

Are current OCF grantees eligible to apply? Can organizations apply to multiple OCF initiatives? Yes, current OCF grantees may apply. Organizations may apply for and receive grants from multiple OCF grant programs, but only one proposal per grant program will be accepted per year. Current Creative Heights grantees are only eligible to apply if they have submitted their final report for their previous Creative Heights grant.

What is the full application timeline and when will funding be disbursed? Letters of Interest are due by midnight February 15. Full applications will be invited in early April for a May deadline. Applicants will be notified shortly after the OCF board decision in early August. Funding will be disbursed by late August.

Does the applicant have to be a 501(c)3? Yes, only Oregon-based 501(c)3 non-profits are eligible to apply. Unincorporated artists and groups can apply in partnership with a fiscal sponsor. Fiscal sponsors must be Oregon-based, and any sponsored projects should fall within the sponsor's mission. For additional questions, please contact OCF staff.

Is it expected that funded projects will result in a work of art or some kind of public presentation? Not necessarily. Organizations can apply for funding for any phase of creation of a new work including research and development prior to public presentation. Certainly proposals may include a public component, but it is not required.

How does Creative Heights apply to cultural organizations? For cultural organizations, new work could include research and creation of new/innovative exhibits, presentations, or other activities that meet the intentions of Creative Heights.

Must all projects produce new/original work or can they be adaptations of classical or traditional works? Projects can be innovative adaptations of traditional works, however there must be a solid case that this is a stretch or risk for the participating artists and organization.

Would a proposal for presenting non-Oregon artists or works be competitive? Presenting non-Oregon artists could be competitive if there was significant participation by Oregon artists or other collaborators on the project as well. Proposals that do not engage Oregonians will not be competitive.

Would a project in its early stages be able to apply for expansion or further development? Yes, if a project is currently in development, a proposal could include further development and presentation, however it would be necessary to articulate how this phase of work would be a stretch or risk for the collaborators and organization and not simply a continuation of current practice.

What percent of a project budget will OCF fund? There is no set percentage, but we understand that taking a strategic risk requires dedicated risk capital outside operating expenses. Due to this special need, OCF is willing to fund the majority of the project budget.

Do projects need a sustainability plan? *No, we see these as one-time projects.*

How many years of funding will OCF provide? *Organizations will apply for one-time support of their projects, but will have up to two years to use their funding.*

If an organization is funded, can it reapply in subsequent years for other projects? *Yes, provided the previously funded project is completed.*

What will evaluation look like? *Evaluation requirements for grantees will consist of short written reflections and conversations with an evaluator at the start of the grant, mid-point, and completion of project.*

What kind of risk-taking or innovation is OCF looking for? *We are looking for elements of experimentation and artistic or curatorial evolution that keep an organization's work vibrant and relevant and may provide an organization with the potential for learning and/or meaningful change.*

How will OCF evaluate feasibility, innovation and excellence in Letter of Inquiry and application review? *Please see the "Review Criteria" section of the Creative Heights RFP.*

What constitutes a risk or stretch for an organization whose mission is focused on creating new and/or innovative works? *In the case of these organizations, creating a new work would not in-and-of itself be a risk, so we would be looking for elements of development or creation that are a stretch or new to the organization and project collaborators. The project should be distinctive from the collaborating artists' prior work in scope, scale and/or practice.*

Will organization size or geographic location play a role in funding decisions? *No, organizations of all sizes can be competitive. The project funding range (\$10,000 - \$100,000) for Creative Heights is intentionally broad in order to allow for projects of all sizes. In terms of geography, OCF hopes to fund throughout the state, however there are no pre-determined regional allocations for this initiative.*

If you still have questions after reviewing this document, please contact Michelle Boss Barba at 503.227.6846 or mbossbarba@oregoncf.org.