



**Arts Commission  
Regular Meeting  
November 4, 2025 - 4:30 PM  
Postmark Center for Arts  
20 Auburn Ave**

## **AGENDA**

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### **CALL TO ORDER**

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- A. The Arts Commission Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, November 4, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. will be held in person and virtually.

In-person location: Postmark Center for the Arts, 20 Auburn Ave, Auburn, WA

ZOOM Participation Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87944254545>

Meeting ID: 879 4425 4545

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,87944254545# US (Tacoma)

+12532050468,,87944254545# US

### **ROLL CALL**

### **AGENDA MODIFICATIONS**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

This is the place on the agenda where the public is invited to speak to the Board on any issue.

- A. The public can participate in-person or submit written comments in advance. Participants can submit written comments via mail, fax, or email. All written comments must be received prior to 5:00 p.m. on the day before the scheduled meeting and must be 350 words or less.

Please mail written comments to:

City of Auburn

Attn: Allison Hyde, Arts Program Supervisor

25 W Main St

Auburn, WA 98001

Please fax written comments to:

Attn: Allison Hyde, Arts Program Supervisor

Fax number: 253-931-4005

Email written comments to: [ahyde@auburnwa.gov](mailto:ahyde@auburnwa.gov)

If an individual requires accommodation to allow for remote oral comment because of a difficulty attending a meeting of the governing body, the City requests notice of the need for accommodation by 5:00 p.m. on the day before the scheduled meeting. Participants can request accommodation to be able to provide a remote oral comment by contacting the Parks, Arts and Recreation Department in person, by phone (253) 931-3043, or by email ([ahyde@auburnwa.gov](mailto:ahyde@auburnwa.gov)).

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. Approval of October 7, 2025 Minutes

## **ACTION ITEMS**

- A. 2026 Postmark Programming Grant Application Review
- B. 2026 Arts Commission Chair & Vice Chair Nominations

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- A. News and Updates

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Agendas and minutes are available to the public at the City Clerk's Office and on the City website (<http://www.auburnwa.gov>).



**AGENDA BILL APPROVAL FORM**

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**Agenda Subject:**

Approval of October 7, 2025 Minutes

**Meeting Date:**

November 4, 2025

**Department:**

Parks, Arts & Recreation

**Attachments:**

10.07.25\_AAC\_Minutes

**Budget Impact:**

**Administrative Recommendation:**

**Background for Motion:**

**Background Summary:**

**Councilmember:**

**Staff:**



**Arts Commission  
Regular Meeting  
October 7, 2025 - 4:30 PM  
Postmark Center for Arts  
20 Auburn Ave**

## **MINUTES**

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### **CALL TO ORDER**

Commission Chair Tori Olsen called the meeting to order at 4:31PM.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- A. The Arts Commission Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 4:30 p.m. will be held in person and virtually.

In-Person meeting location:  
Postmark Center for the Arts  
20 Auburn Avenue, Auburn, WA 98002

ZOOM Participation Link:  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84306364562>  
Meeting ID: 843 0636 4562  
One tap mobile  
+12532050468,,84306364562# US  
+12532158782,,84306364562# US (Tacoma)

### **ROLL CALL**

**Present:** John Harris, Tammy Dwight, Tori Olsen, Rocky Salvador, Carol Smetheram, Andrea Dailey, Ann Marie Natali, Kristine De Leon, Dinah Rau

**Excused:** Dr. Carol Crawford Danner, Amber Lott

**Unexcused:** N/A

**Staff:** Allison Hyde, Arts Program Supervisor; Amanda Jenkinson, Arts Assistant; Alexandra Mojica, Arts Assistant

**Guests:** N/A

### **AGENDA MODIFICATIONS**

### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

- A. The public can participate in-person or submit written comments in advance. Participants can submit written comments via mail, fax, or email. All written comments must be received prior to 5:00 p.m. on the day before the scheduled meeting and must be 350 words or less.

