



## **Blue Water Arts Council- Grant making guidelines**

### **Grant Policies:**

- Grants are made to organizations for programs/projects within the Blue Water Area for “charitable” purposes. Grants are awarded for specific purposes and projects covering a finite period of time.
- The BWAC will encourage participation of the community in project funding and will consider providing matching funds or challenge grants to stimulate increased response from other sources.
- All programs must be non-sectarian.

### **Preference is given to projects which meet one or more of the following criteria:**

- Allow an organization to increase constituents served and/or provide current services in a more cost-effective manner.
- Promote public art projects, especially those engaging youth and community collaboration and partnership.
- Arts education.
- Encourage efficient use of current services and resources through collaboration, improved service delivery and minimize or avoid duplication of services and programs.
- Promote community volunteerism and community involvement through innovative approaches and techniques.
- Focus on the under served sectors and/or diverse population of the community.
- Programs and projects focused on the promotion of Arts and Culture.
- Operating support for arts organizations that have at least 2 years of documented financials and/or experience.

### **The BWAC review process pays special attention to the following:**

- Are there other logical sources of funding than the BWAC?
- Is the proposed activity well conceived and is its budget realistic?
- If the proposed activity were to be funded from several sources, would the amount that they BWAC is prepared to contribute significantly affect the program’s likelihood of success?
- More specific and relevant to Operating Support Applications:
  - Is the applying organization well run, with an active and well-qualified board and/or a competent staff/ volunteer base capable of implementing the proposed activity?
  - What is the organization’s financial condition and fiscal history?

**Site Visit/ Presentations:**

- The BWAC reserves the right to conduct a site visit with all organizations submitting a grant application.
- As part of the evaluation process, the BWAC reserves the right to conduct a site visit with all organizations receiving a grant.

**Accountability:**

- Within twelve months after a grant is received or upon completion of the program or project funded, a grant recipient must report on the expenditure of grant funds and the status of the project(s) supported using the BWAC “FINAL GRANT REPORT” form. The Final Grant Report will be used when evaluating future requests.
- Final reports must also include the following:
  - Number of constituents served
  - Demographics of constituents served such as gender, age, race and socioeconomic status (when available)
- Any funds not spent for the specific purpose of a grant must be returned to the Foundation.
- Grant recipients must use the BWAC logo on any promotional material used within reasonable scope of receiving a grant.
- Grant recipient should use the practice of mentioning the BWAC as a supporter of said organization in any and all promotional material, radio interviews, public promotion, etc. within the scope of the grant.

\*In considering grants, the BWAC operates without regard to age, race, religion, sex or national origin and awards grants only to organizations that observe similar nondiscriminatory policies.