request for proposals
Donor Circle for the Arts
Introduction
Silicon Valley Community Foundation’s Donor Circle for the Arts is proud to have granted more than $730,500 to emerging arts organizations in our region since its inception in 2008. Its mission is simple: to support emerging artists working with underserved populations, and to expand arts opportunities for the diverse cultural communities of our region.

The Donor Circle is now accepting grant applications for 2019 and 2020.

Eligibility Criteria
For arts groups requesting funding:

• Nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations and individual artists with nonprofit fiscal sponsors
• Based in Santa Clara or San Mateo counties only
• Annual budget of $1,000,000 or less
• Fits into one of six categories (Arts Education programs within each discipline will be considered)
  1. Theatre
  2. Music
  3. Dance
  4. Visual Arts
  5. Media (e.g. film, digital media, etc.)
  6. Literary Arts (e.g. spoken word, poetry, etc.)

• All or portions of the organization’s mission must be to serve an underserved population (must be more substantive than simply donating tickets to underserved groups). If the organization’s main mission does not serve an underserved population, then the grant for which they apply must be designated to a specific project that does.
• Seeking project and/or general support grants
• Organization representatives must be able to meet in person with the Donor Circle for the Arts on designated meeting date
2019-20 Application Schedule and Meeting Dates
(subject to change)

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<th>Arts Discipline</th>
<th>RFP Application Deadline</th>
<th>Donor Circle Meeting Date</th>
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<td>Visual Arts</td>
<td>April 15, 2019</td>
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<td>Dance</td>
<td>July 1, 2019</td>
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<td>Media Arts</td>
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<td>June 10, 2020</td>
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To Apply
To apply for a grant for any of the six arts disciplines, please answer the questions below and please email your application answers in the form of a Word document no longer than two pages to donorcircleforthearts@siliconvalleycf.org. Application deadlines are listed above, and late applications will not be accepted.

Application Questions
1. What are the Mission, Vision and Values of your organization?

2. What is the organization’s leadership and organizational capacity? Share facts about the executive leadership and board, as well as tenure, etc.

3. Share the financial facts of the organization, including current operating budget; operating reserve and liquidity; mix of revenue sources; and administrative cost ratio.

4. How much are you requesting, and for what is your organization seeking funding? It can be a specific project or general operating support, as long as it ultimately serves an underrepresented population. Be specific.

5. What are the organization’s goals for impact and social return on the investment of the grant for which it is applying? Share data points and metrics, potential quantitative impacts and qualitative results.

6. What are the organization’s future plans and projections, as well as challenges and solutions?
About Silicon Valley Community Foundation

Silicon Valley Community Foundation advances innovative philanthropic solutions to challenging problems. We engage donors and corporations from Silicon Valley, across the country and around the globe to make our region and world better for all. Our passion for helping people and organizations achieve their philanthropic dreams has created a global philanthropic enterprise committed to the belief that possibilities start here.

Learn more at siliconvalleycf.org.

More Information

If you have questions, please contact us at donorcircleforthearts@siliconvalleycf.org or call 650.450.5526

RFP revised December 2019
Proposals accepted until September 2020

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