

# Individual Artists Grant Support 2026

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*Arts Council for Monterey County*

## *Guidelines*

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Before you begin, please review these **Individual Artists Grant Guidelines**.

Application requirements include: eligibility questions, program / project information, professional information (letter of reference / support, resume), statement of need, [project budget](#) (click on the link to view and download the budget template) and work samples. Plan to allow plenty of time to request letters of reference / support. Letters must be dated within past 60 days and signed - digital or wet signature. We do allow 15% overhead expenses of the requested amount. Examples of overhead expenses: artists studio / work space rent and utilities, business insurance, travel expenses, exhibition and show fees, membership / classes, taxes.

### **Application tips:**

- Please read each question carefully.
- You may draft your answers in a separate document and copy/paste them into the fields provided.
- Character counts are a guide to maximum length; your answers may be shorter. You may use bullet points. On average there are 6 characters per word.
- Your answers will save automatically. Once you start an application you can return to it through your Applicant Dashboard (click the "home" icon at the top of the page) and click the "edit" link.
- Applications are available in Spanish – please contact us for a copy

### **Program Structure**

The Arts Council for Monterey County (Arts4MC)'s policies and practices prioritize racial equity and have a broad geographic reach into communities of all sizes and needs, and this includes providing critical services to artists and to the community at large. Arts4MC is committed to funding opportunities that support all of Monterey County's creative ecosystem. We support individuals who embody aesthetics recognizing all art forms and artistic traditions that enable full and meaningful creative expression.

### **Eligibility**

- Applicant must be a resident of Monterey County for at least two (2) years, and be able to provide proof of residency;
- Applicant must be at least 18 years of age.

- In order to expand opportunities to new artists, individuals who were awarded a grant last year are not eligible to apply during this cycle.
- Arts4MC staff and board are not eligible to receive or apply to this grant.
- Career Tiers:
  - Emerging Artists are those in the beginning stages of making their work public and engaging the larger community in their practice. Individuals at this career stage may have had a few public showings of their work, but do not yet have ongoing resources or support. A total of 16 awards up to \$5,000 will be granted from within Monterey County
  - Established Artists regularly make their work public and engage the larger community in their practice. Individuals at this level can give multiple examples of artistic and/or cultural works that have made a significant social impact. A total of 2 awards up to \$10,000 will be granted from within Monterey County.

**Selection Criteria & Review Process:**

Arts4MC is committed to equitable distribution of funds throughout Monterey County.

Applications will be reviewed by an independent panel of evaluators from each of the five supervisorial districts in the county.

Applications will be reviewed separately by experience level (emerging or established).

Additionally, applications will be evaluated on the following criteria, using the point rankings of 1 (below average), 2 (average) and 3 (above average):

- Program/Project Description
- Project Impact
- Statement of Need
- Artistic Mission
- Work Samples

**Application Deadline:** Monday, March 23, 2026, 11:59pm.

**This is a hard deadline.**

*Questions? Contact [klara@arts4mc.org](mailto:klara@arts4mc.org).*

***Application Support***

*Applicants are encouraged to join our Zoom office hours held Thursdays on February 26 and March 5, 12 and 19, 2026 from 2PM - 3PM [here](#).*