Please mail written comments to:  
City of Auburn  
Attn: Allison Hyde, Arts Program Supervisor  
25 W Main St  
Auburn, WA 98001

Please fax written comments to:  
Attn: Allison Hyde, Arts Program Supervisor  
Fax number: 253-931-4005

Email written comments to: [ahyde@auburnwa.gov](mailto:ahyde@auburnwa.gov)

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## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- A. Approval of August 5, 2025 Minutes

Commissioners were asked to review minutes for the August 5, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Chair Tori Olsen called for a motion to be made. Commissioner Dinah Rau moved that the minutes be accepted as written. Commissioner John Harris seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS, REPORTS, AND PRESENTATIONS**

- A. 2026 Auburn Galleries and Site-Specific Galleries Presentation

Arts Assistant Amanda Jenkinson provided a presentation of the 2026 Auburn Galleries and Site-Specific Galleries, showcasing recommended artists for each gallery based primarily on the scoring given by commissioners. Jenkinson mentioned that 70 applications were received for the Auburn Galleries and 29 applications for the Site-Specific Galleries.

Final artists selected for 2026 Community Center Gallery exhibition include: Laura Hoppenjans, Sandra Penney, the Auburn School District Student Exhibition, Susan Boye, Yoshi Nakagawa, along with applicants from 2025, Anthony Jackson and the Contemporary QuiltArt Association. Final artists selected for 2026 Cheryl Sallee Gallery exhibition include: Dmitrii Patapov, Eileen Bochsler, Gillian Hunt, Hae Chon Lee, Cindy Patry, Rachel Wold, Steven Miller and Vanessa Marsh.

Jenkinson inquired opinions from Commissioners on which of artist Maria Olga

Meneses' two proposals would be best suited for the Art on Main window-front gallery space. The Commission chose to move forward with Meneses' first proposal of displaying Japanese textiles, with Commissioner Dinah Rau recommending a potential collaboration with the White River Valley Museum to tie in the work with the history of the Japanese community in Auburn.

Commissioners then discussed and agreed the merits of swapping Meneses' original placement in the Art on Main window-front gallery with proposed Vault Gallery artist, Hugo Moro. Final artists selected for 2026 Vault Gallery exhibition include: Maria Olga Meneses, Lauren Kallsen-George, Rachel Milstein and Reed Peck-Kris. Final artists selected for 2026 Art on Main exhibition include: Bayu Angermeyer, Hadiya Finley, Kyle Ocean and Hugo Moro. Commissioner Kristine De Leon moved that the 2026 gallery recommendations be accepted as both presented and discussed. Commissioner Dinah Rau seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **A. Brief Update - Downtown Public Art Project**

Arts Program Supervisor provided an update on the Downtown Park Public Art project. Hyde made Commissioners aware that the selected artist, John Fleming, would need some additional design time for the artwork, as well as preparing for the final presentation.

### **B. Art Commission Members End of Terms**

Arts Program Supervisor Allison Hyde announced the four upcoming Arts Commission vacancies for 2026. Hyde encouraged all Commissioners to reach out to people who might be interested in applying.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 5:19pm.

## 2026 AAC Postmark Arts & Culture Programming Grant Applications

Name	Last name	Organization/Artist Project	Website	2026 Amount Requested	Description
Larine	Chung	Artist	<a href="http://Larinechung.com">Larinechung.com</a>	\$1,800	Spring Festival: Art x Music Fusion Celebration with in collaboration with the Seattle Chinese Music Ensemble. 60-minute all-ages experience and hands-on creation of three painted artworks.
Kayla	Daly	Kiwanis Club of Auburn	<a href="https://k00795.site.kiwanis.o">https://k00795.site.kiwanis.o</a>	\$2,000	Kiwanis Speaker Series: 5 Community Civic-Engagement Speakers
Shruti	Ghatak	Artist	<a href="http://www.shrutighatak.com">www.shrutighatak.com</a>	\$2,000	Fragile histories: Terracotta temple relief sculpture in contemporary dialogue: public lecture, curated display of sculptures, community discussion and outreach
Andy	Perkovich	Artist	<a href="http://ilikeloudmusic.com">ilikeloudmusic.com</a>	\$1,325	Our Faces, Our Futures: Auburn Headshots Project
Rachel	Perry	Auburn Symphony Orchestra	<a href="http://www.auburnsymphony.org">www.auburnsymphony.org</a>	\$2,000	Rhythm & Rhymes Story Hour - four free family-friendly performances including music performance and storytelling in collaboration with ASO and the Auburn Library
Allison	Preisinger	Artist	<a href="https://www.allisonpreisinge">https://www.allisonpreisinge</a>	\$2,000	An Interactive Evening Suitable for Introverts: series of interactive art gatherings combining art making with poetry or music

