

LOUISIANA REBIRTH

Restoring the Soul of America



The Louisiana Cultural Economy Foundation Guidelines for Cultural Economy Relief Program

Foundation Mission Statement:

The Louisiana Cultural Economy Foundation was founded as a catalyst for growth within the state's burgeoning cultural economy. Its primary mission is to support the development and enhancement of the unique cultural industries of Louisiana.

Grant Purpose:

This relief initiative is a project of the Louisiana Cultural Economy Foundation. In an effort to defray the costs related to physical loss or property damage, relocation, or other specific economic harm suffered as a result of Hurricanes Katrina *and* Rita, the Foundation has earmarked designated relief funds to aid Louisiana's cultural economy in its recovery.

Grant funds are intended to provide support for:

- Individual Artists and Artisans who are active in their disciplines
- Cultural Economy Small Businesses
- Galleries, Museums, Collectives and Nonprofit Cultural Organizations

The overarching goal of the grant program is to enable stakeholders in our state's cultural economy to continue or resume the production and distribution of our unique cultural assets in the aftermath of recent natural disasters.

Grant Priorities:

The Louisiana Cultural Economy Relief Program has been created to assist our states cultural industries overcome the aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. It is expected that the need will exceed funds available. Therefore, consideration will be given to:

- Losses that are directly attributable to the time period immediately surrounding the storms
- Those in proximity to the areas of direct impact
- Losses not covered by other sources

Regardless of location, we will consider all relevant, well-reasoned and documented claims of loss. If, as a result of the disaster, the required documents are not accessible, please call 225-342-8196 to discuss what should be submitted in lieu of such documents.

No artistic evaluation will be made of applicants. Please do not submit slides or other documentation of your work. The documented financial need and its relationship to the disaster will be considered in awarding grants. This is not project support; however, if an applicant can demonstrate that a specific activity is integral to the recovery of the overall cultural economy, then that activity will be considered.

Grant Eligibility and Deadlines:

Individual Artists and Artisans

Individuals must be professionally active in their discipline or earning a living through their artistic talents and have residency in the state of Louisiana. Originating and interpretive artists may apply. Students, unless they are professional artists or artisans, are **not** eligible.

Nonprofit Cultural Organizations

Organizations must be active in their field or discipline and must be based in the state of Louisiana. They must provide evidence of their nonprofit status and eligibility to receive tax-deductible contributions directly or through a fiscal agent or other conduit. The Foundation will not fund accumulated deficits.

Galleries, Collectives, and Cultural Economy Small Businesses

Galleries, collectives and cultural economy small businesses must be active in their fields or disciplines and be based in the state of Louisiana. Further, galleries and collectives must be able to exhibit that the focus of their professional activities benefits Louisiana artists or artisans. Galleries, specifically, should demonstrate evidence of their most recently completed year of balance sheet activity and sales. Collaborative applications between independent galleries and individual artists, as well as other cultural economy small businesses, will be accepted.

Applications may be submitted immediately and will be considered on an ongoing basis through April 3, 2006. Registration with FEMA and other sources of relief/recovery will be considered during the review process. If an application is approved, it is expected that grant funds will be disbursed within 30 days of application submission.

What losses will be considered?

Only documented losses that have not been recovered from, or are not covered by, other sources from among the following categories will be considered:

- Cleanup/repair expenses (including artwork in all forms and media), and repair, restoration or replacement of work tools
- Relocation costs, whether permanent (within the State of Louisiana) or temporary, such as rents, moving expenses, furniture costs, and additional marketing for new or reopened venues
- Expenses previously incurred for events cancelled as a result of the storms, such as pre-opening costs for cancelled performances or exhibitions.
- Other documentable losses, including loss of income, suffered as a result of the disaster, which have resulted in detrimental change in the functioning of the organization or the artist's livelihood.

Grant Amounts

Grants to individual artists are not expected to exceed \$5,000.

Grants to artist businesses and small/medium-size cultural organizations are not expected to exceed \$10,000, unless annual budget, number of employees, and financial need merit a larger award.

Grants to nonprofit cultural organizations are not expected to exceed \$25,000. Generally, in reviewing a nonprofit organization's application, the ratio of documentable expenses or losses to the total operating budget of the group's last completed fiscal year will be considered.

When am I notified?

It is expected that notification of decision and grant awards will be disbursed within 30 days of application.

If I receive an award, what must I do?

As a requirement of the Louisiana Cultural Economy Foundation, we ask that you report on how you benefited from the funds within 30 days after receipt of grant award.

How to apply

All applicants should submit one original and two copies of the application and all requested attachments. ***Incomplete applications will not be reviewed.***

Individual artists and artist businesses should complete the Individual Artist application and submit an up-to-date resume and/or summary of business activities. If you have already completed a Small Business Association (SBA) loan application or provided any other agency, lender, or insurer with damage information, please submit a copy. Further, if your organization has applied for any grants related to hurricane relief, please list those grant applications and the status of each.

Nonprofit arts and cultural organizations should complete the Nonprofit Cultural Organization application and submit the following attachments:

- ✓ Current updated operating budget
- ✓ Copy of tax-exempt information, such as IRS determination letter (if not currently tax exempt, please describe and substantiate structure)
- ✓ List of board of directors with affiliations
- ✓ Financial statement for most recently completed fiscal year
- ✓ Documentation of losses, such as: contractors' bills; rent, mortgage, and utility bills; other itemized receipts and invoices for expenses claimed in loss; box office records or financial statements comparing this year to the prior one; cancelled checks for relocation costs, etc.

If your organization has already completed an SBA loan application or provided any other agency, lenders or insurer with information requested by this application, please submit a copy. Further, if your organization has applied for any grants related to hurricane relief, please list those grant applications and the status of each.

Applications should be mailed through April 3, 2006 to:

The Louisiana Cultural Economy Foundation
Post Office Box 44202
Baton Rouge, LA 70804
Or email application to: cefoundation@bellsouth.net

If you have questions about the application, please call 225-342-8196

Support for the Louisiana Cultural Economy Relief Program

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Louisiana Cultural Economy Foundation

Louisiana has an economic asset that other states can only dream of: a multi-faceted, deeply rooted, authentic, and unique culture. And in Louisiana, culture generates economic value, and the state's cultural economy is a significant component of a healthy, diversified economy. Louisiana's cultural economy is defined as the people, enterprises, and communities that transform cultural skills, knowledge, and ideas into economically productive goods, services, and places. Disciplines that make up the cultural economy include: entertainment and performing arts, visual arts and crafts, design, media, literary arts, humanities, history, historic preservation, folklife, archaeology, and culinary arts. This definition of Louisiana's cultural economy reflects the state's unique culture, the diversity of its residents, its rich history, and its broad range of cultural products.

The Louisiana Cultural Economy Foundation was created as a catalyst for growth within the state's burgeoning cultural economy. Its primary mission is to support the development and enhancement of the unique cultural industries of Louisiana. Economic cultural development strategies include: supporting the origination, sustainability and authenticity of Louisiana culture; enhancing the production capacity for Louisiana cultural products; and expanding distribution and markets for Louisiana products. Accordingly, the Foundation will foster the support system for Louisiana's cultural economy. We anticipate that future grant opportunities made available by the Foundation will focus on rebuilding the industries and workforce within our cultural economy.

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