



# MIA

## MIAMI-DADE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS FY 2025-2026 MIAMI INDIVIDUAL ARTISTS (MIA) GRANTS PROGRAM GUIDELINES

**\*\*\* PLEASE READ ALL MATERIALS CAREFULLY \*\*\***

**THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REVISE INFORMATION PUBLISHED IN THESE GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS.**

FOR QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT:

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- ◆ Para asistencia en español, 305-375-4634 o [culture@miamidade.gov](mailto:culture@miamidade.gov)
- ◆ Pou plis enformasyon 305-375-4634 ou [culture@miamidade.gov](mailto:culture@miamidade.gov)

For more information, visit the [Miami Individual Artists \(MIA\) Grants Program page on our website.](#)

It is the policy of Miami-Dade County to comply with all the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. To request materials in accessible format, sign language interpreters, CART, and/or any accommodation to participate in any Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs sponsored program or meeting, please contact Stephanie Garcia at 305-375-4634 or [culture@miamidade.gov](mailto:culture@miamidade.gov) at least five days in advance to initiate your request. TTY users may also call 711 (Florida Relay Service.)

## PROGRAM OBJECTIVE

The Miami Individual Artists (MIA) Grants Program provides merit-based awards to individual artists of all disciplines in Miami-Dade County on a competitive basis to support their artistic development and practice. In recognition of the contributions of Miami-Dade's outstanding artists to the fundamental vitality and creativity of our cultural community, the MIA Grants Program strongly encourages applications from professional artists of the highest caliber with a recognized body of artwork and who are deeply rooted in Miami's diverse cultural life.

## ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to apply, an artist **MUST**:

- ◆ Be a working professional artist (defined as a person who has created a recognized body of artistic work over a sustained period and pursues this work as a means of livelihood). Professionals who work directly with individual artists - such as curators, arts administrators, producers, or presenters - are **not** eligible to apply;
- ◆ Be at least 18 years of age;
- ◆ Be a legal resident of and have worked in Miami-Dade County for at least one (1) year at the time of application. This means your home in Miami-Dade County is your primary residence and is the address you use for legal forms.
- ◆ Pursue the development of artistic activities and practice during the program funding period of **October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026**. Activities may include, but are not limited to, performances, presentations, exhibitions, workshops, research projects, development/creation of new work, etc.
- ◆ Be a working professional artist in dance, film/media arts, folk/traditional arts, literary arts, multi-, inter-, trans-, post-disciplinary arts, music/sound art, theater, or visual arts (see below for more guidance). Applicants must be actively engaged in their artistic practice.

Students pursuing undergraduate or graduate degrees, non-professionals who engage in the arts as a hobby or employees and advisory board members of Miami-Dade County and their immediate families are **not** eligible.

Applications from ensembles, artist collectives, duos, or collaborative associations are **not** eligible to apply. Artists affiliated with ensembles, collectives, duos, or collaborative associations **are** eligible to apply; however, the artist's endeavors and work samples presented in the application must reflect those of the applicant. If the work was developed collaboratively, applicants will be asked to indicate their specific role in creating or presenting the work.

**Recipients of a previous MIA Grants Program award are eligible to apply.** If awarded, the previous year's final report must be submitted and deemed complete before the current year's award can be processed.

## DEADLINE

**Application Deadline: Monday, March 3, 2025, at 11:59 PM**

## ELIGIBLE ARTISTIC DISCIPLINES

Applicants should select the discipline that most closely relates to the artistic practice, work samples provided, and activities detailed in the application.

- **Dance:** including dance and body movement performance, choreography, and/or socially engaged dance-based practices.
- **Film/Media Arts:** including experimental film, short film, animation, documentary film, narrative film, screenwriting, and/or socially engaged film/moving image-based practices.
- **Folk/Traditional Arts:** including artistic practices that express a community's cultural heritage and identity. These traditions are learned informally (through imitation, apprenticeship, etc.) and an artist's excellence is recognized by their cultural community. Genres include music, dance, crafts, dress/costumes, storytelling, and more.
- **Literary Arts:** including poetry, fiction, nonfiction, graphic novels, and/or socially engaged literature-based practices.
- **Multi-, Inter-, Trans-, Post- Disciplinary Arts:** referring to the combination of artistic disciplines, blending of knowledge, working beyond discipline, or challenging/discarding discipline altogether to create flexible and boundary-breaking artistic approaches and practice.
- **Music:** including jazz, composition, music performance, vocal performance, sound art, and/or socially engaged music-based practices.
- **Theater:** including acting, theater design, theater direction and creation, playwriting, and/or socially engaged theater-based practices.
- **Visual Arts:** including painting, sculpture, drawing, photography, design, mixed-media, multimedia, installation, video art, performance art, and/or socially engaged visual art-based practices.

## AWARDS

**Awards of up to \$10,000 will be made to selected artists**, limited to one (1) application per applicant. There is **no** matching fund requirement for this grant award.

