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 $850,000.00 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 currently accepting grant applications through September 15, 2022.

Awarded grants will range from $3,000 to $7,000 per selected organization.

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 County only
• Annual budget of $500,000 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
To Apply
To apply for a grant, please answer the questions below. Applications will be accepted in written or video/audio format. The choice of format will not affect the decision-making process for this grant round, and instead is intended to provide flexibility to the applicant.

Written Format
- Word Document
- No longer than two pages
- Send document to donorcircleforthearts@siliconvalleycf.org

Video/Audio Format
- Link to video/audio on YouTube, Vimeo, Google Drive or MP3 File
- Informal format such as interview or discussion of questions
- No longer than four or five minutes
- Send link or file to donorcircleforthearts@siliconvalleycf.org

Application Questions
1. What are your organization’s Mission, Vision and Values?
2. What is your operating budget?
3. Share one of your program’s successes from last year.
4. How does your work support underserved populations?
5. How would this grant support your work going forward?
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 650.450.5400.