



FY27 ARTIST CATALYST GRANT

What You'll Need to Apply!

Cycle 1 opens October 1, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

UP TO \$500
one-time support

NO MATCH
required

FIRST-COME
while funds remain

Prepare before the application opens! Gather your materials and draft your responses now so you are ready to submit when Cycle 1 opens.

1. Confirm your eligibility

- ☐ Practicing artist actively creating and/or presenting artistic work
- ☐ Legal Virginia resident who plans to remain in Virginia during the grant period
- ☐ At least 18 when grant activities begin
- ☐ Not a full-time student
- ☐ Not a current VCA Roster Artist
- ☐ No past-due VCA Final Reports; not under current federal debarment or suspension
- ☐ If the activity includes a public performance/display: open to the general public and held in an ADA-compliant facility

2. Set up your application access

- ☐ Go to vca.virginia.gov and click "Apply" at the top of the page.
- ☐ If you do not already have a Foundant account, select "Create New Account" and complete the registration process.
- ☐ Keep your Foundant login information for your records.

3. Gather your files and links

- ☐ Virginia residency documentation: current Virginia driver's license, utility bill, or voter registration card with your name
- ☐ Current CV/resume, including exhibition and/or performance history
- ☐ Professional website, social media, or other online platform showcasing your work
- ☐ Three work samples from the past five years
- ☐ For each sample: title, date, description, and timestamps when applicable
- ☐ Work sample format: JPEG, PNG, Word, PDF, or URL; uploads up to 10 MB each.
Note: Google Drive and Dropbox links are not accepted.

4. Draft responses

- ☐ Artist statement - up to 1,000 characters describing your practice, core concepts, vision, and relationship to your medium
- ☐ Activity start/end dates and artistic discipline
- ☐ Impact on Artistic Practice - up to 2,500 characters explaining the before-and-after impact: new skills, opportunities, visibility, or momentum
- ☐ Grant amount requested - up to \$500
- ☐ Budget line items - only expenses directly related to the proposed activity; round to the nearest dollar
- ☐ Optional budget notes, if needed

Application Preparation Checklist, *cont'd*

5. Make sure your activity fits the grant

Examples of eligible support include:

- ☐ Masterclass, conference, or networking opportunity
- ☐ Website, portfolio, or marketing materials
- ☐ Temporary apprenticeship or residency
- ☐ Equipment, materials, or another purchase integral to the opportunity (grant may cover up to \$500 toward a purchase; total purchase cost may not exceed \$3,000)
- ☐ Shipping, freight, or preparation costs
- ☐ Event rental or facility fees
- ☐ Showcasing work to new audiences in ways that deepen public engagement and visibility

Not funded:

- ☐ Virtual programming; ongoing costs such as rent, studio fees, hosting, subscriptions, or regular lessons
- ☐ Travel costs such as meals, hotels, or transportation; activities outside the United States
- ☐ Credit-bearing curricular work; lobbying/political advocacy; activities normally supported as part of your job

6. Final submission check

- ☐ Cycle 1: October 1-November 1, 2026, or until available funding is depleted
- ☐ Cycle 1 activity period: November 15, 2026-June 15, 2027
- ☐ Complete every required field and confirm all links/uploads work
- ☐ Save and review a PDF of your application before submitting
- ☐ Once submitted, edits cannot be made
- ☐ Funding may not be disbursed before the activity; be prepared to cover costs upfront

IF AWARDED: VCA will provide instructions to file the Virginia W-9 Form and Certification of Assurances required before payment, along with final-report requirements.

Review the full [Artist Catalyst Grant Guidelines](#) before applying.