose all statements that are true about your program.

- The program provided arts experiences that were new to local residents.
- The program strengthened community networks and engagement.
- The program supported economic development in the area.
- The program offered training to build sustainability for artists and arts organizations.
- The program was educational for students.

NEA DATA

The National Endowment uses the information in this section for the Arts for statistical purposes.

For each question, choose the best answer from among the choices provided in the online form.

- Applicant Status
- Applicant Institution
- Applicant Discipline
- NEA Primary Strategic Outcome/Objective
- Project Discipline
- Type of Activity of Project
- Arts Education Description (% of project activities that are arts education)

For the following three questions, from among the options provided, please select all categories that, by your best estimate, made up 25% or more of the population that directly benefited from the award during the support period. These responses should refer to populations reached directly rather than through broadcasts or online programming.

- Population Benefited by Race/Ethnicity
- Population Benefited by Age
- Population Benefited by Distinct Groups

NARRATIVE

GCA uses Final Reports to compile information about the impact of GCA grants on our state. Please take time to provide thorough and thoughtful answers to the narrative questions. If your answers are incomplete, you will be contacted for additional information.

Below are the questions you must answer in the narrative section of the final report form. The character limit for each answer is 1,500 characters unless otherwise indicated.

Program Design, Goals, and Evaluation

- Listed above is the project description provided in the application. Provide a summary of how the program described in the application was implemented, including program activities, program dates, artists and educators, and the location or venue for the program. If any of these aspects of the program differed from what was described in the original application, please note those differences and why changes were made.
- Referencing the specific goals or outcomes listed above from the application for the funded program, discuss your organization's progress toward meeting each goal listed in the grantee's original application. If your organization did not meet the goals identified for the program, please discuss why the goals were not met. (Note: Arts Education Program goals should focus on how the funded program benefited the students, not just the organization.)
- How did your organization evaluate or measure the program's effectiveness in achieving each goal? Describe the evaluation tools that were used.

Student Impact and Access

- Who was the target student audience for this program, and how did the program reach them? How did the students that the applicant serves benefit from this program?
- How did the applicant engage underserved students with this program? (Note: Underserved students lack access to art education because of any barrier, such as language, geography, socioeconomic status, physical ability, etc.)
- What steps did the applicant take to ensure that the venues and locations for the program were accessible to people with physical disabilities?

Program Excellence and Outcomes

- Please confirm whether the program met the measures of program quality as outlined in the original application, including:
 - the personnel managing the program
 - the artistic and academic personnel, including teachers and teaching artists
 - the partners engaged in program planning, implementation, and evaluation
 - the involvement of local teachers, parents, or other members of the community in the planning process
 - adherence to state and/or national education standards or other measures of academic quality
 - adherence to a sequential and ongoing curriculum and/or how the program impacted the academic progress of students participating in the programIf the excellence of the program as implemented was significantly different from what was presented in the application, please explain how it was different and why.
- Did receiving the GCA Arts Education Program Grant have a positive impact on program implementation or make a difference in the outcomes of the funded program? If so, please explain the impact of GCA funding on the program implementation and/or outcomes.
- Please describe a specific story or anecdote that illustrates the value or outcomes of the funded program for students, teachers, parents, and/or families in your school or community.

Georgia Learning Standards Alignment, Assessment, and Curriculum Design

- Please share how the program effectively aligned with and included assessment for grade-level appropriate Georgia Learning Standards in Fine Arts as outlined in the application.
- If this was an arts integration or STEAM program, describe how it effectively aligned with the assessment for grade-level appropriate Georgia Learning Standards in Fine Arts and the relevant core content area(s) as presented in the application.
- Please describe how the arts education program was a meaningful part of a sequential and ongoing curriculum or other identified program representing academic progress.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Provide the following information for the funded program in the online final report form:

- Total Actual Expenses
- Total Actual Income
- Actual In-Kind Contributions

ATTACHMENTS

The following items will be uploaded to the Final Report.

ACTUAL INCOME AND EXPENSE FINAL REPORT FORM

Click [here](#) to access the FY26 Arts Education Program Grant Actual Income and Expense Final Report Form. Enter the actual income and expenses with breakdowns for the funded project, then upload the form to the final report.

Please note:

- Include **ALL** income and expenses for the project
- Total income and total expenses do not have to be even; however, the report form must show at least as much total income as total expenses. Forms showing more in total expenses than total income will be returned to the grantee for correction.
- The report **MUST** show at least a 50% cash match for the grant award amount. For instance, if your organization received a \$5,000 grant, the report must show that your organization raised at least \$2,500 in income from sources other than GCA. Expenses must be at least 1.5 times the grant award amount. For instance, if the grant award is \$5,000, total expenses must be at least \$7,500.
- If the total expenses or income for the project decreased by more than 20% from the application budget, explain the overall decrease in the space indicated on the form (tab 2). Also, explain whether or not the decrease had an impact on the overall quality of the project.

Breakdowns are required for the following lines:

EXPENSES

1. Personnel-Administrative
2. Personnel-Artistic
3. Outside Fees
5. Remaining Expenses

INCOME

18. Revenue-Other

- The breakdown should include a description and amount for all items that make up the total for that line.
- For lines 1 and 2 (personnel), list the positions included in the total for that line. You do not have to list the individual salary for each position. Indicate whether each position is full-time (FT) or part-time (PT)

- Organizations with multiple employees in similar positions may group those positions together and list the number of positions included.

