
Indigenous and African Heritage Teaching Artist Grant (TAG) Application - 2024

INTENT

Overview

The Teaching Artist Grant (TAG) program provides financial support to artists who were disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, specifically Indigenous and African heritage teaching artists.

As the Creative Capital, the City of Providence is invested in the continued development of a vibrant local arts culture. Post-pandemic, however, many local artists continue to struggle with the deep economic impacts of COVID-19. With funding support from the City, Interlace is partnering with AS220 to protect the City's beloved and renowned arts culture by supporting artists disproportionately affected by the pandemic.

TAG awards support Providence Indigenous and African heritage teaching artists, who were among the hardest hit by the pandemic.

This program is supported by the City of Providence's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding, which has provided over \$3 million to the Providence arts economy in an effort to support local artists and organizations as they work to rebound from the deep economic impacts of the pandemic.

This grant fund is co-administered by The Interlace Grant Fund and AS220, with funding support provided by City of Providence Department of Art, Culture, and Tourism.

Review & Selection Process

Award decisions will be informed by a point system, and **final selections will be made by an independent jury** consisting of local Indigenous and African heritage leaders.

The quantity and dollar amount of the grants awarded will be contingent on the number of applicants and on applicants' eligibility. Previous awards under this

program also will be taken into consideration. No applicant is guaranteed an award, but all eligible teaching artists are encouraged to apply, including those who've previously received TAG awards.

Anonymized aggregate data about awardees will be shared publicly, but names of awardees will only be shared in a meeting of the Art and City Life Commission. Interlace will share details about the jury after all awards have been disbursed.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicant must be **18+**.

Applicant must be a **teaching artist** (see definition below).

Applicant must **live and work as a teaching artist in Providence** OR live in Rhode Island outside of Providence but **work primarily in Providence**.

Applicant must be able to **verify lost teaching artist income or increased expenses** due to COVID-19 (see below).

Applicant must **check “yes” to EITHER or BOTH the Indigenous or African Heritage box**.

Note: If neither of these definitions describes your background, applying for this opportunity is not appropriate. Moreover, in the spirit of generosity and compassion, applicants are encouraged to apply using the honor system; please review the above description of intent when considering applying for this opportunity.

CONTACT INFO

Please provide the required contact information below.

Name *

First Name

Last Name

Note: If awarded a grant, **you will be responsible for accepting the grant in your name by submitting a W-9**. Funding will then be disbursed to you and a 1099 will be issued in your name. You will also be responsible for **communicating with Interlace**, submitting a **final report**, and **paying taxes** on the award amount.

Legal Name (if different from above; this is necessary for receiving a check if you are awarded funds)

Pronouns *

Date of Birth of Applicant (MM/DD/YYYY) *

Email Address *

Phone Number *



How did you hear about this grant? (Check all that apply) *

- Instagram
- Facebook
- Interlace Newsletter
- City of Providence Newsletter or Email

AS220 Newsletter

Poster

Friend

Other

If "other" please explain

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Please check the box or boxes below that describe your heritage.

Checking "yes" to EITHER or BOTH the Indigenous or African Heritage box is necessary to be able to fill out the application.

Note: If neither of these definitions describes your background, applying for this opportunity is not appropriate. Moreover, in the spirit of generosity and compassion, applicants are encouraged to apply using the **honor system**; please review the above description of intent when considering applying for this opportunity.

Indigenous People: "People who are a part of social and cultural groups in Rhode Island that share collective ancestral ties before the European settlement of Providence and Rhode Island, including the natural resources where they live, inhabit, or from which they have been displaced." *

YES, I am of Indigenous Heritage

NO, I am not of Indigenous Heritage

If you answered YES, what Indigenous community are you a part of?

African Heritage: “People in Rhode Island with ancestry originating from sub-Saharan Africa whose families have been impacted by the US slave trade and Jim Crow laws.” *

- YES, I am of African Heritage
- NO, I am not of African Heritage

If you answered YES, how would you describe your cultural connection to African heritage?