Manaswini	Sridhar	Artist	<a href="http://www.manaswini.com">www.manaswini.com</a>	\$2,000	Chaturyuga - The time and Cycle - Indian dance: A one-hour classical Indian dance performance
Jennifer	Treese		<a href="https://calicodress9.wixsite.c">https://calicodress9.wixsite.c</a>	\$2,000	Calico Dress #9 Auburn Workshops: 4-three-hour workshops teaching embroidery and creating a collaborative dress for display
Anita	White	Lady "A" (Artist/perfo	<a href="http://www.ladyababyblues.com">www.ladyababyblues.com</a>	\$2,000	Collaborative Storytelling: Finding Your Voice in Community & Music Workshop
Ilana	Zaks	Artist	<a href="https://ilana-zaks-violinist.ma">https://ilana-zaks-violinist.ma</a>	\$2,000	Love, Madness and Masquerade: Violin and piano performance
Cherisa Berry / Maria Brown / Nicole Turner		Artist		\$630	Redefining Luxury – The Black Experience of Sustainable Textile Practices
				<b>\$19,755</b>	<b>Total Funding Requested</b>



# 2026 Postmark Center for the Arts Arts & Cultural Programming Grant Application Form

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Projects from January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026

Deadline: September 30, 2025

*granting committee will meet in November 2025*

If applicants are in need of a printed and/or translated copy of this document, it will be provided. Please contact Arts Program Supervisor, Allison Hyde at [ahyde@auburnwa.gov](mailto:ahyde@auburnwa.gov)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Larine Chung \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: 2222 109th Ave SE \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: Bellevue WA 98004 \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: Larine Chung \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: 2064274553 \_\_\_\_\_ Email: [larinechung@hotmail.com](mailto:larinechung@hotmail.com) \_\_\_\_\_

Website (if applicable): [Larinechung.com](http://Larinechung.com) \_\_\_\_\_

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

Program Title: Art and music crossover \_\_\_\_\_

Program Start Date: February 07, 2026 \_\_\_\_\_

Program End Date: February 07, 2026 \_\_\_\_\_

Program Location/Venue: **Postmark Center for the Arts and/or Auburn Arts Alley**

Grant Amount Requested (\$500-\$2,000): <sup>1800</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION/PROPOSAL

*Please describe your intended program within half a page, or less than 1,000 words.*

Spring Festival: Art x Music Fusion Celebration is a vibrant, interactive celebration led by local artist Larine, in collaboration with the Seattle Chinese Music Ensemble. This 60-minute experience invites children and families to explore the joyful intersection of music and visual art through hands-on creation and shared expression.

Participants will be immersed in a relaxed, welcoming atmosphere where art dances with melody, collages echo rhythm, and paintings quietly absorb the soul of a song. All materials will be provided. This is more than a celebration event—it's an empowering invitation to step into the creative process and discover that you, too, are an artist.

Inspired by the beauty of both Chinese and Western musical traditions, families will be encouraged to paint along with the music, responding intuitively to rhythm, harmony, and sound. Larine will guide the experience as both art mentor and musical guide, weaving in gentle social-emotional lessons—like how to let the body move freely with music and how creativity can be a form of healing.

Together, we will co-create 3 large-scale canvases (36" x 42"), each a collective reflection of spring's renewing energy and the power of artistic connection.

**PROGRAM IMPACT/ PUBLIC BENEFIT**

*What is the significance of your program occurring next year? How does your project benefit or speak to the communities in Auburn? Please describe in 1000 words or less.*

Spring Festival: Art x Music Fusion Celebration is a vibrant, interactive celebration This is more than a celebration event—it's an empowering invitation to step into the creative process and discover that you, too, are an artist.