The following are **ineligible expenses**:

- Capital Expenditures/Equipment, which are permanent fixtures or equipment with a useful life of over one year that cost more than \$10,000 or the capital level cost established. This included:
 - Buildings or real estate/land purchases
 - Construction, renovations or improvements involving structural changes
 - Roads, driveways, parking lots or projects/repairs
 - Permanent or generally immobile equipment
- Fundraising event expenses, as well as general fundraising expenses
- Programming outside of Georgia
- Programs that are not arts-based
- Tuition for college/university study
- Scholarships, gifts, prizes, or awards. This includes cash prizes, gift certificates/gift cards, or any other cash equivalents with monetary value
- Endowment funds or cash reserves
- Debt and interest associated with capital expenditures
- Depreciation
- Bad debt, fines and penalties or deficit reduction
- Alcohol, concessions, food, or drinks
- Entertainment expenses, such as receptions, refreshments, staff or cast parties, staff awards, flowers, etc.
- Late registration fees for conferences
- Fees paid to lobbyists, lobbying activities
- Goods for resale, including concessions, promotional merchandise, clothing, or other items purchased for sale
- Improvements to arts facilities that also serve as private residences
- Severance pay, legal settlements
- Travel and accommodation expenses that are over the rate allowed by the state of Georgia (see <http://gsa.gov/portal/category/100120> for a breakdown of travel rates)
- Any air travel not on a U.S. flag air carrier or a foreign air carrier under an air transport agreement with the United States when these services are available
- Prohibited telecommunications and video surveillance services and equipment produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities
- Audit costs that are not directly allocable to a federally required Single Audit
- Contributions or donations to other entities
- Rental costs for home office workspace owned by individuals or entities affiliated with your organization
- Vehicle purchase costs
- Visa costs paid to the US Government
- Any expenses labeled as miscellaneous, other, additional expenses, discretionary expenses, slush fund, etc.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION - GCA CREDIT VERIFICATION

Attach an image of publicity material from your program, which documents compliance with the GCA logo and crediting requirements. Examples include, but are not limited to, flyers, brochures, postcards, posters, web pages, press releases, tickets, ads, etc. DO NOT SEND HARD COPIES OF ANY MATERIAL. If you did not print material for your program, or if the material was printed before the grant announcement, then attach a list of how GCA was credited, such as through an announcement before an event. GCA logos and logo requirements are available on the website at:

<https://gaarts.org/what-we-do/grants/gca-logo-requirements/>.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION - PHOTOS

Attach at least one (1) and no more than four (4) photos documenting your funded arts education program. Photos submitted may be used by GCA in printed or online material. GCA prefers JPG pictures, allowing for both print and digital use. For the Arts Education Program Grant, GCA prefers photos that illustrate the process of the funded program and demonstrate student engagement. In the box available online in this section, please enter any applicable information, such as the photo credit, the production name, the artist whose work is pictured, etc.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION – CURRICULUM MATERIALS

Attach at least one (1) and no more than two (2) documents demonstrating the content of your funded arts education program, such as lesson plans, study guides, or other curriculum materials.

LETTERS TO THE GOVERNOR AND STATE LEGISLATORS

All FY26 grantees are required to write and send letters to the Governor and their two State Legislators describing the project and thanking them for their support. Copies of these letters should be combined into a single document and uploaded to the final report. Letters should include the following information:

- the number of people served by the organization
- the ways that the organization serves its community
- the ways that the GCA grant will better enable the organization to serve its community
- an invitation to the funded program(s) (if applicable)

Letters to the Governor should be addressed to:

Governor Brian P. Kemp
206 Washington Street
Suite 203, State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

If you need contact information for your state legislators, go here: https://openstates.org/find_your_legislator/. On this page, enter the physical address of the organization receiving the grant, including street address, city, state, and zip code, and then click Search by Address. The results will include your State Representative (lower chamber) and your State Senator (upper chamber). Click on the elected official's name to access their address and email.

CONTRACTOR'S REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT (CRR) FORM

Upload a completed copy of the final CRR with a physical signature or certified digital signature through the Adobe Sign & Certify tool. A typed name **will not** be accepted as a signature.

The CRR form can be found here: <http://gaarts.org/what-we-do/grants/arts-education-program-grant/>.

Please note the following:

- The address on the CRR must match the address that is in GCA's online grant system and in the state accounting system.
- No CRR will be processed if requirements from the preceding fiscal year, the Contract Package, or the Final Report are outstanding.
- **Each CRR must be submitted with receipts totaling the reported total actual expenses. Please combine the completed CRR form with the receipts as a single PDF file and upload the file to this section of the final report form.**

Please note: Mailing or e-mailing the CRR rather than uploading it to your final report will delay the processing of your report and your final payment.

ADDITIONAL FINAL REPORT INFORMATION

CHANGE OF INFORMATION FORM

This form is only required if the person signing the final report is not listed as an authorized official on the original application.

Submit the Change of Information Form by logging in to your account in GCA's online grant system and completing the Change of Information Form. GCA's online grant system is available at <http://gaarts.org/apply>. Click on the home icon to access your dashboard. Then scroll down to the Change of Information Form and click edit to complete and submit the form.

QUESTIONS

If you have questions about the final report form or attachments, please do not hesitate to contact GCA staff.

- For questions about the final report form or GCA grants in general, contact:
Emily Yewell Volin, Grants and Arts Education Program Manager, evolin@gaarts.org or 404-962-4015
- For questions about grant contracts, grant payments, the CRR form, or residency verification, contact:
Delilah Johnson-Brown, Grants Specialist, dbrown@gaarts.org or 404-962-4837