



Meet-Up Grant Presentation
May 8, 2020



What we're covering

- Funding Opportunities
 - National Endowment for the Humanities CARES grants
 - Vermont Humanities Council & Vermont Arts Council
 - PLA Libraries Lead with Digital Skills Initiative
 - PLA/Microsoft Micro Grant for Rural Libraries
 - IMLS CARES Act Grants
 - Vermont Community Foundation
 - Building Communities Grants (State of Vermont)
- Grant tips
- Funding sources

NEH CARES Grants

- To provide emergency relief to institutions and organizations working in the humanities that have been affected by the pandemic.
 - Education
 - Public programming
 - Digital humanities
 - Scholarly research
 - Preservation and access

NEH CARES Grants, cont.

- Maximum award amount \$300,000
- Due Date May 11th
- Requires DUNS and registration with SAM.gov and grants.gov
- Information here: <https://bit.ly/2AaX53o>
 - Includes instructional webinar on applying for the grant

Vermont Humanities Council & Vermont Arts Council

- Partnership between 2 organizations, can apply to one or both organizations
- Deadline is May 31st but applications are reviewed on a weekly basis until funding is exhausted so apply asap!

<https://www.vermonthumanities.org/covid-19/emergency-relief-grants/>

Eligibility

Vermont arts and/or humanities organizations with 501(c)(3) status* experiencing hardship due to the impact from COVID-19:

- Risk of permanent closure
- Loss of significant revenue
- Loss of paid staff
- Loss of venue or workspace

*Groups without this status may apply using a fiscal agent such as Friends groups.

Required Information

- Federal Tax ID Number (or EIN)
- Data Universal Number System (DUNS) number.
- If your organization or fiscal agent does not have a DUNS visit the link below. There is no fee and the process takes just a couple days.

<https://www.grants.gov/applicants/organization-registration/step-1-obtain-duns-number.html>

Grant Amounts

- Annual operating budget up to \$200,000: \$5,000 grant
- Annual operating budget between \$200,000 and \$750,000: \$7,500 grant
- Annual operating budget larger than \$750,000: \$10,000 grant

Purposes for Humanities Council Grants

- General operating support
- Humanities programming
- To pay fees to humanities scholars and/or other individuals participating in humanities programming

Purposes for Arts Council Grants

- Salaries
- To pay fees for artists and other contracted personnel
- Facilities' costs, such as rent and utilities
These grants do not require a match.

Special Considerations: underserved populations

- People of color or indigenous people
- People who identify as LGBTQ+
- People who live in rural areas
- People with disabilities
- People who identify as immigrants or refugees
- People whose first (or only) language is not English
- Who is underserved in YOUR community?

Application requirements: it's not that long!

- Annual Operating Budget
- Profit and Loss statement from most recent FY
- Summary of arts/humanities programming
- Population served
- Service to underrepresented populations
- Impact of COVID-19 on your organization
- If awarded, a brief final report is required

Questions:

vtcovidculturere relief@gmail.com

PLA: Libraries Lead with Digital Skills

- \$2,000 grants, applications due June 1st
- Who should apply: Public libraries seeking to provide virtual programming, outreach, and education to address the digital skills gaps of job seekers, entrepreneurs, and small businesses.
- Application & reporting are minimal

<http://www.ala.org/pla/initiatives/google>

PLA/Microsoft Public WiFi Access Micro Grant

- Wifi Hotspots to 50 rural libraries
- Open to libraries with locale codes of 41 through 43 (152 VT public libraries)
- **Due May 11th, 11:59pm ET**
- Details and application: <http://www.ala.org/pla/initiatives/publicwifi>

IMLS CARES Act Grants for Museums and Libraries

- To support the role of museums and libraries in responding to the coronavirus pandemic.
- Topics: preserving jobs, training staff, addressing the digital divide, planning for reopening, or providing technical support and capacity building for digital inclusion and engagement. **Emphasis on services offered to high communities.**
- Informational webinar from IMLS: [Thursday, May 14, 2:00-3:00 PM ET](#)
- Application deadline **June 12th**

<https://www.imls.gov/grants/apply-grant/available-grants>

Vermont Community Foundation (VCF)

- VCF offers a variety of grants that fit a variety of needs
- Great ‘starter’ grants
 - Dollar amounts, deadlines, application requirements vary
- Opportunities include
 - Spark Connecting Community
 - Nonprofit Capacity Building
 - Special and Urgent Needs
 - Paul Post Fund for Libraries (for young adult programming)
- Place-based grants!

Building Communities Grants (State of Vermont)

- Open to non-profit organizations or municipalities
- Funded by Capital Appropriations and State Bonding Act
- Matching funds required—in kind requirements vary
- Available to Vermont libraries
 - Cultural Facilities Grant Program (Vermont Arts Council/State of VT)
 - Human Services and Educational Facilities Grant Program
 - Historic Preservation Grant Program

Building Communities Grants (State of Vermont): Cultural Facilities Grant

- Offered through Vermont Arts Council
- Examples of projects eligible for funding include:
 - improvements to wiring, heating, lighting, and plumbing
 - accessibility features such as elevators, lifts, assistive listening systems, ramps, and bathrooms
 - hazard mitigation efforts such as flood gates, rain gutters, or sprinkler systems
- Vermont municipalities or nonprofit organizations incorporated in the State of Vermont
- Awards range from \$1,000 to \$30,000 and must be matched on a 1:1 basis. At least 50% of the match must be in cash. Up to 50% can be in well-documented in-kind materials and/or labor.
- Application deadline is July 27, 2020.

Building Communities Grants (State of Vermont): Human Services and Educational Facilities Program Grant

- This grant program is open to municipalities and non-profit organizations that provide human services and educational services in an individual community or recognized community service area.
- The maximum grant amount awarded is \$25,000 per project
- For each dollar requested, documentation must be provided to show that \$1.00 has been raised in hand(not pledged) from non-state of Vermont sources. No in-kind of labor, materials, etc.
- Deadline July 31, 2020
- The grant application process is intended to be simple and handwritten applications are acceptable. We do not encourage having professionally prepared materials created for this application. Short, simple, and to the point applications are greatly appreciated and supported!

Building Communities Grants (State of Vermont): Historic Preservation Grant Program

- Offered through the State of Vermont
- Projects to repair and/or restore historic building features are eligible. Work must meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation to qualify for funding.
- Properties owned by non-profit organizations or municipalities must be either listed or determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places to qualify.
- Grants of up to \$20,000 are available on a 1 to 1 matching basis. This is a reimbursement program.
- Applications for 2021 will be available this summer.

Proposal tips

- Start by reviewing entire call for proposal
 - Develop checklist and timeline
 - Notify outside supporter(s) as early as possible
 - Read successful proposals when available
- Tell your own story – talk about what makes you unique
- Write in the third person
- Use clear and concise language
- Use “active” verbs
- Avoid jargon
- Don't wait 'til the last minute!

Resources for locating potential funders

- The Foundation Center’s “Visualizing Funding for Libraries” tool
<http://libraries.foundationcenter.org/>
- The Vermont Directory of Foundations Online
<https://fdovermont.foundationcenter.org/>

Questions?

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