



OREGON ARTS
COMMISSION

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Oregon Arts Commission Announces September Deadline for Arts Recognition Grant Applications

Streamlined Online Application Process Available to Applicants

The Oregon Arts Commission has announced that its Arts Recognition grant program is now open for online application. The deadline for fall 2008, applications is September 11, 2008.

The Commission makes \$1,000 Arts Recognition awards to Oregon arts organizations that have a record of excellence in programming, service and organizational capacity, and seek to advance their marketing and outreach programs to raise their profile in the community.

The Arts Commission established the Arts Recognition Grants to serve as a visible indication of Commission support and to assist in raising an organization's profile and in leveraging other funds and resources. "We know from the first two years of funding that recognition of quality arts programs can help arts groups increase resources to stabilize programs and start new initiatives. We view the Recognition Grants as a way to add the Commission's 'seal of approval' to Oregon's strong and vibrant arts groups that we are not able to support at a higher financial level," said Christine D'Arcy, Executive Director of the Arts Commission.

The Commission uses a simple online application process for the Recognition Grants, and encourages proposals from small to mid-size arts groups from all regions of the state that have not received funding from the Commission in the past twelve months. Oregon arts organizations applying for the recognition must have been in existence at least two years and must have 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status from the IRS and corporate non-profit status in the state of Oregon.

Applicants must apply online by 10 pm, by September 11, 2008 for the fall deadline through the grants section of the Arts Commission's website: www.oregonartscommission.org. Additional information is available from Shannon Planchon, Assistant Director, (503) 229-6062.

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The Oregon Arts Commission believes that the arts and culture are touchstones of community and civic life and that it is essential to preserve, stabilize and develop their central role in Oregon. The Commission provides leadership, funding and arts programs through its grants, special initiatives and services. Nine Commissioners, appointed by the Governor, determine arts needs and establish policies for public support of the arts. The Arts Commission became part of the Economic and Community Development Department in 1993 in recognition of the expanding role the arts play in the broader social, economic and educational arenas of Oregon communities. In 2003, the Oregon Legislature moved the operations of the Oregon Cultural Trust to the Arts Commission, streamlining operations and making use of the Commission's expertise in grantmaking, arts and cultural information and community cultural development. More information about the Oregon Arts Commission is available at www.oregonartscommission.org

The Arts Commission is supported with general funds appropriated by the Oregon legislature, federal funds from the National Endowment for the Arts and funds from the Oregon Cultural Trust.