# Emergency Relief Funds Now Available to Nonprofit Arts and Cultural Organizations through Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs

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The Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA) has launched a new program providing a total of $502,400 in grants to Michigan's eligible nonprofit arts and culture organizations that have been negatively impacted as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation announced today.

"With the outbreak of COVID-19, many of our state's arts and culture organizations are faced with serious economic impacts, including challenges with cash flow and resources to support their workforce," said MCACA Director Alison Watson. "The Emergency Relief Funds program will provide assistance to these organizations that add so much value to Michigan's economy and bolster the creative life of our communities."

MCACA, through funding provided by the National Endowment for the Arts through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, will make a total of $502,400 in one-time grants to eligible nonprofit arts and cultural organizations, ensuring broad geographic distribution across Michigan. The funds can be used for salary support (full or partial) for one or more employees; fees for artists and/or contractual personnel; and facility costs, such as rent and utilities.

To be eligible, applicants must be a nonprofit arts and cultural organization, have tax-exempt status under Section 501(c) (3) of the U.S. Internal Revenue Services code, and be incorporated and physically located in Michigan.

The maximum request for funding is $5,000 and there is no match requirement. Applicatio are due by 5 p.m. on May 1 and applications will be scored based on total number of completed applications received by May 1. The number of grants awarded will depend on the number of

applications received, the amount requested and the completeness of the applications received. Funds are expected to be disbursed no later than June 1.

More information on the Emergency Relief Funds program is available at **www.michigan.gov/arts**.

**"While we** recognize that these funds will in no way meet the full needs or demands of the arts and cultural community, we hope they will provide some immediate relief and we will continue to leverage other resources as they become available," Watson said.

Other resources for businesses across Michigan to assist them in recovering from economic losses as a result of the COVID-19 virus can be found online at **michiganbusiness.org/covid19**. This site includes resources offered by the U.S. Small Business Administration, the **Pure Michigan Business Connect virtual procurement and donation platform**, support services offered through the Small Business Development Center and more. The MEDC has also developed a FAQ for Michigan businesses and communities at **michiganbusiness.org/covid19-faq**.

Information around this outbreak is changing rapidly. The latest information is available at **Michigan.gov/Coronavirus** and **CDC.gov/Coronavirus**.

For those who have questions about the state's actions to mitigate the spread of coronavirus, please call the COVID-19 Hotline at 1-888-535-6136 between 8AM - 5PM daily.

**About the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs**

As the state's government's lead agency charged with developing arts and culture policy and grant-making, MCACA recognizes the need for, and seeks out, a wide variety of public and private sector partners to help fulfill this mission to ensure that every citizen and community in Michigan enjoys the civic, economic and educational benefits of arts and culture.

**About Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC)**

The Michigan Economic Development Corporation is the state's marketing arm and lead advocate for business development, job awareness and community development with the focus on growing Michigan's economy. For more information on the MEDC and our initiatives, visit www.MichiganBusiness.org. For Pure Michigan® tourism information, your trip begins at www.michigan.org. Join the conversation on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Twitter.

**About the National Endowment for the Arts**

Established by Congress in 1965, the National Endowment for the Arts is the independent federal agency whose funding and support gives Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations, and develop their creative capacities. Through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector, the Arts Endowment supports arts learning, affirms and celebrates America's rich and diverse cultural heritage, and extends its work to promote equal access to the arts in every community across America. Visit **here** to learn more.

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