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.

2020 Arts Grantees

3Arts
$55,000
*Second 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.
Chicago, IL

About Face Theatre
$40,000
*Outright installment of $65,000 grant for General Operating Support*
About Face Theatre is committed to producing work that portrays lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people positively and realistically, and hope that these representations spark dialogue and social change in the push toward equal rights for all.
Chicago, IL

Blair Thomas and Company
$35,000
*First outright installment of $180,000 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
The Chicago High School for the Arts
$50,000
First challenge 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 Jazz Philharmonic
$25,000
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.
Chicago, IL

Deeply Rooted Dance Theater
$120,000
First outright and challenge installments of $440,000 three-year 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

En Las Tablas Performing Arts
$16,892
Learning New Skills as Part of Growing and Serving our Community Program
En Las Tablas Performing Arts provides an open, safe and affirming space where participants can explore artistic expression through performing arts experiences that are geared to educate, celebrate and connect participants with one another, their culture and rich artistic history.
Chicago, IL
Forward Momentum Chicago
$10,000
Final installment of $80,000 two-year grant for General Operating Support

$30,000
Outright installment of $65,000 grant for General Operating 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

Front Porch Arts Center (Chicago Art Department)
$5,000
Groundwork Funds for Front Porch Arts Center and General Operating Support
Front Porch Arts Center’s mission is to reclaim and celebrate the rich history and culture of the Westside. The organization creates spaces for artists and community residents to find self and community value through the reexamination of their own narratives.
Chicago, IL

Full Frame Documentary Film Festival (Center for Documentary Studies)
$25,000
Final 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

Hyde Park Art Center
$100,000
Final 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
$5,000
Challenge grant in support of 2020 Virtual Gala
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

International Latino Cultural Center
$40,000
The Chicago Latino Film Festival’s Outreach & Educational Cultural Programming and General Operating Support
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

Interrobang Theatre Project
$10,000
First outright installment of a $31,000 three-year grant for General Operating Support
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

Joel Hall Dancers and Center
$15,000
COVID-19 Emergency Grant for General Operating Support
As Joel Hall Dancers & Center attempts to weather the distress of the COVID-19 pandemic and the recent events of racism and police brutality, it is committed to prioritizing the dynamic needs of its leaders, staff, and community. JHDC’s top priority right now is to provide its artists and staff with stable income streams by creating more jobs for them, and to generate opportunities for struggling community members to continue their participation in JHDC’s programming.
Chicago, IL
**Kartemquin Films**
$15,750  
*The Dilemma of Desire*  
Maria Finitizo's film, "Dilemma of Desire", is deeply connected to the social issues that are at the core of gender equality. True equality will come only when we all arrive at a place of understanding and acknowledgement that all women are sexual beings, entitled to live their lives fully within the expression of their desire.  
Chicago, IL

**Khecari**
$35,000  
*Outright installment of $50,000 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**
$85,000  
*Final outright and second challenge installments 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

**Mosaic Theater Company**
$125,000  
*First installment of a $375,000 three-year grant for a Chicago Residency*  
Mosaic will launch a 3-year residency in Chicago, starting in January 2021. This residency will combine two of Mosaic’s signature artistic programs: its annual *Voices for a Changing Middle East Festival* and a twice-annual tour through Chicago neighborhoods of iconic, Chicago-resonant, African-American stories.  
Washington, D.C.
Pegasus Theatre Chicago
$25,000
General Operating Support
Pegasus Theatre Chicago produces socially conscious theatre while developing new artists. The theatre brings together a diversity of talented artists, encourages intergenerational and multidisciplinary collaboration, and tells the hard-to-tell stories. Pegasus is deeply committed to providing an inclusive theatre for voices, ideas, expression and people that are frequently unheard.
Chicago, IL

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

$100,000
Matching grant for Big Night 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

Red Line Service (Fractured Atlas)
$10,800
General Operating Support
Red Line Service creates cultural experiences for and with Chicagoans currently experiencing and/or concerned about homelessness. In partnership with organizations providing direct services and those advocating for policy development, they strive to open and expand critical dialogues about poverty, social responsibility, and culture. At the same time, they strive to stimulate growth and change for all program participants
Chicago, IL

Side Street Studio Arts
$30,000
First year’s installment of a $60,000 two-year grant for General Operating Support
Founded in 2013, Side Street Studio Arts (SSSA) encourages the artistic process in Elgin from creation to curation. SSSA has proved itself to be an artistic, cultural, and social beacon for Elgin and beyond.
Elgin, IL
Silk Road Rising
$25,000
Challenge 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
Final 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
$60,000
First installment of $180,000 three-year grant for General Operating Support
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
$125,000
First year's installment of $375,000 three-year grant for Louder Than a Bomb Youth Poetry Festival and General Operating Support
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
Young Women’s Music Project (NEO Philanthropy)
$50,400
Second installment of $151,200 three-year grant for Sisterhood Program
Young Women’s Music Project (YWMP) provides an inclusive, non-judgemental, safe and nurturing environment to raise self-esteem, self-confidence, and knowledge through music. This grant that will enable YWMP to employ three project participants as session assistants, in partnership with Oxford Contemporary Music.
Oxford, UK