



2027 SEASON COMMUNITY SUPPORTED ART (CSA) CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Deadline: Monday, September 28, 2026 at 5 pm

To Submit: Send your application and materials via email to Tania Blanich, Executive Director, at tania@theartspartnership.net

Questions? Contact Tania at tania@theartspartnership.net

The Arts Partnership (TAP) invites performing artists, musicians, visual artists, writers and artisans to apply for the 2027 Community Supported Art (CSA) program.

CSA connects artists and performers to arts consumers. Participants receive a stipend for their participation. Importantly, you and your work are introduced to approximately 50 shareholders plus their guests – all enthusiastic audience members who will spread the word about your talents. Past CSA artists have received commissions, sold additional art or been hired for other gigs, all thanks to the CSA experience.

Up to 50 individuals purchase a share that entitles the shareholders and a guest to three events at which they receive art to take home, a performance and great food and drink. In addition to the art and performances, CSA offers insight into the creative process and fosters a sense of community.

The program is fashioned after Community Supported Agriculture, in which consumers purchase a share of seasonal food directly from local farms. The Arts Partnership purchased the CSA template from Springboard for the Arts in St. Paul and adapted it to best fit our community.

CALL FOR ARTISTS

The proposed artwork or performance should reflect that sense of “local” that is a key feature of the community supported agriculture programs. Obviously, “local” can be interpreted in many ways, which makes for an exciting, varied season of art and performances.

Eligibility

Visual artists, artisans, writers/poets, musicians and performing artists and organizations from the Metro area and near region are eligible to apply. Any artist or entity that has participated in a previous CSA program must wait two CSA seasons before applying again and may only participate as a CSA artist a total of three times.

Stipends

- Performing or musical artists or arts groups *that are TAP Partners in good standing* receive a \$1,000 stipend for a 20-minute performance. Artists or groups that are not Partners receive a \$750 stipend.
- Visual artists and artisans *who are TAP Partners in good standing* receive a stipend of \$40 per art share produced, with a guaranteed minimum of 35 shares (\$1,400) and maximum of 50 shares (\$2,000). Artists who are *not* Partners receive \$30 per art share (\$1,050 for the minimum of 35 shares or \$1,500 for the maximum of 50 shares).
- Writers will be paid as performing artists or per share produced, depending on their proposal.

Selection Criteria

TAP strives to make sure that each season offers art and performances that would be new to our shareholders and that differ from season to season. That means we take a curatorial approach to the selection process. The selection committee considers whether similar work has been included in a recent CSA season or whether there are similar proposals submitted for the current season. For example, we wouldn't select *only* classical music ensembles or *only* woodcut prints for a single season.

The selection committee further considers the following when reviewing applications:

- Do the work samples represent a high level of artistic quality?
- Is the project proposal unique and original for the artist or arts organization while also staying true to the artist's/organization's body of work?
- Does the proposed artwork or performance represent or express something uniquely local?
- Does the proposed work complement the other works or performances proposed for the season and does it differ from recent past seasons?
- Performing artists:
 - Does this performance piece have a special quality that cannot be heard or seen anywhere else during the CSA season?
 - Can the proposed performing arts share be presented feasibly in an untraditional performance venue, often in limited physical space?
- Visual artists and artisans:
 - Can up to 50 shares of the proposed take-home art be made feasibly by the next season's deadline? (The earliest deadline would be May 2027.)
 - Does the format of the take-home art consider the physical size, number and distribution of artworks? It should be easily transportable by the shareholders – for 2D work, no larger than 5" x 7" and for 3D work, it should fit into a box no larger than 18"x12"x12".
 - The art should not be commercial or appear to be mass-produced.
 - Is each work unique or is it one-size-fits-all? Either is fine, but it is nice when there is a variety of work for our shareholders, whether that's 50 singular works or 1 out of 6 variations, etc.

- Writers:
 - Consideration as per above, depending on your proposal.

The selection committee reserves the right to ask for modifications before accepting your work.

The proposed work must be **exclusive to this CSA program until 6 months after the event date.**

APPLICATION MATERIALS

Submit materials via e-mail to tania@theartspartnership.net by **Monday, September 28 at 5 pm.**

1. A one-page maximum **artist's statement and proposal** for the work you would create for the CSA program. Consider the following:

- Why is this artwork/performance a good fit for the CSA program?
- Discuss the connection to "local" and/or our region.
- How might your proposed art share allow you to plant the seeds for your own future artistic harvest?
- For visual artists and artisans, please note the physical size of the share and discuss how you will package the artwork, which can be as simple as a bag with handles or a plastic sleeve.

2. **Artist Resume** (specific to your artistic practice)

3. Sample of Proposed Work

Ideally, visual artists, artisans and writers will provide a sample of the proposed work in its final form, but if that is not feasible, you may provide a detailed concept of the proposed CSA work with this application. If your proposal is included in the selection committee's initial selection, you may be asked to submit a more fully realized version of the proposed CSA work by Friday, October 16.

Visual Artists and Artisans

- 2-5 good-quality images or renderings of the proposed project.
- For 3-D work, capture the work from more than one angle.
- Indicate whether the sample is in its final form or whether it is a draft version.

Writers

- A PDF or WORD document of your proposed CSA share, labeled "draft" if it is not the final version.

Musicians and Performing Artists/Organizations

Performance space is limited, so keep that in mind when deciding how many performers will participate; for example, a chamber orchestra rather than the full symphony.

- If not clear from the artist statement and proposal, submit an additional description (no more than a single page) of what you/your organization would perform during the CSA event.
- The performance should be approximately 20 minutes in length.

4. Samples of Previous Work

- Visual Artists and Artisans: 4-6 good-quality images
- Musicians: 1-3 MP3 audio files
- Performing Artists: links to 1-3 video examples of your work hosted at an outside site, for example, YouTube or Vimeo.
- Writers/Poets: 1-3 writing samples (no more than 5 pages total) in either PDF or Word format.

Applications received after 5 pm on Monday, September 28, will not be considered.

Selected artists will be notified **by Friday, October 2**. The selection committee reserves the right to put out another call for artists if necessary.

Primary Arts Partners will receive priority over non-Partners, but you do not have to be a Primary Partner to apply. If your CSA application is accepted, you will have one (1) week to apply for Partnership and pay the annual dues so that you may receive the larger stipend. You will also be expected to pay dues and be a Partner in good standing for the calendar year in which your CSA season occurs.