



# WEHO ARTS GRANT PROGRAM

## FILMMAKERS GRANT GUIDELINES

Calendar Year 2026

**Please review this document completely before beginning application.**

### ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS GRANT

The City of West Hollywood is pleased to offer the pilot Filmmakers Grant intended to support film artists with the finishing elements of their project.

Funds may be used for the following: Picture/Sound editing, Additional photography, Post Sound, Color grading, DCP, Music/composing/music rights, VFX.

All grant applications are submitted electronically. Applications are accessed through the City's website at [weho.org/arts](http://weho.org/arts).

**\$10,000 Total amount of available funding**

**\$10,000 Maximum award per grant**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE IS 3 P.M. TUESDAY, JULY 1, 2025.**

### FILMMAKERS GRANT CATEGORY PURPOSE AND OUTCOMES

The purpose for the grant is to support filmmakers with funding for finishing film project, (film must be, at minimum, in rough cut stage with a description of remaining work needed to complete AND must submit the expected date of completion (completion must be within 2026).

- Recognize and champion local cultural resources; discover and explore new places for artmaking.
- Increase revenues for local businesses, and support arts-business partnerships.
- Amplify, express, explore, address, and celebrate identity, experience, and culture.

### FILMMAKERS GRANT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

**To be eligible for consideration, organizations must satisfy the following requirements:**

- Eligible applicants are LA County residents
- Eligible applicants must fulfill one or more of the following roles: director or producer
- Applicants must submit a complete proposal (including the script and budget, production and post-production crew lists, projected post-production budget, schedule and completion plan), and 2 associated work samples from previously executed projects.
- This category does not support the development or creation of work, but rather the completion of existing projects.

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- Thank the City of West Hollywood by adding their logos in the end credits of the film.
- Include the City of West Hollywood in your social marketing campaign.
- Any proposed screenings and exhibitions must take place in West Hollywood or the immediate West Hollywood immediately adjacent (within 5 blocks of the border of West Hollywood).
- Applicants must demonstrate a marketing and outreach strategy targeting West Hollywood residents and constituents.
- If the applicant is already receiving funding from another City Division or Department, or is co-sponsored by a City Council office, they are not eligible for this funding for that same project or program within the same calendar or fiscal year.
- City of West Hollywood elected and appointed officials, its employees and their immediate family members are not eligible to apply.
- Proposed projects may not include fundraisers, capital campaigns, murals, or religious-based programs/events.
- Applicants must apply online by the deadline.

## FILMMAKERS GRANT REVIEW CRITERIA

All applicants will be screened initially by staff to ensure compliance with the eligibility requirements. Applicants who do not meet these requirements will not be forwarded on to the grants panel for review.

**The Peer Review Panel will evaluate and score grant applications using the following criteria:**

- Cohesive and achievable project proposal (0-10 points)
- Clear goals and timeline for finishing project (0-10 points)
- Quality of 2 work samples (0-10 points)
- Quality of proposed submission (0-10 points)
  - Must submit one of the following: trailer, scene samples, script

## WEHO ARTS GRANT PROGRAM GENERAL INFORMATION

The City of West Hollywood through its Arts Division and Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission provides accessible arts and cultural programming for all residents.

The mission of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission is to promote and nurture the arts and cultural life of the City of West Hollywood. The Commission supports quality arts and cultural organizations in the City; promotes arts and cultural activities; and advises City Council on policies affecting the arts and cultural life of the City, its residents and organizations that provide such services to the City.

The City offers a wide range of grant opportunities that support:

- Community-based programs, projects, and events;
- Increased visibility of Transgender artists; and
- Career development of individual artists.

The City of West Hollywood is pleased to offer arts grants to eligible artists and nonprofit arts organizations for the production, performance or presentation of art projects that take place in the City of West Hollywood and that serve the West Hollywood community. These general guidelines pertain to the following grant categories: **Arts Project, Community Arts, Filmmakers, TGI+ Arts, and WeHo Artist.**

## **WEHO ARTS GRANT PROGRAM**

We invite and encourage artists and organizations representing diverse populations and diverse artistic disciplines to apply for these grants. As stated in our Cultural Equity Statement, the City of West Hollywood's Arts Division and Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission's definition of diversity includes all ways in which people differ, including but not limited to, race, ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, education, age, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, ability, geography, citizenship status, religion, language, physical appearance, and the intersection of these various identities. We commit to ensuring cultural equity in all arts policies and practices. Read the Cultural Equity Statement in its entirety at [weho.org/arts](http://weho.org/arts).

All grant applications are submitted electronically. Applications are accessed through the City's website at [weho.org/arts](http://weho.org/arts).

### **ARTS GRANT REVIEW PROCESS**

The City employs a peer panel review process for all grant applications submitted. The review process is a standard process and best practice for government-funded grant programs. The peer review panel consists of five (5) qualified arts professionals and individuals who are experienced in disciplines of the arts or have a record of arts activities, experience, and knowledge. The peer review panel will score applications based on the grant review criteria. Grantee scores are presented to the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee of the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission to assign funding amount recommendations. The Subcommittee's recommendations are reviewed and approved by the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission. The Commission's funding recommendations are reviewed and approved by the City Council.

### **IMPORTANT NOTES**

- All grant information provided by the applicant becomes public record.
- Any organization that accepts grant funding is subject to audit by the City to ensure that grant funds were used for the project as reported by the organization. Should organizations not adequately account for use of the grant funds, they may be ineligible for any further grant funding from the City.

### **EXPECTATIONS DURING FUNDED PERIOD**

- Grantees must provide proof in the form of a Certificate of General Liability Insurance in an amount not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence for bodily injury, personal injury, and property damage.
- Grantees must attend an orientation meeting.
- Grantees are entitled to no more than 10 hours of in-kind City facility usage to be used on one day.
- Grantees are required to pay for any technology consultants (used for any lighting, film screenings, and projections primarily), if utilizing a city facility.
- Funded projects must take place during the contracted period.
- Grantees must submit a Newsletter Advisory Form 60 days prior to presenting the funded program.
- Grantees are required to submit a Final Report within 30 days of completing the funded project.
- Grantee Filmmakers are responsible for obtaining all licenses and clearances in order to legally distribute the film.

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## FILMMAKERS GRANT TIMELINE

Tuesday, July 1, 2025	Application deadline
August 2025	Peer review of grant applications
September 2025	Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee make funding recommendations
September 2025	Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission consider approval of funding recommendations
October 2025	City Council considers approval of funding recommendations
October 2025	Grant recipient notifications
Thursday, November 13 2-4pm	Grantee Orientation (in person at Plummer Park)
January 2026	Earliest award of grant funds* <i>*Award of funds depend on grantee's compliance with contracting requirements, such as insurance.</i>

## ARTS GRANT PROGRAM WORKSHOP

The City will conduct two virtual Arts Grant Program Workshops:

Wednesday, May 21, 2025, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. – ARTS GRANT PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Wednesday, May 28, 2025, 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. – BUDGET ONLY

*The virtual meetings will be recorded. Applicants who are unable to attend the meetings may submit questions in advance. All questions are due by **Tuesday, May 20, 2025 at 5p.m.***

## ARTS PROJECT GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINE

**Application DEADLINE is 3 p.m. Tuesday, July 1, 2025.**

For more information please call: Eva Angeloff at (323) 848-6354 or email [eangeloff@weho.org](mailto:eangeloff@weho.org).

You can also find more information at [www.weho.org/arts](http://www.weho.org/arts)