



APPLICATION GUIDELINES

DEADLINE: MAY 15, 2023

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is proud to be an Administrative Organizational partner for The California Creative Corps program.

CONTENTS

CA CREATIVE CORPS SUMMARY.....3

OVERVIEW2

PRIORITIZING EQUITY3

ARTISTS AND CULTURE BEARERS.....3

PROPOSED PROJECTS3

ELIGIBILITY4

REVIEW PROCESS.....5

APPLICATION PROCESS AND ASSISTANCE5

CONTACT5

IMPORTANT LINKS

- 1. To create an account and/or access the online grant platform, Submittable, [CLICK HERE](#)
- 2. To visit Community Partners’ CA Creative Corps Website, [CLICK HERE](#)
- 3. For more information about Healthy Places Index [CLICK HERE](#)

APPLICANT SUPPORT

- 1. To email the CA Creative Corps Support Desk [CLICK HERE](#)
- 2. To view the CA Creative Corps Workshops and Office Hours Registration Page [CLICK HERE](#)

Community Partners is grateful for the support of a group of artists, culture bearers and arts administrators who helped inform the development of Community Partners' CA Creative Corps program and these guidelines. This invaluable input demonstrates the expert knowledge that exists in our arts and culture communities and the value of this lived experience.

CA CREATIVE CORPS SUMMARY

California Arts Council, in partnership with Community Partners, is launching *California Creative Corps*—a yearlong fellowship supporting artists and culture bearers of all disciplines and cultural practices who work at the intersections of equity and social justice work in Los Angeles County or Orange County.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Artists and culture bearers (as defined on page 3) from Los Angeles County or Orange County, who live in and/or have a history of working in communities identified within the lowest quartile of the [California Healthy Places Index](#). Proposed projects must also take place in these same communities. To find out if you and/or your community are eligible to apply, click here: [HPI CC ELIGIBILITY](#).

ACCESSING THE APPLICATION

Artists and culture bearers may access the application on Community Partners' CA Creative Corps website beginning April 14, 2023. The deadline to apply is May 15, 2023. Application deadline will not be extended to any applicant for any reason. Please note, you must use Google Chrome to properly access the application. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

AWARD COMPONENTS

Number of Awards: 33
Fellowship Grant: \$50,000

Project Budgets: Up to \$50,000
Total Grant Award: Up to \$100,000

ELIGIBILITY

- Must be at least 18 years of age.
- Live and work in Los Angeles County or Orange County.
- Live and/or have a demonstrated history of working in relationship to an identified community located within a census tract scoring within the lowest quartile of the Healthy Places Index.
- Have a history of working at the intersections of art and culture and social justice/community work.
- Have a history of artistic practice and cultural work.
- Commit to attend all in person and/or virtual cohort convenings.¹

TIMELINE

Guidelines Published	April 3, 2023
Grant Overview Webinar	April 14, 2023
Open Application Period	April 14, 2023-May 15, 2023
Application Assistance and Workshops	April 14-May 14, 2023
Application Deadline	May 15, 2023, 11:59 PM PST
Application Review	May 16, 2023 – June 14, 2023
Notifications Sent via Email	June 26 th , 2023 – June 30 th , 2023
Cohort Convening 1	July 7, 2023
Additional Required Cohort Convenings	TBD

PLEASE NOTE: Artists who have applied for and received a CA Creative Corps grant from another administering organization are not eligible for Community Partners' fellowship. If an applicant is selected for both Community Partners' fellowship and another CA Creative Corps grant, the applicant will be required to forfeit one of the awards.

¹ Community Partners is committed to inclusive spaces and experiences and will take steps to meet artists and culture bearers with children or special needs and/or who are caretakers where they are.

OVERVIEW

Understanding the invaluable role that artists and culture bearers² play in social justice movements, California Arts Council, in partnership with Community Partners, is launching *California Creative Corps*—an artist and culture bearer fellowship, learning and mentorship initiative supporting artists and culture bearers of all disciplines and cultural practices working at the intersections of equity and social justice work. The program focuses on the on the following issue areas:

PUBLIC AND COMMUNITY HEALTH AWARENESS AND CONTENT TO STOP THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has forever changed our dialogue about health equity. In addition to direct ways that communities can protect themselves from the spread of COVID-19, such as mask use, vaccinations, and safe distancing, we expand the idea of community health awareness to include related, but rarely talked about health impacts of COVID-19 including mental health and wellness, the compounding stress on our healthcare systems and workers, health inequities that impact adjacent health crises such as care and accessibility for those in our disability communities, diabetes, heart disease, and sexually transmitted diseases.

