

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
EFA GRANTS PROGRAMS



Irving S. Gilmore
Student Arts Scholarships

KALAMAZOO COUNTY ARTS
ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

KALAMAZOO REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY
1819 East Milham Ave • Portage, Michigan 49002-3035

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS EFA IRVING S. GILMORE STUDENT ARTS SCHOLARSHIPS

EDUCATION FOR THE ARTS MISSION STATEMENT

Education for the Arts is a countywide program whose mission is to enhance arts education for all students in Kalamazoo County, making dance, music, theatre, visual, media and literary arts an essential part of comprehensive education.

GRANT PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The primary purpose of this grant program is to provide opportunities for K-12 students to explore or expand their artistic experiences. EFA recognizes that every child has the innate urge and capacity to be artistically expressive. An education that includes study of the arts requires students to draw upon their creative abilities and to deepen them, as well. The benefit is that creative thinking learned early lasts for a lifetime and can be applied in other endeavors.

Appropriate projects for student scholarship grants are artistic study, practice, or performance. These may include for example, private instruction, workshops, classes or internships. Funds in this program will be awarded to eligible students for projects selected by EFA panelists that will improve students' appreciation, understanding and practice of the arts.

SCHOLARSHIP TIMELINE

December 1- applications become available online

Fourth Thursday of January – applications due by 11:59 pm

Late March – scholarship decisions released

June 1 through August 31 of following year – funds must be used

WHO MAY APPLY

Any student currently enrolled in grades K-11, whose legal residence is in the Kalamazoo RESA jurisdiction (Climax-Scotts Community Schools, Comstock Public Schools, Galesburg Augusta Community Schools, Gull Lake Community Schools, Kalamazoo Public Schools, Parchment School District, Portage Public Schools, Schoolcraft Community Schools or Vicksburg Community Schools). **Current high school seniors are not eligible to apply.**

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications are available online at www.kresa.egrant.net or www.kresa.org/efa. Students may submit one Irving S. Gilmore Student Arts Scholarship application per year.

REQUIRED SUPPORTING MATERIALS

A one-page letter of support from arts organization, school official or private instructor who best knows applicant's work in the arts. A work sample is required for applicants requesting more than \$750.

GRANT WORKSHOP

EFA may offer optional workshops to assist applicants in the preparation of their proposals. Please refer to the EFA website, www.kresa.org/efa, for workshop schedule.

DEADLINE

Applications must be submitted electronically to Education for the Arts **by 11:59 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of January.** No late applications will be accepted.

FUNDING

Total awards of \$80,000 are planned, in amounts up to **\$750, \$1250** and **\$2500 for advanced** students. Matching funds are not required, however, applications that document evidence of need or show a commitment of matching funds, in cash or in kind, will receive special consideration. Full funding of requests without any other sources of income will only be considered for applicants demonstrating financial need.

Grant funds may be used for:

- Participation in artist retreats, forums, workshops, institutes, internships, apprenticeships, mentorships, partnerships, university or college course work, private instruction or other artistic study.
- Tuition, registration fees
- Instrument / equipment rental
- Artist/consultant fees
- Materials, supplies, texts
- Transportation (excluding international travel), lodging, meals
- Admission to arts events

Grant funds may not be used for:

- Purchase of equipment or musical instruments
- Projects focusing on non-arts subject matter
- Transportation costs associated with international travel expenses
- Competitions

Awards will be made to the arts institute, school, studio or organization on behalf of the applicant.

Any questions concerning fund distribution should be directed to the Education for the Arts office.

REVIEW AND EVALUATION

All complete applications will be reviewed by an independent review panel which will make recommendations for funding.

Projects will be evaluated as follows:

Project Summary	
Objectives	60%
Project Quality	
Planning, Activities, and Time Line	
Evaluation	40%
Special Circumstances	
Budget	

Funds for this project have been made available through a grant from the Irving S. Gilmore Foundation.

If you have questions, please contact:

Kalamazoo RESA
Education for the Arts
1819 East Milham Avenue
Portage, MI 49002-3035
Phone: (269) 250-9244
Email: kris.deryder@kresa.org

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