The Arts
All types of human expression, influenced by culture and driven by creative impulse, that contribute to the beauty and meaning of human life. Click organization to visit their website.

2019 Arts Grantees

3Arts
$55,000
First installment of $165,000 three-year grant for the 3Arts Award, Make a Wave, and General Operating Support
3Arts works to sustain and promote artists in the six-county Chicago metropolitan area. The grant funds an annual award that supports women artists, artists of color, and artists with disabilities who are selected by a prestigious national jury panel. The groundbreaking Make a Wave program is designed to eliminate the institutional gatekeeper and the barriers of typical selection processes, honor the expertise of past 3Arts awardees as they determine the recipients, and offer unrestricted funds to a wider field of artists who are identified by their peers.
Chicago, IL

About Face Theatre
$65,000
2018-2019 Season
About Face Theatre is committed to producing work that portrays lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people positively and realistically, and hope that these representations spark dialogue and social change in the push toward equal rights for all.
Chicago, IL

Albany Park Theater Project
$75,000
Second installment of $250,000 three-year grant for Port of Entry
Albany Park Theater Project is a multi-ethnic, youth theater ensemble that inspires people to envision a more just and beautiful world. Since its founding in 1997, APTP teens have created 21 original plays, opened their neighborhood’s first performing arts space, and performed for more than 50,000 people.
Chicago, IL
**American Documentary, Inc./POV**

$150,000

*First installment of a $300,000 two-year grant for Documentary Program Support & Gala Match*

American Documentary’s founding principle is to present stories and storytellers from the margins. Their award-winning programs provide a national platform for a diverse range of independent media artists and reach millions of viewers around the country, for free.

Brooklyn, NY

**Americas Media Initiative**

$10,000

*Challenge grant for the Cuban Visions Film Series*

Cuban Visions Film Series is co-presented by the Americas Media Initiative (AMI) and Full Spectrum Features. The series showcases the work of Cuban filmmakers and provides a unique window into both early revolutionary and contemporary Cuban society, covering issues such as racial inequity, the Cuban economy, Cuban internationalism, Afro-Cuban identity, LGBTQ rights, and gender equality.

Chicago, IL

**Blair Thomas and Company**

$50,000

*Final installment of $150,000 three-year grant for the Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival*

The Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival showcases an entertaining and eclectic array of puppet styles from around the world. Blair Thomas & Co. is recognized as an international contributor to contemporary puppetry and a creator of uniquely expressive spectacle theater.

Chicago, IL

**Bunny & Crocodile Press (Forest Woods Media)**

$7,000

*Final installment of $14,000 two-year grant for The Poet & The Poem Series*

The Poet and the Poem from The Library of Congress annually presents twelve 30-minute radio programs, each featuring one or two poets recorded at the Library of Congress and are available to listen to on the Library of Congress’ website.

Annapolis, MD
The Chicago High School for the Arts
$100,000
First outright installment of $300,000 two-year grant for the Post-Secondary Program Success for Scholar-Artists
The Chicago High School for the Arts develops the next generation of diverse, artistically promising scholar-artists through intensive pre-professional training in the arts, combined with a comprehensive college preparatory curriculum.
Chicago, IL

Chicago Art Department
$156,000
$10,400 to Ayako Kato; $104,000 to Frank Waln; and $41,600 to Keanon Kyles as part of the For Your Gift Program

$75,000
Themed Residencies and Civic Programs
Chicago Art Department cultivates new and emerging artists. It aims to support artists by exploring studio art, exhibition, and learning opportunities. Through exhibitions, artist residencies, and community building, they are dedicated to cultivating voices, ideas, and practices based in the field of contemporary art.
Chicago, IL

Chicago Human Rhythm Project
$75,000
Second installment of a $225,000 two-year grant for General Operating Support
Chicago Human Rhythm Project’s mission supports the practice and appreciation of percussive arts to expand the boundaries of rhythmic expression/understanding and to foster social reconciliation. They promote sustained relationships between diverse individuals and communities; present culturally diverse, world-class percussive arts concerts and education programs; and sustain the art form through social enterprise, creation, and collaboration.
Chicago, IL

Chicago Jazz Philharmonic
$15,000
Challenge installment of $35,000 grant for Chicago Immigrant Stories & General Operating Support
Chicago Jazz Philharmonic unites jazz and classical music to create a new, evolved, “third stream” sound. Their programs bring together diverse cultural audiences; provide a creative space for jazz and classical musicians to collaborate; enable young musicians from all corners of the city to perform and work together; and serves as an effective model for cultural diplomacy, locally and globally.
Chicago, IL
Chicago Latino Theater Alliance
$35,000
*Professional Development and General Operating Support*
The Chicago Latino Theater Alliance is a non-profit organization that nurtures Chicago's first-voice Latino theatre companies, provides future-large scale productions, and established the first annual Latino International theater festival to encourage discourse on diversity and inclusion.
Chicago, IL