PUBLIC AND COMMUNITY AWARENESS RELATED TO WATER AND ENERGY CONSERVATION, CLIMATE MITIGATION AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, RELIEF AND RECOVERY

Communities located in the lowest quartile of the Healthy Places Index³ have been and continue to be some of the most impacted by generational climate and environmental injustices. We also know that members of these communities have a long history of land, water and energy conservation practiced in ways that reflect centuries-long proven strategies. Addressing community awareness around conservation, mitigation and emergency preparedness, relief and recovery requires a culture shift that educates and connects communities.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT INCLUDING ELECTION PARTICIPATION

People who participate in the arts are more likely to participate in civic engagement actions. Generally defined, civic engagement is participating in and contributing to the improvement of one's community, neighborhood, or country through both political and non-political processes. Civic engagement, as distinct from community engagement, can drive our democratic participation through organizing, advocating, voting, volunteering, and other types of social actions. How can arts and cultural practices increase and drive civic engagement to address severe inequities that our communities face?

SOCIAL JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In addition to known concepts and approaches to social justice and equity, we expand these ideas to include *cultural equity*, which acknowledges that not everyone has been included equally or given a fair shot at the opportunities that exist within arts systems, including funding and support mechanisms. We understand that many artists and culture bearers who live and/or work in the identified lowest quartiles of the Healthy Places Index have historically been and continue to be excluded, under-resourced and overlooked within our arts and culture sector.

² Please see definition of Culture Bearer below.

³ The California Healthy Places Index, developed by the [Public Health Alliance of Southern California](#) and visualized by [Axis Maps](#), is a powerful tool to explore the community conditions that impact life expectancy. We created the HPI to disrupt structural inequities by using data to create change. The HPI helps prioritize public and private investments, resources, and programs in neighborhoods where they are needed most.

PRIORITIZING EQUITY

Serving as an Administering Organization, Community Partners will work through an equity lens, prioritizing artists who are living and/or have a history of working in census tracts within Los Angeles County or Orange County that have been identified in the lowest quartile of the California Healthy Places Index. Applicants are required to implement the CA Creative Corps fellowship within this identified geographic community. To find out if you and/or your community is located within the lowest quartile (25%) of the Healthy Places Index, click here: [HPI CC Eligibility](#)

Important Notes When Using the HPI CC Eligibility Tool:

- Type in your and/or your existing project address. Do not cut and paste. Do not click enter.
- A series of possible addresses will appear in a drop-down list, do not click enter. Choose from the drop-down list and select the correct address from that list to search.
- P.O. Boxes are ineligible.

Inaccurate designations may result if you:

- Use a browser other than Google Chrome.
- Copy and paste your address.
- Use the “enter” key to search for your address.
- Search for your organization's name to find your location.

You will receive a result that indicates whether you are eligible for this opportunity. For more information on the CA Healthy Places Index, [click here](#).

ARTISTS AND CULTURE BEARERS

ARTISTS: Artists are individuals who regularly engage in artistic or cultural practices and have had specialized training in any artistic discipline or cultural practice. (No degree is required.) Artists are recognized as professionals by their peers and have a history of sharing work in community, public presentation or sharing online and/or through some form of publication. This opportunity is for artists who have a history of collaboration with communities or social practice that lends itself to some type of social impact.

CULTURE BEARERS: Culture Bearers are from the cultural/heritage lineage they practice and advance intergenerational lifeways, evolving cultural art practices that educate, exchange, and share to preserve ancestral knowledge. Culture Bearers’ art forms and traditions include healing practices that connect to earth and to others and might include healers, storytellers, dancers, makers (instruments, print, textiles, mixed media), language keepers, drummers, culinary practitioners and more. Culture Bearers accept a responsibility to share ancestral and cultural knowledge. A Culture Bearer is distinct from other individual artists because their practice is a full life tradition (not separate) and includes intergenerational transmission of learning.⁴

Artists and culture bearers who best represent the following experiences will be considered:

- Individuals with a clear vision of how artistic and cultural practices catalyze or advance social change.
- Individuals with ideas that lend themselves to the development of an issue-based problem statement and how change happens at the individual, community, and systemic levels.
- Individuals working outside of existing arts, culture, and funding systems, such as commissions/exhibitions by institutions and/or commercial relationships. (i.e., talent agency or gallery representation, grant programs, fellowships, or other awards.)
- Individuals with a history of collaborative, community-informed and led processes and practices.

