



## Regional Touring Program

### Frequently Asked Questions By Organizations (Last updated June 2, 2020)

This document is intended to answer as many questions about the Regional Touring Program as possible. Please thoroughly read through all questions and answers before sending an inquiry to M-AAA staff. If you do not see your question addressed here, please send an email to [rtp@maaa.org](mailto:rtp@maaa.org).

**A. Who is eligible to apply for funding through the Regional Touring Program?**

Eligible applicants include 501(c)3 tax-exempt nonprofit organizations, governmental agencies, or tribal entities incorporated in the M-AAA region (Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas).

**B. NEW in FY21: Is a fully executed contract held between the artists and the applicant required for the application to be considered complete?**

No. Previously a fully executed contract was required, but in light of the ongoing COVID-19 public health crisis, a letter of agreement (LOA), memorandum of understanding (MOU), or other documentation with essential project information noted will suffice for the purposes of the application process. That being said, in order for funding to be awarded a fully executed artist contract is required.

**C. May an organization submit multiple Regional Touring grant applications?**

Yes, an organization may submit multiple applications per fiscal year (July 1–June 30). Organizations can be awarded a maximum of three RTP grants in any given fiscal year.

**D. What kinds of projects are eligible for consideration through the Regional Touring Program?**

Eligible projects consist of two parts: outreach engagement and a public feature presentation. Outreach engagement can include, but is not limited to: exhibitions, lecture/demonstrations, master classes, residencies, workshops, and other creative approaches to engage the community in the feature presentation artist or educate the community about the art form(s). The outreach engagement can be provided by a local scholar, educator, or artist working with similar themes or the same art form as the feature presentation.

**E. NEW in FY21: Can projects be live streamed online?**

Yes. M-AAA prefers in-person experiences of projects supported through its grant programs. However, in light of the ongoing COVID-19 public health crisis, online live streaming is a reasonable accommodation to provide programming to audiences in a safe manner. Programs live streamed online must allow for artist and audience interaction before, during and/or after the presentation or engagement (e.g. chat, Q&A).

**F. What is an underserved audience?**

An underserved audience is a group of individuals who lack access to the arts due to geography, economic conditions, ethnic background, disability, or age. Organizations must show an effort to include underserved audiences in the project.

**G. Do grant funded project activities have to be free to the public?**

No. Activities are required to be open to the general public, but that does not mean they must be offered for free. Events available only to subscription ticket holders are not considered open to the general public.

**H. How much funding can be requested for the project through the Regional Touring Program?**

For artists listed on the region's state arts agency rosters, a maximum of 50% of the artists' contractual fees up to \$5,000 can be requested through any single application. A maximum of 25% of any other regional artists' contract fees up to \$5,000 can be requested through any single grant application.

**I. Are award amounts the same as requested in the grant application or are they ever reduced?**

M-AAA intends to award amounts as requested in the application, but reserves the right to award funding as it is available.

- J. **Is there a limit to the amount of funding an organization or an artist can receive in a single fiscal year?**  
Yes. The maximum aggregate amount of M-AAA funding any one artist or organization can be awarded or receive as a result of successful applications is \$15,000 in a single fiscal year (July 1–June 30).
- K. **Does M-AAA require matching funds for the Regional Touring Program?**  
Yes. That 1:1 match is typically met with ease because the grant offers support up to 50% of the artist’s contract fees. All other project expenses (i.e., remaining artist fees, staff time, marketing, materials) must be provided by the applicant organization.
- L. **Can in-kind contributions be used to meet the match requirement for the program?**  
No.
- M. **If projected ticket revenue is not met and the artist contract(s) are renegotiated, will the grant award be affected?**  
Possibly. The grant amount is based solely on the fees stated in the final fully executed contract between the artist and the presenter. If the artist fee is reduced, the grant will be reduced accordingly. Under no circumstances will the grant award be increased due to a change in the artist contract.
- N. **Who will review my application?**  
M-AAA staff will review all applications for eligibility. Awards are subject to approval by the M-AAA Board of Directors.
- O. **Does M-AAA have geographic priorities?**  
Yes. As a regional arts organization we are focused on supporting individuals and organizations that reside or are incorporated in Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas.
- P. **How is a community defined as rural?**  
Rural status is determined by information provided from the U.S. Department of Commerce, based on the Department of Commerce’s Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) rating.
- Q. **Will M-AAA make only one award per community per fiscal year?**  
No. M-AAA will consider multiple awards to organizations and individuals in a single community.
- R. **Should the organization submit letters of support for the project?**  
No. If organizations are working in partnership, applicants are urged to include information about the partnership and common strategies employed in the application’s narrative sections.
- S. **Will a M-AAA Regional Touring Program award affect whether an applicant is eligible for grants from other governmental agencies or foundations?**  
No. The only restriction with respect to M-AAA awards is that the matching funds cannot be derived from other federal grants or subsidies.
- T. **Is a project eligible to receive funding from M-AAA if funding for the same project has been received from a foundation that is a funder of M-AAA?**  
Yes. If the organization receives funding from non-federal M-AAA funders, it will not impact M-AAA funding eligibility.
- U. **Will M-AAA Regional Touring Program grants be subject to the reporting and auditing requirements associated with federal programs?**  
No. M-AAA grants have their own final evaluations that are due within 30 days of the completion of the funded project.
- V. **If an artist has been awarded a M-AAA grant through another program in the current fiscal year, can they be the designated feature or outreach artist involved in our project?**  
It depends. Given the limited funding M-AAA has available to support creative endeavors, artists and organizations alike can be the recipient of no more than an aggregate of \$15,000 through successful grant applications submitted in a single fiscal year. Questions should be directed to the Director of Grant Programs.
- W. **I didn’t find my question/answer here; now what?**  
If you did not see your question addressed here, please send an email to [rtp@maaa.org](mailto:rtp@maaa.org).