



Call for Proposals Cultural Resource Economic Fund

The Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon is seeking letters of interest for capital construction projects of \$100,000 or more, occurring between July 1, 2023 -June 30, 2025

Letter of interest are due July 28, 2022

Full application for eligible projects due August 29, 2022

Email applications to: sue@oregonculture.org

Contact: Sue Hildick, Senior Advisor

Cultural Advocacy Coalition History, Vision and Mission

The Cultural Advocacy Coalition was formed in 1998 to advocate for policies and funding that will create a thriving environment for art, heritage, history and the humanities across Oregon.

The Coalition's vision is a state where Oregonians are able to access and engage in arts, heritage and the humanities in their community without barriers; where students have equitable access to quality arts education throughout their academic careers; and arts and culture organizations are able to provide innovative, world class programming that allows for the export of ideas, innovation and creative work, while contributing to Oregon's economy and quality of life.

The Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon is committed to cultural equity and strives to embody values, policies, and practices that ensure that all people—including but not limited to those who have been historically underrepresented based on race/ethnicity, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, socioeconomic status, geography, citizenship status, or religion—are represented in the development of arts policy; the support of artists; the nurturing of accessible, thriving venues for expression; and the fair distribution of programmatic, financial, and informational resources.

The Coalition advances its mission and vision by lobbying the state legislature on behalf of Oregon's cultural community in support of its legislative agenda, which includes both policy matters and funding for capital projects. Prior to each odd-year legislative session, the Coalition reviews and endorses a package of capital construction requests for the legislature's consideration.

The Coalition's intent is to endorse a package which is geographically distributed throughout Oregon and representative of a diversity of genres in arts, heritage, history, and humanities. While organizations can apply multiple years in a row, preference is to endorse new projects and organizations who have not been previously funded via the Cultural Resource Economic Fund.

Cultural Resources Economic Fund (CREF) Purpose

The Cultural Resources Economic Fund was established by the Oregon Legislative Assembly in 2013. Its goals are to:

- Leverage art and cultural resources to create vibrant public spaces that integrate art and cultural and natural amenities;
- Sustain Oregon's rich arts and cultural experiences; and
- Enhance a strong sense of place and community identity.

In order to improve and strengthen the economic vitality of Oregon communities, the Oregon legislature may allocate Lottery Bonds or General Fund dollars through the Cultural Resources Economic Fund as designated grants for capital projects in the cultural sector including new construction, building acquisition, historic preservation and reconstruction.

Qualifying Core Criteria

- Preference given to Oregon-based 501(c)3 cultural nonprofits who are members in good standing with the Cultural Advocacy Coalition of Oregon;
- Have legal authority to improve subject property;
- Capital projects that align with the purpose of the Cultural Resources Economic Fund;
- Projects that clearly support increased access to arts, heritage or the humanities and produce a quantifiable economic impact;
- Organizational commitment to championing policies and practices of cultural equity that empower justice, inclusiveness, and equity.
- Projects that are expected to be completed within the designated period;
- Request seeks 50% or less of construction costs for capital budgets exceeding \$100,000

Project Proposal—establishing eligibility

Oregon-based cultural institutions are invited to request the Coalition's review and endorsement of their project with a letter of interest which addresses the following information:

- Overview of organization's leadership, mission, history and annual budget
- Statement of need, with description of the problem
- Statement of the solution, with **detailed description of the capital project;**
- **If the site is not owned by the applicant, provide a letter of support from the owner along with verification of legal authority to improve property, and description of existing building ownership or proposed ownership structure.**
- Description of how the capital project directly advances access to arts, heritage or the humanities, and aligns with the purpose of the Cultural Resources Economic Fund;
- **Description and examples of the organizations commitment to championing policies and practices of cultural equity that empower justice, inclusiveness, and equity.**
- **Estimate of the project's economic impact or description of process being undertaken to quantify economic impact**
- **Estimated construction budget and timeline, and project fundraising to date**
- Amount requested through Cultural Resources Economic Fund;
- Other state, local or federal funding secured or requested;
- Identify the subject property's State Representative and State Senator
- Key contact information

Letters of interest are due no later than Thursday, July 28, 2022

Panel Review—evaluating eligible projects for endorsement

A review panel appointed by the Coalition will evaluate the project proposals and develop recommendations for endorsements to the Coalition board. Organizations notified that they have met eligibility requirements via their letter of interest will be asked to provide the following supplemental information, including but not limited to:

- Schematics of proposed project
- Detailed revenue and expense projections
- Updated estimated economic impact of project
- Legislative/elected official support
- Letter of support from potentially adversely impacted parties; or community outreach plan
- Business plan or sustainability plan
- Restoration or rehabilitation plan
- Risks or planning considerations which may materially impact timing, funding or completion.
- Details demonstrating ownership and rights to the property (examples: Deed, Property Taxes Bill) or attach the Lease in its entirety outlying the term of the lease and the that lease clearly states the organization can make the improvements listed in the grant application. Leases with under 10 years remaining will not be considered. Unique ownership models should be clearly spelled out in the document with supporting materials such as MOU's, letters that show legal authority, or signed first right of refusal to purchase or other binding contracts. If the committee cannot clearly ascertain from the documents presented clear ownership or authority to make improvements your application will be rejected.

Organizations are asked to provide this additional information no later than Monday, August 29, 2022.

Endorsed Projects—preparing for legislative advocacy

Following panel review, the Coalition will notify endorsed organizations during early September 2022. The Coalition will work with endorsed organizations to prepare for legislative review. The Coalition will formally request funding on behalf of the package of endorsed projects, coordinate lobbying efforts among organizations and manage the sector's Ways and Means request through the legislative session.

An endorsement by the Coalition does not guarantee approval of legislative funding.