



request for proposals

Donor Circle for the Arts

Sparking Creativity in our Community

Introduction

Silicon Valley Community Foundation's Donor Circle for the Arts is proud to have granted more than \$441,000 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 2015 and 2016.

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

Proposed Meeting Date Schedule for 2015 and 2016:
(subject to change)

- July 14, 2015 – Theatre
- September 15, 2015 – Music
- November 10, 2015 – Dance
- February 9, 2016 – Visual Arts
- April 5, 2016 – Media
- November 8, 2016 – Literary Arts

To Apply

To apply for a grant for any of the six arts disciplines, please answer the questions below.

Then, please email your application answers in the form of a Word document to donorcircleforthearts@siliconvalleycf.org. For questions, email Tobi Becerra at tsbecerra@siliconvalleycf.org or call 650.450.5496.

Applications are due one month prior to the proposed meeting date for each art form.

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 potential quantitative impacts and qualitative results.
6. What are the organization's future plans and projections, as well as challenges and solutions?



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Headquarters

2440 W. El Camino Real, Suite 300 • Mountain View, CA 94040

T: 650.450.5400

About Silicon Valley Community Foundation

Silicon Valley Community Foundation makes all forms of philanthropy more powerful. We serve as a catalyst and leader for innovative solutions to our region's most challenging problems, and through our donors we award more money to charities than any other community foundation in the United States. SVCF has \$6.5 billion in assets under management. As Silicon Valley's center of philanthropy, we provide thousands of individuals, families and corporations with simple and effective ways to give locally and around the world.

Find out more at siliconvalleycf.org.

More Information

If you have questions, please contact us at grants@siliconvalleycf.org or call 650.450.5557

To get all the latest grantmaking information, follow us on Facebook and subscribe to our community e-newsletter at siliconvalleycf.org/publications.

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Proposals accepted until November 2016