



Toe River Arts Council

Mailing: PO Box 882, Burnsville, NC 28714

TRAC Center, 269 Oak Avenue, Spruce Pine, NC (828) 765-0520

Burnsville TRAC Gallery, 102 West Main St, NC (828) 682-7215

Email: trac@toeriverarts.org

www.toeriverarts.org

Grassroots Art Program – Guidelines & Procedure

Purpose: The Grassroots Arts Program has been established in North Carolina to provide financial support for non-profit cultural projects and programs. Such projects or programs must respond to a demonstrated community need, involving citizens of Mitchell or Yancey County as participants and/or spectators.

Residency of Organizations: Applicants must be residents of Mitchell or Yancey County.

Allowable Expenses: The North Carolina Arts Council has stipulated allowable expenses for Grassroots Arts Funds. These include programming and operating expenses. Grassroots Arts Funds MAY NOT be used for full time personnel or permanent equipment. All projects must be completed and funds spent by June 30, 2008. Funds not spent by then must be returned to TRAC as stipulated by the North Carolina Arts Council, Department of Cultural Resources.

Deadlines: Applications are due in the TRAC office by the first of January or April or October and applicants will be notified of the committee's decision by 20th of the same month of application. If funded, grantee accepts full responsibility for submitting a complete and concise report and budget within 30 days of completing project. Organizations may apply for funds only once during the grant year (the grant year is July 1 through June 30). Grant reports are due within a month after the project is completed, but no later than June 15 of the year of funding. It is required to show evidence of support through credit line of Grassroots support in posters, newsarticles, etc (exact wording will be given upon award). Also – there are four other documents in addition to the evaluation form that you are required to complete when funded: Conflict of Interest statement, No Overdue Tax statement, State Grant Certification, State Grant Compliance Reporting. (public schools are exempt from the 4 additional documents)

Optional: The Grassroots Committee may request interviews and personal presentations.

Matching Requirements: Organizations must show matching funds (50/50) from their own budgets.

Funding Priorities: First priority for projects by qualified community arts organizations (ie: community theatres and symphonies, artist guilds, choral societies, civic dance companies, arts festivals. Second priority for subgranting is to support arts in education programs conducted by qualified artists. These can take place in school settings, after school, or through summer programs. *Grassroots funds may not be used for activities associated with a school's internal arts programs such as in-school student performances, the purchase of art supplies, or student arts competitions and publications.* Thirdly: Grants may also be made to other community organizations that provide arts programs to the community. These programs should be conducted by qualified artists.

Criteria: When evaluating grant applications, the Committee looks for evidence of:

- 1) PROGRAM MERIT - complements the goals and objectives of TRAC, has strong community support, is visible to the public, involves professional artists, promotes cooperation among existing arts and community organizations, is responsive to community needs, tries to reach people not generally involved in the arts.
- 2) ORGANIZATIONAL STRENGTH - organization is able to carry out project and has sound accounting and prompt and complete reporting practices.
- 3) BUDGET - organization makes a cash commitment to the project. (50/50 match)
- 4) NOT-FOR-PROFIT STATUS.

Assistance: TRAC will provide assistance to organizations needing help in applying for funds. Please call for an appointment.

CALL THE TRAC OFFICE FOR AN APPLICATION AND/OR ASSISTANCE 682-7215 or 765-0520

or email TRAC@toeriverarts.org