FAQs

How does the Community Partnership Grants process work?
- The Community Partnership Grants is a program of the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation.
- Individuals and organizations can apply during our annual grant cycle. The New Orleans Jazz & Heritage staff is available to answer questions or offer support throughout this process.
- Applications are reviewed by a team of board members who are recruited for their community involvement and connection. Recommendations are sent to our grants committee for final decision-making.
- Decisions and grant awards are sent out in late August or early September.
- Foundation staff are available to offer feedback and more information on the process and our decision-making.

Who should apply for the Community Grants Program?
- Louisiana residents
- Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color (BIPOC)
- Trans people
- Non-binary/non-conforming/gender diverse folks
- Disabled people/People with Disabilities
- Elders
- Youth
- People living with HIV/AIDS

**The Media & Documentation category is the only category where applicants are not required to be based in Louisiana, but the major focus of the proposed project must be on an aspect of the culture and/or heritage of Louisiana. Priority will be given to Louisiana-based applicants. All Jazz & Heritage grant funds must be spent in Louisiana.**

Are grants available to for-profit businesses?
At this time, grants are only available for individual/creatives and non-profit organizations.

What’s the most money I can get awarded?
In 2020, we have budgeted $1.2 million to be disbursed among grant recipients. The Community Partnership Grants is a statewide grant and we receive hundreds of applications – which most are funded. The most money you can request is $5,000. However, our average grant award has been $3,500.
Where does the Community Partnership Grants funding come from?
The New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation is the nonprofit organization that owns the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival presented by Shell. The foundation uses the proceeds from Jazz Fest, and other funds, for year-round programs in education, economic development and cultural enrichment. The Community Partnership Grant program is one of the many programs made possible because of Jazz Fest!

We not have a 501c3 status or a fiscal sponsor. Can we apply?
Right now, we can only make grant awards to organizations who are a 501c3 or who are fiscally sponsored by a 501c3 in the Education grant categories, Presenting and Media & Documentation categories. The Louisiana Cultural Equity Arts grant which is designated for BIPOC communities is the only grant category that does not require a 501c3 status. Louisiana non-profits and individuals are eligible for this category. We recognize that many people are doing really important work right now that do not have 501c3 nonprofit status, or do not want to get that status for the purpose of getting grants. Please reach out to us if you are in this situation so we can figure out if there are any options to consider in the meantime.

Our organization is fiscally sponsored by an organization that is also applying for a grant from the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation. Can we both apply?
Yes! As long as the work is separate, both groups can apply.

I received a Jazz & Heritage Music Relief Fund grant from the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation this year. Can I apply for another grant?
Yes! These funding streams are distinct and do not influence decision-making.

Is multi-year support available?
Not right now, but we encourage you to apply annually for funding. We understand how important reliable funding is for continuity, stability, and growing capacity, and we are continuing to try to evaluate our internal processes to find ways to be a better partner in this way.

Inspiration and aspects of this document were pulled from materials from the Pride Foundation. Thank you!