TEACHING ARTISTRY

TAG defines a teaching artist as **a practicing artist or artisan who works with people of any age as an active part of their consistent practice.**

The teaching artist **supports, motivates, and/or mentors** people, formally or informally, **to appreciate, understand, and produce** an art form and/or creative cultural traditions.

Art forms and/or creative cultural traditions include but are not limited to...

- Barbering, composition, cooking, cosmetology, dancing, design, DJing, drawing, hair braiding, jewelry making, music, painting, performance, sewing and textiles, sculpting, singing, storytelling, tattooing, traditional crafts, writing...

If you have a question about if your art form is eligible, please ask!

Does this definition of a teaching artist describe you? If so, how? *

Limit: 100 words

For example:

"My main job is teaching music in a public middle school in Providence. I love helping students understand music and make their own."

"I am a teaching artist who works in Providence at various after school arts programs with high school students. I have my own artist practice as a printmaker and to sustain that I teach painting, drawing, sculpture – really any visual art form I can."

"I am a tattoo artist and part of my job is training apprentices."

"I teach beadwork at a community center in Providence. Traditional beadwork is a cultural tradition I grew up with and it gives me joy to share it with others."

REQUIRED APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Please answer all required questions below to the best of your ability.

Current Home Address *

Country

Select... ▼

Address

Address Line 2 (optional)

City

State, Province, or Region

Zip or Postal Code

This is where you live and receive mail. It must be an address in Rhode Island.

If the above address is not in Providence, please explain your teaching artist connection to Providence.

If you don't live in Providence but do most of your work in Providence, use the space above to describe **where** and **how** in Providence you work.

For example:

"I live in East Providence, but almost all of my teaching artist work is in the Providence schools."

"My family home touches the Narragansett reservation but I work primarily in Providence teaching workshops and classes for students of all ages."

Were you born in Providence? *

- Yes
- No
- Other

If "Other" please explain:

Did you live and/or work in Providence between March 2020 and May 2023? *

- Yes, the whole time
- Yes, for some of the time
- No

If you answered "yes, for some of the time" or "no" above, please explain.

Limit: 100 words

Did you attend primary school (ages 6-11) in Providence ? *

- Yes
- No

If you attended primary school in Providence (ages 6-11), what years did you attend and where did you go to school?

For example:

"Yes, Mary E. Fogarty Elementary School, grades 1-3."

"Yes, ages 6-11 I went to Young Woods Elementary School."

"Lillian Feinstein on Sackett St, 4th grade (2008-2009)"

Did you attend secondary school (ages 12 - 18) in Providence? *

Yes

No

If you attended secondary school (ages 12 - 18) in Providence, what years did you attend and where did you go to school?

For example:

"Yes, I went to Roger Williams Middle School then eventually transferred at some point to Nathanael Greene middle school and finished there. For High School, I went to Alvarez High School."

"6th Grade: Roger Williams Middle School, 7th Grade: Gilbert Stuart MS, 8th Grade: UCAP (Urban Collaborative accelerated program)"

"Yes, UCAP 1997, and then Mount Pleasant High School 1998-2000"

Did you receive a GED in Providence? *

Yes

No

I started a GED program but did not complete it

Did you attend after-school programming in Providence during middle and/or high school? *

Yes

No

If you attended after-school programming in Providence during middle and/or high school, where did you participate and what years?

For example:

"2004-2008 Providence Black Repertory Company, New Urban Arts 2007-2008"

"Middle school: Everett & Afterzone"

"I went to the Boys and Girls Club in Fox Point after school in middle school"

Did you attend vocational training in Providence? *

Yes

No

If you attended vocational training or had a professional internship in Providence, where and when did this happen?

For example:

"I did Youthbuild in 2018"

"Year Up Rhode Island, 2016-17"

"I went to Empire Beauty School (cosmetology school) in Providence in 2009"

"I apprenticed at a barber shop after I graduated high school, in 1999, for about a year"

"I was a tattoo apprentice last year for 8 months"

Have you been impacted by institutions that have under-invested in the potential of Providence residents, such as DCYF, the foster care system, the Training School, or the ACI? *

Yes

No

Please note: Answers will be kept confidential. Responding "yes" to this question will NOT have a negative impact on your application. We ask this question in an effort to repair systemic harm.

