Graham Foundation Grants to Organizations

See the full call here: http://www.grahamfoundation.org/grant_programs?mode=organization

Mission

Founded in 1956, the Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts fosters the development and exchange of diverse and challenging ideas about architecture and its role in the arts, culture, and society. The Graham realizes this vision through making project-based grants to individuals and organizations and producing exhibitions, events, and publications.

Grantmaking Focus

Architecture and related spatial practices engage a wide range of cultural, social, political, technological, environmental, and aesthetic issues. We are interested in projects that investigate the contemporary condition, expand historical perspectives, or explore the future of architecture and the designed environment.

We support innovative, thought-provoking investigations in architecture; architectural history, theory, and criticism; design; engineering; landscape architecture; urban planning; urban studies; visual arts; and related fields of inquiry. Our interest also extends to work being done in the fine arts, humanities, and sciences that expands the boundaries of thinking about architecture and space. In an effort to bridge communities and different fields of knowledge, we support a wide range of practitioners (such as architects, scholars, critics, writers, artists, curators, and educators) and organizations (such as non-profit galleries, colleges and universities, publishers, and museums).

Open discourse is essential to advance study and understanding, therefore our grantmaking focuses on the public dissemination of ideas. With our support, the work of individuals and organizations reaches new audiences, from specialized to general, and creates opportunities for critical dialogue between various publics.

Priorities and Criteria

For organizations, our priorities are to:

- Assist with the production and presentation of significant programs about architecture and the designed environment in order to promote dialogue, raise awareness, and develop new and wider audiences.
- Support them in their effort to take risks in programming and create opportunities for experimentation.
- Recognize the vital role they play in providing individuals with a public forum in which to present their work.
- Help them to realize projects that would otherwise not be possible without our support.

Overall we are most interested in opportunities which enable us to provide critical support at key points in the development of a project or career.

Criteria for Evaluation

Given our priorities, we believe projects of the greatest potential should fulfill the following criteria:

- Originality: the project demonstrates an innovative, challenging idea; critical, independent thinking; advanced scholarship; a new or experimental approach

- Potential for impact: the project makes a meaningful contribution to discourse and/or to the field; expands knowledge; is a catalyst for future inquiry; raises awareness of an understudied issue; promotes diversity in subject matter, participants, and audience

- Feasibility: the project has clear and realistic goals, timeframe, work plan, and budget

- Capacity: applicant possesses strong qualifications and/or knowledge; demonstrates ability to carry out the project successfully; has access to necessary resources outside of the grant request

Grant Types

- The Graham Foundation offers Production and Presentation Grants to organizations.
- These grants assist organizations with the production-related expenses that are necessary to take a project from conceptualization to realization and public presentation. These projects include, but are not limited to, publications, exhibitions, installations, films, new media projects, conferences/lectures, and other public programs.
- Projects must have clearly defined goals, work plans, budgets, and production and dissemination plans.
- Applications for Publication Support: Unless the applicant is a publisher, an organization applying for publication support should have a committed publisher for the work, that is, a publisher with whom you have a contractual agreement to publish your project.
- Grant amount: Production and Presentation Grants to organizations do not exceed $30,000 and are likely to be much less. Given the demand for funding, the Graham Foundation is not always able to fund grantees at the full request amount.
- Grant period: Production and Presentation Grants must be completed within two years of the project start date. Applicants should allow sufficient time to plan, implement, close out their project, and, if funded, acknowledge Graham Foundation support in all published media.

Eligibility

Our grantmaking focuses on organizations in the United States, however, we do make a small percentage of international grants. Please note we require that final projects be disseminated in English.

Grants to Organizations

- Organizations are eligible to apply for Production and Presentation Grants.

- 501(c)(3) tax exempt organizations are eligible for funding. Under some circumstances we will make grants to other entities when there is clear evidence that the public interest will be served, for example, in the case of a publisher or an emerging organization that does not yet have tax exempt status.

- An organization or academic department/unit may only apply for one grant per year. (In the case of large institutions with multiple departments, a subsidiary department/unit may apply for one grant per year. For example, an academic department/unit at a university may apply for one grant per year.)

- Applicants who have received prior Graham Foundation support must have satisfied all grant requirements before applying again.

Ineligible Costs

- Endowment
- General operating expenses
- Capital projects
- Scholarship aid or work in pursuit of an academic degree (advanced doctoral candidates are eligible to apply for the Carter Manny Award)
- Work focused on K-12 curriculum or learning and/or intended for K-12 audiences
- Debt or expenses incurred prior to the date of grant request

How to Apply

The Graham Foundation's application for Grants to Organizations is a two-stage process and is open submission. The review is a very competitive process, as we receive many more applications than we are able to fund. Funding decisions are based on:

- Priority of the proposed project as related to our mission and interests
- The project's fulfillment of our criteria for evaluation
- Availability of Graham Foundation funds

Stage One/Inquiry Form: Eligible organizations interested in applying for a grant from the Graham Foundation must first submit an Inquiry Form. The Inquiry Form becomes available on our website with each grant cycle and must be submitted online.

Stage Two/Proposal Form: After Inquiry Forms are reviewed, applicants whose projects best match our priorities and interests are invited to submit a Proposal Form and supplementary materials. Applicants who are not invited to submit a Proposal Form are sent a decline email at this stage. An invitation to submit a Proposal Form does not guarantee eventual funding. Please note that we cannot accept proposals other than those invited.

Award Decision: Funding recommendations are presented to the Board of Trustees for consideration. If a grant is awarded to you, you will be asked to sign a grant agreement that outlines the conditions of the award, such as annual reporting.

Application

The Stage One/Inquiry Form deadline for the Graham Foundation's 2022 Grants to Organizations is February 25, 2022, 5pm CST. Organizations with eligible projects are invited to apply for funding consideration for projects that begin after September 15, 2022.

To start an application, you will need a grant application account with an email address and a password.

Please note the application is comprehensive and applicants are encouraged to review the requirements well ahead of the deadline. For your convenience, a printer-friendly version of the form (including all fields, questions, and requirements) is available through a link on the form, accessible when you are logged into your account.

When registering for a grant application account, applicants should use an email address at their organization that is frequently used and monitored. The email address will also be the primary form of correspondence throughout the application process. If a grant is awarded, grantees will continue to maintain and access their account throughout the duration of their award for functions such as grant reporting.

Inquiry Form for 2022 Grants to Organizations

- To create a grant application account or to start a **new** application, click here
- To resume work on your **existing** Inquiry Form, go to My Account

The Inquiry Form will request the following information:

- Organizational information, including the organization's Graham Foundation grant history
- Project title
- One-sentence project description
- Project abstract (150 words)
- Project statement (500 words)
- Project start date and end date (Production and Presentation Grants must be completed within two years.)
- Work plan and project timeline
- Biography for project author/artist and for project collaborators
- Project production and presentation specifications
- Names of two references

Attachments (Uploaded with the application. The maximum size for all attachments combined is 20MB.)

- Organizational budget (One page maximum)
- Work samples
- Presentation Images

Calendar for 2022 Grants to Organizations cycle

Stage One/Inquiry Form available online: January 15, 2022

Stage One/Inquiry Form deadline: February 25, 2022, 5pm Central Time

Stage Two/Invitation to submit Proposal Form: March—May 2022 (rolling basis)

Grant decision notification: August 2022

Earliest project start date: September 15, 2022