2010-2011 Special Project Support Grant Program
Program Guidelines

**Purpose:** Special Project grants provide one-time, matching and restricted support for special opportunities that arise during the fiscal year. Special opportunities are defined as projects that are not part of the applicant’s annual budget, regular programming or annual event. Grants may not be used to fund projects or events that have already taken place.

**Who May Apply:** Any non-profit organization in Cumberland County that focuses primarily on arts, history or other cultural programming to address one-time special opportunities. Applicants who have previously submitted their project under the Arts Council’s Project Support granting program may not resubmit in this category.

**Deadline:** Applications will be accepted on a monthly basis, and must be submitted by the 15th of the month. Applications received by the 15th of the month, will be reviewed and notification of awards will be made by the 15th of the following month.

**Funding Period:** Funding period is from October 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. Any projects that continue past the end of the current fiscal year must request special dispensation from the Arts Council.

**Maximum Amount of Grant:** An applicant may apply for up to $5,000.00. This is a matching grant and applicant must match the grant amount dollar for dollar (1:1). Organizations are limited to one award during any given fiscal year. The Arts Council may provide partial funding for any grant request. Applicants are encouraged to plan their projects and manage their expectations accordingly. Another grant from the Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County may not be used to match a Special Project Support Grant.
Review Criteria: The Arts Council will review each grant request based on the following:

The unique opportunity is clear and budget is realistic.
The outcome and measures of success are clearly defined.
The proposed activity advances one or more of the following Arts Council priorities:
  o individual creativity
  o cultural preservation
  o economic development
  o cultural tourism
  o lifelong learning through the arts

Agencies applying must demonstrate a commitment to:
  o Excellence - in artistry and content of programs and presentations
  o Accountability - through best practices as non-profit organizations
  o Transparency - in operations and decision-making

Projects addressing the following may receive priority consideration:
  o Collaboration - with many partners to leverage financial resources and expertise, and to build community consensus around cultural activities.
  o Innovation - as leaders in creatively enhancing the reputation and vitality of our city and county with a national and international audience.

Completing the Application:
Complete the application form, and attached a narrative (up to two pages). Narrative should address the following:

1. Describe the special opportunity to be addressed with the grant.
2. What is the desired outcome? (i.e., How will you define and measure success?)
3. Who from your organization will be involved in the activity? (i.e., Who is the project lead?)
4. How does this activity advance one or more of the Arts Council’s priorities? (See above.)

Reporting Requirements: Most important to the Arts Council is learning how your Special Project Grant helped improve or change the organization. All grantees will be required to submit a final report that describes the impact and outcome of the project. Final reports must be filed within 30 days of the activity’s completion.

If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Williams at (910) 323-1776 or KellyW@theartscouncil.com

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