Did you attend college in Providence? *

Yes

No

This includes Providence campuses for schools located outside Providence (such as URI) and college courses offered in Providence (such as with College Unbound). Also, it's ok if you didn't graduate – choose "yes" if you attended college in Providence for any length of time.

Have you worked (volunteer or employed) in the arts with community organizations or entities in Providence? *

Select...



How many years have you been a teaching artist (formally or informally) in Providence? *

Select...



We are specifically asking about Providence, not about time you have spent as a teaching artist in other locations.

Please describe ALL the work you have done as a teaching artist in Providence – with schools, community organizations, or in other formal or informal settings. You can write in sentences and/or in list or bulleted format. *

This is where our jurors will get to know the work that you do. Don't skimp on this part! The more detail, the better. Suggested length is 1-2 paragraphs minimum, or a bulleted list with a paragraph of explanation.

Income Level: What is your average annual income for the past 5 years? *

- Under \$25K
- \$25-35K
- \$35-45K
- \$45-55K
- \$55-65K
- \$65K and above

How much of your income comes from being a teaching artist? *

How many (if any) dependents do you have? *

A dependent is anyone, usually a child or an elderly person, whom you are legally responsible for. Dependents rely on you for significant financial support such as food, shelter, education, and healthcare; if you provide **more than half of their total support for the year**, you can consider them as your dependent. **Please use the same number that you use on your tax forms.**

COVID-BASED FINANCIAL HARDSHIPS: LOST INCOME OR OPPORTUNITY AND INCREASED EXPENSES and VERIFICATION

Checking any ONE of the below boxes and providing accompanying verification detail is adequate to qualify for a TAG award, but **please select ALL that apply.**

Types of lost income or opportunity and increased expenses (select ALL that apply) *

- Hourly or salary position income - Did you work a part-time OR full-time hourly OR salaried (W-2 / on payroll, where taxes were taken from your paycheck) arts education job in Providence where your hours were cut during the pandemic? Or was there was an expectation that you work unpaid hours to manage the COVID-19 crisis? Please name the job in the box below.

- Gig income - Did you have planned arts education gigs (lessons, workshops, presentations, community performances, etc.) in Providence that were canceled, cut back, or that you could not take on because of the COVID-19 pandemic? Please describe in box below.

- Lost opportunity - Were you at a point in your career where you had been recently credentialed (formally or informally) and ready to begin work as an arts educator in Providence but could not because of the COVID-19 pandemic? Please describe in the box below.

- Equipment for virtual teaching - Were you required to pay out of pocket for anything related to your work as an arts educator in Providence such as: Zoom account, lighting, mic, monitor, soundproofing, etc. Please describe in the box below.

- Childcare or other type of caregiver expenses - Did the pandemic require that you take on additional childcare or other type of caregiver expenses to continue your work as an arts educator in Providence? Please describe in the box below.
- Healthcare - Did the pandemic require that you take on additional healthcare expenses for yourself or dependents to continue your work as an arts educator in Providence? Please describe in the box below..
- Other

Please briefly describe your lost income or opportunity as requested above. *

Limit: 200 words

REFERENCE

All applicants are asked to provide either a **reference willing to be contacted on your behalf** or a **letter, video, or audio file** from a reference willing to verify your Providence-based teaching artist work. A reference can be an **employer, a colleague, a student**.

Your reference should address how they know you, when you worked with them, and what teaching artist work you did in Providence with them.

Your reference will ALSO need to be able to **verify that you lost income or had increased expenses** during the pandemic. **If they cannot, you can submit a second form of verification** for that purpose (see below).

