



GRANT INFORMATION

The CMA Foundation is focused on shaping the next generation through music education. We believe every child should have access and opportunity to participate in a quality program. Meeting the needs of each community through music education is complex and often takes time. We work closely with our grantees to establish best practices, generate innovative teaching opportunities, engage local community through advocacy, and strengthen the quality of music instruction. We are also committed to celebrating the successes of the music education community.

Our investment model requires complete transparency, strategy, and focus. Prior to applying for a grant, please review our grant guidelines and determine if your organization best meets our criteria. We look forward to learning more about the mission of your organization, the commitment you have to your community and the many opportunities that may exist between our organizations.

SHOULD WE PARTNER

GRANTS: OUR PROCESS

Our investment is more than a monetary transaction; it's a partnership.

The CMA Foundation doesn't just grant money to schools and organizations or settle for adequate music programs. We are committed to providing quality resources, implementing the best practices, and investing in the overall infrastructure to ensure the music education programs we're helping to build end up are thriving and delivering successful and lasting results.

More than we want to create the next generation of musicians, we want to create a better world by improving the level of education for students today. We believe music education carves an additional pathway for success.

Areas of Focus

Instruments & Equipment

It's impossible to teach without the proper materials. We help physically equip music education programs.

Professional Development

Students can't thrive if their teachers aren't thriving. We create an environment where teachers are well-supported and well-educated, so they are equipped and confident.

Implementing Strategy

You can have willing teachers and proper materials, but without an effective strategy, you won't see results. We work to partner schools and community organizations to work together to solve challenges and strengthen the quality of music education.

Youth Development

When students have life-long access to music education, their capacity for social, emotional, cognitive, and artistic development increases. Our primary focus is helping students reach their full potential.

Research & Data

Knowing what's working and what isn't is an invaluable resource when it comes to improving music education. The research and data we receive from past grantees also help us provide evidence for success and why we do what we do. Check out our investments to see what we mean.

GRANTS: APPLY TODAY

We're looking for the "right fit."

As cliché as it may sound, the CMA Foundation carefully and strategically selects each of our partnerships to find the right fit. If you've read about our process, then you know we don't just pick grantees at random; we have to be well-matched. Our specific investment model requires complete transparency and cooperation, focus and flexibility, and perseverance—not to mention an overwhelming amount of passion and excitement for music education.

We are looking for grantees who are motivated and ready to make a difference in the lives of their students that will impact future generations and the world we live in. Please review our areas of focus to see if your organization would be a good fit.

We are so excited to learn more about the mission of your organization, the commitment you have to your community, and how we can potentially partner together to do something amazing.

The CMA Foundation considers the governance and management of each grantee to be determining factors for effectiveness and impact. We encourage grantees to have, or be working toward, a composition of board and senior staff that is diverse and reflective of the racial and ethnic demographics of the children, families and communities they serve.

THE PROCESS

The CMA Foundation works with each grantee to identify and confirm the most significant areas of need within an application. A prospective grantee should be prepared to work closely with Foundation staff in revising and refining the proposal before it is finalized. Together we will develop a plan and strategy for executing and implementing your program objectives. All expectations are agreed upon by both the CMA Foundation and grantee prior to fund distribution. We value our grantees and the role they play within their community and in a child's life. Our investment is a collaborative effort not a transaction.

All grantees are expected to complete a series of status updates during the term of the grant. Together we will evaluate the success of the program and identify any challenges being faced. We often look to data for program evaluation but also recognize that impact can be measured through story telling and action. As partners, we hope to communicate often during the term of the grant. The final report delivered by each grantee should contain program information that was featured through status updates.

The success and challenges faced within all our investments are learning opportunities for future investments. Transparency is vital to the success of our partnership.

CMA Foundation Grant Application

The 2019-2020 grant submission window will open July 1, 2019 and run through July 31, 2019.

GRANTEE NOTIFICATION

October 2019

In order to be eligible, an applicant organization must be an organization that is exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code ("IRC"), and not a private foundation as described in IRC Section 509(a). An applicant must be in good standing with its state of incorporation and the Internal Revenue Service.

First year grant applicants should not exceed \$20,000. Requests for start-up projects may be considered for new initiatives that address important, unmet community needs and that demonstrate a potential for ongoing operational support from other sources. Each organization should present strong financial documentation in their application.

In addition, the Foundation will NOT fund grants for the following purposes or activities:

- *Individuals*
- *Newsletters, magazines*
- *Projects of churches and religious organizations that primarily benefit their own members (exception: church-based programs with broad community support and separate financial statements)*
- *Sponsorship of special events or similar fundraising and advertising activities*
- *Stand-alone books, films or videos*
- *Legislative lobbying or other political purposes*
- *Debt retirement*
- *Loans*
- *Other Foundational giving activities*
- *Capital campaigns*
- *Private schools*
- *Music Therapy*

Check back here on July 1 for the CMA Foundation Grant Application

For more information about the CMA Foundation and grant inquiries please contact:

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