

Maryland Humanities FY25 Marilyn Hatza Memorial SHINE Grant Program

General Operating Support Grants Fund Guidelines

All grant information is made available on our website: mdhumanities.org/grants

On June 24, 2024, Maryland Humanities will begin accepting grant applications for its Marilyn Hatza Memorial Strengthening the Humanities Investment in Nonprofits for Equity (SHINE) Grant fund. This program will provide 90 General Operating Support grants worth \$10,000, to non-profit organizations which provide humanities programming throughout the state of Maryland.

General Information

- No matching funds are required to receive these funds.
- Organizations may use the funds to cover any form of general operating expense. This includes, but is not limited to, expenses such as salaries and professional development, rent, utilities, supplies, programs, and equipment.

Timeline

- Two weeks prior to the opening of the grant application, a preview of the application and evaluation will be made available on our website (mdhumanities.org/grants).
- **Application Opens:** June 24, 2024
- **Application Closes:** September 1, 2024, 11:59pm ET
- Applicants will be notified regarding the status of their application by November 2024.

Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for a Maryland Humanities General Operating Support grant, an organization must:

- conduct programming in the humanities as a significant part of its work
Eligible non-profits include museums, historic sites, preservation and historical societies, and community & cultural organizations with a significant humanities focus.
Organizations conducting activities in the humanities provide programs that do one or more of the following:
 - Explore and elevate our shared stories of the past, present, and future to connect people
 - Preserve, share, and celebrate cultural identities, heritage, and traditions
 - Promote storytelling and enriching communities through dialogue, discussion, and participation
 - Bring people together to encourage thoughtful and accessible programs that value equity, democracy, collaboration, and life-long learning
- be designated as a nonprofit organization and maintain good standing with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as determined by organization's 990 and Charity Check
- be physically located and registered as a nonprofit in Maryland and have Maryland residents as its primary constituents
- have a maximum total annual operating budget of \$500,000 or less.

The following organizations are not eligible to apply for funding:

- Organizations with a general operating budget that exceeds \$500,000
- Organizations whose sole mission or focus is the creation or performance of art. This includes visual art, dance, theater, and music

- Any federally, or state-funded agency
- All academic Institutions, including, universities, colleges, academic departments, and K-12 institutions
- Public libraries

Funding Priorities

- Organizations that center diversity, equity and inclusion within their mission and throughout their programming
- Organizations that serve geographic areas that have historically been underserved by Maryland Humanities
- Organizations that serve audiences that have been traditionally underserved by the humanities, which includes but is not limited to, Veterans, Rural Populations, BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color), Low-income Individuals, Currently and Formerly Incarcerated Persons, LGBTQ+ Individuals, Currently or Formerly Unhoused People, Immigrants, and/or Disabled People
- Small and mid-size humanities, arts, cultural, and educational nonprofits that may not have staff capacity or resources to be competitive in fundraising.

Documentation Needed to Apply:

- Nonprofit Employer Identification Number (EIN). At the time of submission, all organizations must provide their nonprofit Employer Identification Number, or EIN. This number is utilized to evaluate that the applying organization is in good-standing and maintains its non-profit status.
- Annual Operating Budget: 2023. All organizations must provide a copy of their 2023 annual operating budget.

Fiscal Sponsorships:

- Organizations with fiscal sponsors are welcome to apply for a Hatza SHINE grant. The following additional documentation is required by email to eross@mdhumanities.org before the application deadline:
 - Fiscal Sponsorship Agreement between the sponsor and sponsored organization that demonstrates a fiduciary pass-through arrangement.
 - 2023 annual budget of the sponsor organization
 - Copy of 2023 990 form of the sponsor organization

How to Apply:

- All applications for this grant will be completed through our grant interface. You can access the grant interface on our website, mdhumanities.org/grants.

Have Questions?

- Please reach out to Emily Ross, Program Officer, Grants, at eross@mdhumanities.org or Camilla Sandoval, Program Coordinator, Grants at csandoval@mdhumanities.org if you have any questions about the timeline, eligibility criteria, funding priorities, or application process.
- mdhumanities.org/events for details on upcoming informational and office hour sessions
 - Virtual informational session – July 17, 2024 at 3pm
 - Virtual open office hours – July 29, 2024, 10am-2pm
 - Virtual Q&A session – August 13, 2024 at 1pm
 - Virtual Q&A session – August 27, 2024 at 11am
 - Virtual open office hours – August 29, 2024, 10am-2pm