Congo Square Theatre Company
$50,000
*Final installment of $75,000 two-year grant for General Operating Support*
Congo Square Theatre is a professional ensemble-based organization that champions the African American experience by producing transformative theatre, spawned from the African Diaspora, to enlighten, educate, and inspire everyone. They stage professional works that provide the people of Chicago an accessible, nuanced, and authentic perspective of the African American experience.
Chicago, IL

Deeply Rooted Dance Theater
$45,000
*Final challenge installment of $75,000 grant for General Operating Support*
Deeply Rooted Dance Theater's mission is to re-imagine and diversify the aesthetics of contemporary dance by bringing together modern, classical, American, and African-American traditions in dance and storytelling.
Chicago, IL

DFBRL8R
$10,000
*Performance Art Programming*
DFBRL8R is committed to risk and experimentation in performance art. Often presenting works that surprise, shock, or confuse their viewers – sparking dialog and conversation about what art is and what it can be.
Chicago, IL

Diasporal Rhythms
$35,000
*Youth Programming*
Founded in 2003, Diasporal Rhythms is an organization comprised of art collectors who want to dispel the myths surrounding who is/can be a collector. In addition to promoting black art and artists, Diasporal Rhythms provides youth programming and educational presentations in the Bronzeville, Hyde Park, Washington Park, Jackson Park, and South Shore communities.
Chicago, IL
Ensemble of Ragas School of Performing Arts
$10,000
*Surabhi Ensemble Global Peace Tour 2019*
Ensemble of Ragas is dedicated to teaching and promoting the ancient Indian art form of Carnatic music, particularly through increased awareness of the Veena. The Surabhi Ensemble Global Peace Tour presents a creative blend of indigenous music from each of the regions they represent: Indian classical, Middle Eastern maqam, and Spanish flamenco music. The tour included travels to Hanoi, Andalusia, Lisbon, and Dakar.
Vernon Hills, IL

The Environmental Film Festival in the Nation’s Capital
$50,000
*Second installment of a $150,000 three-year grant for Festival Screenings and the Opening Night Reception*
The Environmental Film Festival in the Nation’s Capital is the world’s premier showcase of environmentally themed films. Their mission is to celebrate Earth and inspire understanding and stewardship of the environment through the power of film. They host the largest environmental film festival in the world, presenting 100+ films to audiences of more than 20,000.
Washington, D.C.

Maria Finitzo (Kartemquin Films)
$52,250
*The Dilemma of Desire*
A feature length documentary by two-time Peabody Award-winning filmmaker Maria Finitzo, produced in partnership with four-time Oscar-nominated production studio Kartemquin Films, the film follows a conceptual artist, two scientists, and an industrial designer who are using their work to shatter the myths and outright lies women have been taught about their sexual desire and their bodies.
Chicago, IL

Forward Momentum Chicago
$30,000
*Second installment of $80,000 two-year grant for General Operating and Capacity Building Support*
Forward Momentum Chicago’s mission is to inspire possibilities through dance education programs that strengthen schools and communities with limited arts access. They help fill a gap in dance education for Chicago-area youth and provide dance classes to underserved neighborhoods, serving approximately 4,000 students.
Chicago, IL
Free Street Theater
$100,000
General Operating Support
Founded in the wake of the 1968 Chicago riots, Free Street uses performance to unite people in defiance of racial and economic segregation. It creates performances by, for, with and about a wide range of participants and challenge ideas of where theater belongs and who belongs in a theater.
Chicago, IL

Full Frame Documentary Film Festival (Center for Documentary Studies)
$25,000
Second installment of $75,000 three-year grant for the Reva and David Logan Grand Jury Award
Full Frame Documentary Film Festival is an annual international event dedicated to the theatrical exhibition of nonfiction cinema. The Full Frame Grand Jury Award is the event's top award. It allows the festival to support the work of filmmakers by bestowing a cash prize and by publicly recognizing exceptional nonfiction filmmaking.
Durham, NC

Hamilton Wood Type & Printing Museum (Two Rivers Historical Society)
$196,750
Final installment on a $393,500 two-year grant for Capacity Building Support
The Hamilton Wood Type and Printing Museum is the only museum dedicated to the preservation, study, production and printing of wood type. Their work advances the understanding of printing and design heritage by documenting, archiving and reproducing the history and images of American letterpress printing.
Two Rivers, WI

HotHouse
$25,000
Second installment of $50,000 two-year grant for HotHouse Programs
HotHouse’s pioneering emphasis on smart diplomacy, bridge building through cultural exchange and enhancing opportunities for diverse cultural expression has long marked the organization as a national leader in the field.
Chicago, IL
Hyde Park Art Center
$100,000
*Second installment of $300,000 three-year grant for Teen and Young Adult Programs*
Hyde Park Art Center is a hub for contemporary arts in Chicago, serving as a gathering and production space for artists and the broader community to cultivate ideas, impact social change, and connect with new networks. This grant will be used to support four teen/young-adult initiatives: Expanding Access, Young Adults and Alumni, Connections with Professional Artists and Teen Artist Advanced Track.
Chicago, IL