What type of reference will you be providing? *

- A) Contact information for someone you have worked with or worked for
- B) A letter of reference from someone you have worked with or worked for

- C) A short video or audio file from someone you have worked with or worked for

If your reference is not able to verify that you lost income or had increased expenses, you will ALSO need to provide an additional reference below.

If you chose A above, please provide the NAME, JOB TITLE or AFFILIATION, and EMAIL and/or PHONE NUMBER for someone you have worked with worked for

Please let your reference know we will be contacting them in May. If we are unable to reach them, we will not be able to verify your application.

A reference can be an **employer, a colleague, a student** – someone you worked with or worked for in Providence. Job title or affiliation means the job they had when you worked with or worked for them OR if the reference is a student, their affiliation means how they are connected to you.

References should be able to explain:

- how they know you
- when you worked with them or were contracted to work with them, and
- what teaching artist work you did in Providence with them.

They ALSO need to be able to verify that you lost income or had increased expenses during the pandemic. If they cannot, you should choose an additional verification option below.

If you chose B above, please upload your letter of reference here

Upload a file. No files have been attached yet.

Acceptable file types: .doc, .docx, .pdf, .rtf, .txt

A reference can be an **employer, a colleague, a student** – someone you worked with or worked for in Providence. Please ask your reference to include the following

information in their letter:

- how they know you
- when you worked with them or were contracted to work with them, and
- what teaching artist work you did in Providence with them.

They ALSO need to be able to verify that you lost income or had increased expenses during the pandemic. If they cannot, you should choose an additional verification option below.

For example: "The applicant was contracted to teach a dance class for 8 weeks at my studio but due to Covid, I had to cancel the class." or "I took piano lessons from the applicant but she had to stop coming over to teach me because we couldn't meet inside because of Covid."

If you chose C above, upload your video or audio file here

Choose File

Upload a file. No files have been attached yet.

Acceptable file types: .aac, .aiff, .flac, .m4a, .mp3, .wav, .wma, .3gp, .avi, .flv, .m4v, .mkv, .mov, .mp4, .mpg, .webm, .wmv

A reference can be an **employer, a colleague, a student** – someone you worked with or worked for in Providence. Please ask your reference to include the following information in their audio file or video file:

References should be able to explain:

- how they know you
- when you worked with them or were contracted to work with them, and
- what teaching artist work you did in Providence with them.

They ALSO need to be able to verify that you lost income or had increased expenses during the pandemic. If they cannot, you should choose an additional verification option below.

For example: "The applicant was contracted to teach a dance class for 8 weeks at my studio but due to Covid, I had to cancel the class." or "I took piano lessons from the applicant but she had to stop coming over to teach me because we couldn't meet inside because of Covid."

Additional verification of lost income or increased expenses if needed (select one)

- Lost income: Documentation from an organization in Providence that was intending to hire you as an artist educator and withdrew the offer because of pandemic-related cancellations (promotional materials, letter on organization's letterhead, copy of email from organization email verifying canceled opportunity, rescinded contract)
- Increased Expenses: Receipts (equipment, increased childcare or healthcare costs, etc)

If your reference is unable to verify your lost income or increased expenses, please select one of the above and upload documentation in the next question.

If you selected one of the options above, please upload the requested information:

Select up to 3 files to attach. No files have been attached yet. You may add 3 more files.

Acceptable file types: .csv, .doc, .docx, .odt, .pdf, .rtf, .txt, .wpd, .wpl, .gif, .jpg, .jpeg, .png, .svg, .tif, .tiff, .zip

You may upload up to 3 files or a zipped file, but only ONE upload is required (one piece of documentation, one contract, one receipt).

If none of the above verification methods work for you (for example if your teaching artist work has happened in the context of private lessons, non-institutionally affiliated clients, a space that is not typically considered an "arts" space, etc.), please use this space to explain.

Thank you!

Thank you for applying for a TAG award! Please reach out with questions about the application process or if you need any assistance. We can be reached at [interlacefund@gmail.com \(mailto:interlacefund@gmail.com\)](mailto:interlacefund@gmail.com) or 401-288-1539.

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