

Overview

The St. Croix Valley Foundation (SCVF) recognizes that participation in arts and cultural activities enriches the region's quality of life, promotes interaction among residents, and builds community across diverse groups. The **Valley Arts Initiative** grant program intends to fund high-quality arts experiences – supporting nonprofits and artists, engaging the community, and ultimately fostering a rich and diverse arts ecosystem in the St. Croix Valley.

This year, the SCVF received a Wisconsin Arts Board (WAB) grant; the WAB is the state agency that nurtures creativity, cultivates expression, promotes the arts, and stimulates community and economic development. All WAB funds received are matched by SCVF and regranting to nonprofits deploying innovative arts programming.

Funding Categories

Organizations with arts at the core of their mission and programs may apply for either:

- Program Support or
- General Operating Support

Non-Arts organizations may apply for:

- Program Support for arts programming that **deeply** engages artists and participants (the SCVF recommends contacting [Heidi Herron](#) to discuss program details).

Eligibility:

Applicant must provide programming/services within the six-county SCVF service area (Chisago and Washington counties in MN; Burnett, Polk, St. Croix, and Pierce counties in WI).

Applicant must be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, a governmental entity, tribal entity, educational or religious organization defined as tax exempt, or partner with an eligible fiscal agent.

All grant-supported activities must be held in spaces that are accessible to everyone.

Ineligible activities include:

- Grants to individual artists.
- Events that serve primarily as fundraisers for an organization.
- Travel costs for projects or performances that occur outside of the greater St. Croix Valley.
- Hospitality expenses (i.e. refreshments or food at receptions, parties, gallery openings; these may appear in the project budget, but cannot be funded by the Valley Arts Initiative grant).
- Activities that discriminate on the grounds of race, color, national origin, age, or sex.

To Apply

To access the application visit: [SCVF's Online Application Portal](#)

- For editing ease, the narrative section maximum character count is substantial; however, the review panel appreciates concise applications.
- Applicants may begin the application process, save their work, and login to their account later to complete and submit the application.
- Following submission, the applicant may download a copy of the completed application.

Application timeline

- Application Live: Early December
- Application Deadline: Mid-January
- Notifications: February
- Grant funds must be expended within one year from the date of the award.

Grant Range

Grants range from \$500 - \$5,000; proposals may receive partial funding.

Decision-Making Process

A knowledgeable panel reviews proposals in a public meeting. Applicants are invited and encouraged to attend, but attendance will not affect the decision on your organization's proposal. Decisions in all grant programs follow an established review process and are made according to a conflict-of-interest policy.

Questions: Contact Heidi Herron, Grants & Scholarships Manager, St. Croix Valley Foundation, 715-386-9490 or hherron@scvfoundation.org.