Hyde Park Jazz Festival
$10,000
*General Operating Support*
The Hyde Park Jazz Festival has established itself as a major cultural event in Chicago and includes 35 free programs over 2 days in more than a dozen venues for nearly 20,000 community members & visitors.
Chicago, IL

Interrobang Theatre Project
$6,000
*2018-19 Season*
Interrobang Theatre Project is a dynamic Chicago theatre company created to explore works that pose compelling questions about who we are and the world in which we live in an exciting manner. ITP's mission is to produce visceral and timely works, rarely produced texts and new American plays.
Chicago, IL

International Latino Cultural Center
$5,000
*Challenge installment of $40,000 grant for The Chicago Latino Film Festival’s Outreach & Educational Cultural Programming*
The International Latino Cultural Center of Chicago is a Pan-Latino, multidisciplinary arts organization dedicated to developing, promoting and increasing awareness of Latino cultures among Latinos and other communities by presenting a wide variety of art forms including film, music, dance, visual arts, comedy and theater.
Chicago, IL
Kartemquin Films
$150,000
*General Operating Support*
Kartemquin is a collaborative community empowering documentary makers who create stories that foster a more engaged and just society. Over the course of 52 years, the organization has produced 65+ documentaries, promoting film as a medium to spark dialogue and public engagement around social issues to support a vibrant democracy.
Chicago, IL

Khecari
$20,000
*Challenge installment of $60,000 grant for General Operating Support*
Khecari presents unusual, intimate experiences that attend to the audience, challenge theatrical conventions and disrupt social norms. They engage art as a fluid, undefined, questioning and questing force in society; live performance connects them to their physically grounded reality.
Chicago, IL

Kuumba Lynx
$70,000
*Second outright installment of $255,000 three-year grant for Capacity and Staffing Support*
Kuumba Lynx is committed to the lives of youth using urban art and performance to cultivate strong communities built on a foundation of love. It has honed an arts-making practice that presents, preserves and promotes hip hop as a tool to resist systemic violence where youth can reimagine and demonstrate a more just world.
Chicago, IL

Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts
$50,000
*Rapid Response Fund*

$253,992.96
*Final installment of a $757,000 three-year grant for the Jazz, Blues, and Matinee Programs*
Designed as a home for the creative life of the University of Chicago campus and the city of Chicago, the Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts is a partner, resource, and catalyst for developing deeper cultural networks and richer creative projects citywide and beyond.
Chicago, IL
Loyola University Chicago
$171,770.88
Arrupe College Scholarship and Technology Support for Students in Financial Need
Arrupe College is a two-year college of Loyola University of Chicago that uses an innovative high-touch educational model that provides an affordable and rigorous liberal arts education to a diverse population with various socioeconomic barriers. Arrupe’s mission is to take care of the whole person, which is evident in their promise of continued engagement with graduates.
Chicago, IL

Mosaic Theater Company
$ 251,957.76
Final installment of $1,000,000 four-year grant for the Community Engagement Initiative
Independent, intercultural, entertaining, and uncensored, Mosaic Theater Company is committed to making transformational, socially-relevant art and is dedicated to making its theater a model of diversity and inclusion.
Washington, D.C.

The People’s Music School
$100,000
Second installment of $300,000 three-year grant for General Operating Support

$150,000
Matching grant for Let It Shine Annual Gala
The People’s Music School provides free music education for children, ages 5-18 years old, from all across Chicago. Through intensive instruction and performance, their students achieve excellence in music that transfers to other areas of life. The students grow musically, socially, emotionally and intellectually and develop a foundation of responsibility, self-esteem, resilience and purpose.
Chicago, IL

Signature Theatre Company
$125,000
SigWorks New Work Projects
Signature Theatre is a nationally known, Tony Award-winning theater that produces contemporary musicals and plays, reinvents classic musicals, develops new work, and reaches its community through engaging educational and outreach opportunities.
Arlington, VA
Silk Road Rising
$25,000
*Outright installment of $50,000 grant for The West Ridge Story Project*
The West Ridge Story is a 4-phase project that focuses on the diverse communities of West Ridge connecting and sharing their stories. Programming includes a community needs assessment, storytelling and playwriting workshops for residents, and a festival of plays developed and staged in four different parts of the community.
Chicago, IL

SkyART
$75,000
*Second installment of $225,000 three-year grant for SkyART Go*
SkyART uses free visual arts programming as a vehicle for young people to create, to communicate effectively, and to learn the essential skills and creative thinking needed to succeed. SkyART offers free visual art programs to young people in three distinct areas: Studio, School, and Community.
Chicago, IL

Trap Door Theatre
$40,000
*Second Stage*
Trap Door is committed to seeking out challenging yet obscure works and bringing them to life. Whether it is a European classic rarely seen in the United States, an untarnished piece of American literature, or the playwright living next door, Trap Door will find these voices and present them to the public through innovative expression.
Chicago, IL

Young Chicago Authors
$100,000
*2019 Louder Than a Bomb Youth Poetry Festival*
Through creative writing, Young Chicago Authors helps young people from all backgrounds to understand the importance of their own stories and those of others, so that they can pursue the path they choose and work to make their communities more just and equitable.
Chicago, IL