Awards will be made to the legal name and mailing address noted on the IRS Form W-9 awardees must complete and return at the time of contracting. Selected artists will have the option to assign their award to their Limited Liability Corporation (LLC).

All funding recommendations are contingent upon approval of the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners and are subject to the availability of funds. Grant award contracts must be fully and duly executed prior to award payment.

## **A MIA GRANTS PROGRAM AWARD CARRIES NO COMMITMENT FOR FUTURE SUPPORT BEYOND THE FUNDED TIMELINE.**

### **HOW TO APPLY**

Applications are accepted online through Submittable (it's free to register and use). [Click here to create a Submittable account](#) or enter <https://artinpublicplaces.submittable.com/signup> into your browser.

### **WHAT YOU NEED TO APPLY**

- **Proof of residency:** Documentation must include your name and address of residence in Miami-Dade County. Visit FAQs for examples of acceptable forms of proof of residency.
- **Artist Resume or Curriculum Vitae (CV)**  
*(Applicants may submit a full-length bio in lieu of a resume or CV if preferred)*
- **Artist Bio (up to 500 Words) – OPTIONAL**
- **Artist Statement** (up to 200 Words): A summary of your artistic practice, work, medium, influences, and unique creative pursuits.
- **Description of artistic activities** and practice being pursued during the grant period of October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026 (up to 500 Words)
- **Work Samples:** Work samples must have been completed within the last three (3) to five (5) years prior to the application date. **Work samples must demonstrate the applicant is actively engaged in their artistic practice.**
  - **Literary Artists, Playwrights, and Screenwriters:** three (3) writing samples up to ten (10) pages each, totaling no more than 30 pages.
  - **Performing Artists (dance, theater, music and sound performance):** three (3) video and/or audio samples up to 10 minutes combined. Video with audio is the preferred medium for panel review.
  - **Music Composers:** three (3) video and/or audio samples up to 15 minutes combined. OPTIONAL: Up to two (2) music scores in PDF or DOC format.
  - **Film and Media Artists:** three (3) video samples up to thirty (30) minutes combined. Time-based media includes but is not limited to, audio-based artwork, filmmaking, video-based artwork, etc.

- **Visual Artists:** up to ten (10) images (high resolution). Visual artists who work in sound, installations, kinetic sculpture, and/or performance art may submit up to three (3) minutes of video, audio or dynamic media files in addition to still images to further describe their work. It is recommended, but not required, that visual artists submit more than one body of work to detail range of practice.
- **Multi-, Inter-, Trans-, Post- Disciplinary Artists:** may choose to submit any combination of up to ten (10) images (high resolution), up to 15 minutes of video/audio samples, up to ten (10) pages of writing.
- **Folk/Traditional Artists** may choose to submit any combination of up to ten (10) images (high resolution), up to 15 minutes of video and/or audio samples. It is suggested, but not required, that a letter of recommendation be submitted from a representative of the community of the folk/traditional art practice. Please visit FAQs for more guidance on letters of support.
- **Supplemental Materials:** (Optional) up to three (3) additional support documents such as articles, catalog essays, letters of support, photos, screenshots of social media posts, video statements discussing practice, process, and/or materials, marketing materials such as postcards, etc.

## SELECTION PROCESS AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

Submissions will be evaluated by a peer review panel of experts assigned by discipline. All panelists are working professionals in the arts such as artists, curators, faculty members, arts administrators, etc. In addition to artistic expertise, age, gender, race, geography, relationship to arts and culture, and other factors are considered when convening application peer review panels.

To make their recommendations the panelists will consider each eligible application. Panelists will use the criteria below to evaluate all applications. After individual review, panelists gather for group review, discussion, and consensus on recommendations.

Submissions will be judged by the following criteria:

- **Excellent artistic merit, accomplishments, and intention:**
  - Application and support materials demonstrate artistic excellence through an established, recognized body of artistic work and accomplishments over a sustained period.
  - Application and support materials demonstrate consistency within the artistic practice.
  - The work samples and information provided are relevant, cohesive, and demonstrate the artist's potential to advance in their career.
- **Quality and scope of the artistic activities and practice pursued during the grant period:**

- The quality and scope of the proposed artistic activities align with the applicant’s artistic practice and demonstrate a clear path for growth and development.
- The application clearly identifies ways the grant can positively impact the artistic practice.

## APPROVAL PROCESS

The slate of selected artists and award recommendations will be submitted to the Miami-Dade County Cultural Affairs Council, the Department’s volunteer advisory board, for approval. The Council’s decision is considered final and may not be appealed.

Upon approval by the Cultural Affairs Council, recommendations are forwarded to the Board of County Commissioners and Mayor for final approval.

Awardees will receive an award package including a grant agreement, other required documents and instructions for completion. These documents must be completed before the grant award can be processed.

Properly completed grant agreements are submitted to the Director of the Department of Cultural Affairs, then the Clerk of the Board for review and execution. Payments will be issued no earlier than December 2025.

