



WEHO ARTS GRANT PROGRAM

FILMMAKERS GRANT GUIDELINES

Calendar Year 2027

Please review this document completely before beginning application.

ABOUT THE FILMMAKERS GRANT

The City of West Hollywood is excited to continue the Filmmakers Grant (Year 2 of 3) to support local film artists with the exhibition and distribution of their completed film projects.

Grant funds may be used for costs related to sharing your finished film with the public, including:

- Hiring a distribution or impact consultant
- Film festival submission fees
- Marketing materials (posters, trailers, press kits, etc.)
- Other distribution-related expenses

Please note:

- Applicants may only apply to *one* Arts Grant category.
- All applications must be submitted online via the City's website: weho.org/arts

\$10,000 Total amount of available funding

\$10,000 Maximum award per grant

APPLICATION DEADLINE IS 3 P.M. JULY 1, 2026.

FILMMAKERS GRANT CATEGORY PURPOSE AND OUTCOMES

This grant is designed to help filmmakers share their completed work with wider audiences and contribute to the cultural life of West Hollywood. Through this program, the City aims to:

- Celebrate local creative talent and uncover new spaces for artistic expression
- Support the local economy by encouraging partnerships between artists and businesses
- Amplify diverse voices and explore identity, culture, and lived experience through film

FILMMAKERS GRANT ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

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

Applicant Profile

- I am the director or producer of the completed film project.
- I am an individual artist, artist collective, or non-profit arts organization.
- I am based in Los Angeles County.

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Restrictions

- I am **not** a City official, employee, or immediate family member of one.
- The project **does not include**: Fundraisers, Capital campaigns, Murals, Religious-based programs or events.
- I'm applying to only one City of West Hollywood Arts Grant category this calendar year.
- I'm **not** receiving other City funding (from another Division, Department, or City Council co-sponsorship) for the same project.

Project Proposal

- The film is complete and ready for exhibition and distribution (this grant does not fund development or production).
- Any proposed screenings or exhibitions funded by this grant will take place in West Hollywood or within 5 blocks of its border.
- I have a marketing and outreach strategy that targets West Hollywood residents and constituents.
- I will credit the City of West Hollywood in the marketing materials as defined in the grant agreement.

Budget

- I've included a simple, realistic budget showing how grant funds will be used.
- The project budget aligns with the scope of the project and includes any additional funding sources (if applicable).

Work Samples

- I've included a link to the completed film.
- My work samples are clearly labeled and easy to access (e.g., links, images, or files).
- I've included my marketing and distribution plan.

Community Engagement

- I've included a plan to engage the community, such as outreach, audience development, or public participation.

Final Review

- I've reviewed all materials for clarity and completeness.
- I've submitted my application by the deadline.

FILMMAKERS GRANT REVIEW CRITERIA

All submitted applications will first be screened by City staff to confirm eligibility. Applications that do not meet the eligibility requirements will not be forwarded to the Peer Review Panel.

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Peer Review Panel Scoring

Eligible applications will be evaluated and scored by a Peer Review Panel based on the following:

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

Criteria	Description	Points
Project Proposal	The proposal is cohesive, well thought out, and achievable.	0–10
Goals & Timeline	Clear goals and a realistic timeline of screening / exhibition.	0–10
Work Samples	Quality and relevance of the two submitted work samples.	0–10
Submission Materials	Quality of the required submission (trailer, scene samples, or script).	0–10

WEHO ARTS GRANT PROGRAM GENERAL INFORMATION

The City of West Hollywood, through its Arts Division and Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission, provides inclusive arts and cultural programming for all residents. The Commission promotes and nurtures the City’s cultural life by supporting arts organizations, advising City Council on arts policy, and encouraging community engagement through the arts.

The City offers a variety of grants to support:

- Community-based programs, projects, and events
- Increased visibility for marginalized artists
- Career development for individual artists
- Increased support for filmmakers

Arts grants are available to eligible artists and nonprofit arts organizations for the production, performance, or presentation of projects that take place in and serve the West Hollywood community. 2027 Grant categories include: 2027-2028 Special Arts Project, Community Arts, Filmmakers, TGI+ Arts, and WeHo Artist.

We strongly encourage applications from artists and organizations representing diverse populations and artistic disciplines. As outlined in our Cultural Equity Statement, diversity includes, but is not limited to: race, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, age, ability, socioeconomic status, religion, language, and more. We are committed to cultural equity in all our arts programs and policies. Read our full Cultural Equity Statement at weho.org/arts.

All applications must be submitted online through the City’s website: weho.org/arts.

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ARTS GRANT REVIEW PROCESS

Review & Approval Process

The City of West Hollywood uses a peer panel review process, which is a standard best practice for publicly funded arts grants. Each panel includes seven qualified arts professionals with experience in various disciplines and a strong background in the arts.

The panel scores applications based on criteria set by the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission. These scores are then reviewed by the Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee, which recommends funding amounts. Final decisions are approved by the Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission and finalized by the City Council.

Important Notes:

- All information submitted in a grant application becomes public record.
- Organizations that receive funding may be audited to ensure proper use of grant funds.
- Failure to provide accurate documentation may result in ineligibility for future funding.

EXPECTATIONS DURING FUNDED PERIOD

Once awarded, grantees must:

- Provide a Certificate of General Liability Insurance of at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence.
- Attend a mandatory orientation meeting.
- Use no more than 10 hours of in-kind City facility time, limited to one day during the grant funded year.
- Cover costs for technology consultants (e.g., lighting, film screenings, projections) when using City facilities.
- Ensure the project occurs within the contracted grant period.
- Submit a Newsletter Advisory Form at least 60 days before the funded program.
- Submit a Final Report within 30 days of completing the project.
- Grantee Filmmakers are responsible for obtaining all licenses and clearances in order to legally distribute the film.

FILMMAKERS GRANT TIMELINE

July 1, 2026	Application deadline
August 2026	Peer review of grant applications
September 2026	Performing Arts and Cultural Affairs Subcommittee make funding recommendations
September 2026	Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission consider approval of funding recommendations
October 2026	City Council considers approval of funding recommendations
October 2026	Grant recipient notifications
November 2026	Grantee Orientation (in person at Plummer Park)

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February 2027	Earliest award of grant funds* <i>*Award of funds depend on grantee's compliance with contracting requirements, such as insurance.</i>
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ARTS GRANT PROGRAM WORKSHOP

The City will conduct virtual and in-person Arts Grant Program Workshops scheduled between May and June (dates TBD):

[Arts Grant Program | City of West Hollywood](#)

ARTS PROJECT GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINE

Application DEADLINE is 3 p.m. July 1, 2026.

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

You can also find more information at www.weho.org/arts