⁴ Definition from Indigenous Roots Cultural Art Center

PROPOSED PROJECTS

PLEASE NOTE: Projects do not have to be fully conceptualized at the time of the application. If selected, artists and culture bearers will work on a detailed project plan and budget with assistance from their mentor.

Artists and culture bearers may propose new or existing concepts and/or projects that address one or more of the four issue areas. Examples might include a muralist working in community to design and install a mural to communicate messaging around one of the issue areas, or a project that engages community through a festival focused on water and conservation ideas, interactive activities, and performance. Projects must be informed by:

- Creative approaches to problem solving that meet community where it is at. Identifying and using effective, if not tangible expressions such as song, dance, drama, skills, cuisine, crafts, and festivals.
- Existing relationships to community(ies) impacted and collaborative decision-making between the artist or culture bearer and those most impacted.
- Integrating storytelling by those most impacted by the issue (first voice narrative)
- Identifying and using effective, if not tangible, expressions such as song, music, dance, drama, skills, cuisine, crafts, and festivals.

ELIGIBILITY

The primary applicant is considered the individual artist or culture bearer who is seeking to participate in the CA Creative Corps fellowship. Eligible artists and culture bearers who are interested in applying will complete one application with a set of general application questions along with additional questions for the proposed project. CA Creative Corps applicants must meet all eligibility criteria as follows:

- Must be at least 18 years of age.
- Live and work in Los Angeles County or Orange County.
- Live and/or have a demonstrated history of working in relationship to an identified community located within a census tract scoring within the lowest quartile of the Healthy Places Index.
- Have a history of working at the intersections of art and culture and social justice/community work.
- Have a history of artistic practice and cultural work.
- Applicants must commit to attend all in person and/or virtual cohort convenings⁵

The following are not eligible for support:

- Non-profit organizations.
- University or college projects, groups, departments, or organizations (e.g., a student organization or art gallery that is part of an academic institution).
- Student work (graduate or undergraduate) completed for academic credit or as part of an academically supported project, program, or residency.
- Applications that are incomplete or do not meet the eligibility requirements listed in these guidelines will be marked as ineligible with no exceptions.

⁵ Community Partners is committed to inclusive experiences and will take steps to meet artists and culture bearers with children or special needs and/or who are caretakers where they are. Community Partners will also provide a per diem for travel and meals for cohort convenings.

REVIEW PROCESS

Technical Review for Eligibility: Applications will be subject to a technical review process by Community Partners, which will screen for eligibility and completion of all applications.

Panel Review: Eligible applications will be evaluated, reviewed, and scored by a combination of artist peers and Community Partners' staff review panel. Community Partners is committed to diverse and inclusive practices and the panel will include an array of diverse geographies, disciplines, identities, and lived experiences.

APPLICATION PROCESS AND ASSISTANCE

- Register for CA Creative Corps Workshops and Technical Assistance on our [website](#).
- The application for California Creative Corps will be open from April 14, 2023, 9:00 AM PST – May 15, 2023, 11:59 PM PST. (Please use Google Chrome when accessing the application).
- Applicants will need to create a Submittable account to apply and will need to upload required documentation via Community Partners' online grant portal beginning April 14, 2023, 9 AM PST.
- Applicants will be able to craft proposed project answers via written text, video, or audio submissions.
- Community Partners staff will be available to offer guidance and clarification in preparing your proposal. We will also be offering live group technical assistance sessions, a recorded info session, and office hours to help answer questions, provide support and encouragement, and assist throughout the application process.

TIPS FOR APPLYING

- You can do this!
- Register for a workshop or work-in!
- Make sure you meet all eligibility requirements including holding the date for the cohort's first convening on July 7, 2023, if selected.
- Use Google Chrome when accessing the application.
- Give yourself enough time to apply, including reviewing the guidelines, filling out the application, and answering the narrative prompts.
- Proofread your application for completion, including answering all questions and uploading any required materials, before clicking "Submit."
- Connect with your peers and community to ask for feedback and stay up to date on pressing issues in your field and community.
- Grant writing is a buildable skill – save your responses and apply to more opportunities!

OTHER RESOURCES

Additional CA Creative Corp grant programs still open:

[Creative Corps | Arts Council for Long Beach \(artslb.org\)](#)
[Los Angeles Performance Practice Individual Artist Fellowship](#)

CONTACT

For information on Community Partners' CA Creative Corps program, including upcoming webinars, workshops, office hours and grant writing sessions, visit or email us at:

Website: <https://communitypartners.org/landing-page/california-creative-corps-artist-fellowship/>

Email: sacreativecorps@communitypartners.org

Phone: (213) 474-1276