## WORKSHOPS

Workshops will be offered in-person and via Zoom to review the program’s guidelines, application, and answer questions:

- Monday, February 3, 2025, 12:00 PM
- Friday, February 14, 2025, 10:00 AM
- Wednesday, February 19, 2025, 3:00 PM
- Thursday, February 27, 2025, 12:00 PM

The workshop is optional; however, interested artists are strongly encouraged to attend. To register visit: <https://miamidadearts.org/miami-individual-artists-mia-grants-program>.

## QUESTIONS?

View Frequently Asked Questions at <https://miamidadearts.org/miami-individual-artists-mia-grants-program-frequently-asked-questions> or contact MIA Grants Program Administrator, Jane Thayer, at [jane.thayer@miamidade.gov](mailto:jane.thayer@miamidade.gov). Questions will be answered **during regular business hours (Monday – Friday, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM)**.

## **PUBLICITY AND CREDIT REQUIREMENTS**

The Grantee must include the following credit line in all printed and electronic promotional and marketing materials related to this grant including websites, news and press releases, public service announcements, broadcast media, event programs, videos, and publications: **"With the support of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners."** For radio, television and/or online broadcast, we require the following voice-over language: **"This program is supported in part by the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs."** For television and online broadcast, display of the County logo and the "[www.miamidadearts.org](http://www.miamidadearts.org)" web address is required. The grantee must also use the County's logo in marketing and publicity materials, including but not limited to newsletters, press releases, brochures, fliers, websites, online content, or any other materials for dissemination to the media or public. The County logo is available at [www.miamidadearts.org](http://www.miamidadearts.org) under Grantee Resources. Grantees are required to credit the County's support in any communications about the grant-funded project on social media platforms using @MiamiDadeArts and #MiamiDadeArts.

**By accepting County funds, the grantee is required to recognize and acknowledge Miami-Dade County's grant support in a manner commensurate with all contributors and sponsors of its activities at comparable dollar levels.**

## **COMPLIANCE AND LIABILITY**

A Final Report is required by November 15, 2026 within forty-five (45) days of the grant end date, September 30, 2026. All documents submitted to the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs at any stage of the application cycle process, including electronic submissions, are subject to the State of Florida Public Records Law, Chapter 119, Florida statutes. (Section 119.011(12), Fla. Stat.). A MIA Program grant is to support artist activities that take place within the County's fiscal year for which it was awarded (October 1 - September 30). All funding recommendations are contingent upon approval of the Cultural Affairs Council and are subject to the availability of funds. Funding will be available for release during the County's fiscal year for which it was awarded (October 1 - September 30).

It is expressly understood and intended that the funded Artist is merely a recipient of a grant and is not an agent or employee of Miami-Dade County, its Mayor, its Board of County Commissioners, or the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs. Funds not encumbered (contracted for) by the end of the County's fiscal year in which they were awarded, or for which a project extension has not been approved, shall revert to the Department of Cultural Affairs on September 30th of the same fiscal year.

All funded activities must provide equal access and equal opportunity in employment and services, and may not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, physical ability, gender identity or gender expression, or status as a victim of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking, in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 as amended (42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.), the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Miami-Dade County ordinances No. 97-170, § 1, 2-25-97 and No. 98-17, § 1, 12-1-98.

*Miami-Dade County provides equal access and equal opportunity in employment and services and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, physical ability, gender identity or gender expression, or status as a victim of domestic violence, dating violence or stalking, in accordance with Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 as amended (42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.), the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and Miami-Dade County ordinances No. 97-170, § 1, 2-25-97 and No. 98-17, § 1, 12-1-98.*

*The Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council develop cultural excellence, diversity, access and participation throughout Miami-Dade County by strategically creating and promoting equitable opportunities for artists and cultural organizations, and our residents and visitors who are their audiences. Through staff, board and programmatic resources, the Department, the Council and the Trust promote, coordinate and support Miami-Dade County's more than 1,000 not-for-profit cultural organizations as well as thousands of resident artists through grants, technical assistance, public information and interactive community planning. The Department directs the Art in Public Places program and serves its board, the Art in Public Places Trust, commissioning, curating, maintaining and promoting the County's art collection. The Department also manages, programs and operates the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center, Dennis C. Moss Cultural Arts Center, Joseph Caleb Auditorium, and Miami-Dade County Auditorium, all dedicated to presenting and supporting excellence in the arts for the entire community. The Department receives funding through the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners, The Children's Trust, the National Endowment for the Arts, the State of Florida through the Florida Department of State, Florida Division of Arts and Culture and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture, the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, the Peacock Foundation, Inc., The Jorge M. Pérez Family Foundation at The Miami Foundation, and the Taft Foundation. Other support and services are provided by TicketWeb for the Culture Shock Miami program, the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau, the South Florida Cultural Consortium and the Tourist Development Council.*