Creative Entrepreneur Accelerator Program

Overview
The Creative Entrepreneur Accelerator Program is designed to:
- Pair creative entrepreneurs with existing small business consulting services.
- Help creative entrepreneurs grow their business, audience, and revenue.
- Advance the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts’ overarching value of diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Prioritize investments to creative entrepreneurs who identify as BIPOC.
- Prioritize investments to creative entrepreneurs located in and whose work benefits low-income communities as defined by the Small Business Administration.

Roles & Responsibilities

Pennsylvania Council on the Arts (PCA)
A state agency under the Office of the Governor with the mission to strengthen the cultural, educational, and economic vitality of Pennsylvania communities through the arts.
Responsibilities:
- Program funder
- Act as a liaison between PPA Partners and referral coordinators
- Provide funding to the Creative Entrepreneur Accelerator Program

Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts (PPA)
PCA’s regional re-granting program that assists PCA in allocating state arts funds to support local and community arts projects and programs.
Responsibilities:
- Accept the referral form provided by the referral coordinator
- Review the client information form provided by the creative entrepreneur for eligibility
- Provide the application form to the creative entrepreneur
- Review and accept the application
- Provide funding check to creative entrepreneur

Referral Coordinators
A local small business development organization (i.e. local Small Business Development Centers).
Responsibilities:
- Provide free consultation services and a business plan review for the creative entrepreneur
- Complete the referral form and submit it to the PPA Partner

Creative Entrepreneurs
Creative entrepreneurs must operate in the creative industry, be at least 18 years old, a current resident of PA for one year, and (if applicable) manage a business with gross revenue of less than $200,000.
Responsibilities:
- Complete one consultation with a referral coordinator
- Complete and submit client information form to the PPA Partner
- Complete and submit application to the PPA Partner

The Process
- Identify creative entrepreneurs interested in starting or growing a business.
- Creative entrepreneur reaches out to PPA Partner for referral coordinator information.
- Creative entrepreneur & referral coordinator consult and review business plan.
- Referral coordinator works with and refers creative entrepreneur to PPA regional partner.
- Creative entrepreneur completes and submits client information form & application to PPA Partner.
- Upon receipt of eligible and complete application, PPA Partner enters into grant award agreement with creative entrepreneur.
PPA PARTNERS

Region 1
Erie Arts & Culture
Serves: Crawford, Erie, Lawrence, Mercer, Venango, Warren
www.erieartsandculture.org

Region 2
Elk County Council on the Arts
Serves: Cameron, Elk, Forest, McKean, Potter
www.eccota.com

Region 3
Community Giving Foundation
Serves: Bradford, Columbia, Lycoming, Sullivan, Tioga
www.cs giving.org

Region 4
Northeastern Educational Intermediate Unit 19
Serves: Lackawanna, Luzerne, Pike, Susquehanna, Wayne, Wyoming
www.aienepa.org

Region 5
Lehigh Valley Community Foundation
Serves: Carbon, Lehigh, Monroe, Northampton
www.lvcfoundation.org

Region 6
Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance
Serves: Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, Philadelphia
www.philaculture.org

Region 7
Berks Arts Council
Serves: Berks, Lancaster, Schuylkill
www.berksarts.org

Region 8
The Foundation for Enhancing Communities
Serves: Cumberland, Dauphin, Lebanon
www.tfec.org

Region 9
Cultural Alliance of York County
Serves: Adams, Franklin, Fulton, York
www.culturalyork.org

Region 10
Community Partnerships RC&D
Serves: Juniata, Mifflin, Montour, Northumberland, Perry, Snyder, Union
www.cpartnerships.com

Region 11
Centre Foundation
Serves: Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Huntingdon
www.centre-foundation.org

Region 12
Westmoreland Museum of American Art
Serves: Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Fayette, Somerset, Westmoreland
www.thewestmoreland.org

Region 13
United Way of Clarion County
Serves: Armstrong, Butler, Clarion, Indiana, Jefferson
www.uwclarionco.org

Region 14
Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council
Serves: Allegheny, Beaver, Greene, Washington
www.pittsburghartscouncil.org

For general questions contact:
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