The essence of art and music is expression. In the earliest days of humanity, before language and writing, many emotions were unexpressible. At that time, music and art emerged, becoming the most direct outlet for our inner voices. This free art and music crossover program aims to give an opportunity to freely experience and express themselves via the help with music and art, without worrying about or needing to know too much or the need to invest in lessons or materials. We want to invite participants to explore this new way of expressing!

**FEASIBILITY**

*Tell us how you intend to execute your program within budget and timeframe. Please describe in 500 words or less.*

I have had great success with this program in spring 2025 collaborating with Seattle Youth Symphony Orchestra ensemble and in summer 2025 with pianist Kane Zhang at Gage Academy drawing jam. I hope to build on that success in 2026 with the Seattle Chinese Music Ensemble. After selecting the music pieces and booking the program date, we would appreciate help from the City of Auburn to advertise a pre-registration form, and each organization will advertise the program opportunity to their audiences. We would market the program in our social media feed and made posters to post in Auburn neighborhoods community board and cafes.

**PROGRAM BUDGET**

**Expenses**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind/Non-Cash</b>
Program Staff/Personnel	\$1,500.00	\$100.00
Materials/Supplies/Equipment	\$250.00	\$50.00
Marketing/Promotions	\$50.00	\$0.00
Other	\$0.00	\$0.00
Subtotals	\$1,800.00	\$150.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total:</b>	
		\$1,950.00

**Income**

<b>Source of Income</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind/Non-Cash</b>	<b>Confirmed/Received (Yes/No)</b>
Admissions	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Sales	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Donations	\$0.00	\$150.00	Yes
Grants	\$1,800.00	\$0.00	0
Applicant Cash	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Subtotals	\$1,800.00	\$150.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total:</b>		
			\$1,950.00

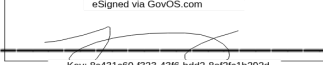
**BUDGET CONFIRMATION**

Please check this box to confirm that the amounts above are correct.

**OPTIONAL** – You may attach flyers/photographs or any other supporting documents that illustrate the importance of your program.

Please check this box if you have read the grant application guidelines document and understand the criteria for the application.

By signing, I state that I am authorized to commit to the Postmark Center for the Arts in financial matters, and that any funds received will be used only for the purposes of the program. The undersigned certifies that the information in the application is true and complete to the best of his/her/their ability and knowledge.

Signed:  Dated: 09-30-2025

Key: 8c431c60-f323-43f6-bdd2-8af2fc1b292d



# 2026 Postmark Center for the Arts Arts & Cultural Programming Grant Application Form

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Projects from January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026

**Deadline: September 30, 2025**

*granting committee will meet in November 2025*

If applicants are in need of a printed and/or translated copy of this document, it will be provided. Please contact Arts Program Supervisor, Allison Hyde at [ahyde@auburnwa.gov](mailto:ahyde@auburnwa.gov)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Kiwanis Club of Auburn

Street Address: PO Box 1249

City/State/Zip: Auburn WA 98071

Contact Name: Kayla Daly

Contact Number: 253-508-2499 Email: kayla.marie.daly@gmail.com

Website (if applicable): k00795.site.kiwanis.org

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

Program Title: Kiwanis Speaker Series

Program Start Date: February 01, 2026

Program End Date: November 30, 2026

Program Location/Venue: **Postmark Center for the Arts and/or Auburn Arts Alley**

Grant Amount Requested (\$500-\$2,000): \$2000

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION/PROPOSAL

*Please describe your intended program within half a page, or less than 1,000 words.*

The Kiwanis Club of Auburn would like to host a free Speaker Series at the Postmark Center for the Arts in 2026. We plan to hold three events in the spring (February, March, April), and two in the fall (October and November), focusing on times of year when accessible indoor programming is most appreciated and sought after.

Each program will feature a local or regional speaker highlighting arts, culture, or community history. Our program in 2025 was an eclectic mix that showcased a vibrant cultural scene in Auburn and the surrounding area. Past speakers included Eileen Lamphere of the Japanese American Citizens League, the Auburn WA Sister Cities Association, Tacoma writer Tamiko Nimura, the Auburn service clubs, and ASO. In 2026, we want to continue that momentum by deepening and nurturing our community networks, including Green River College, the Muckleshoot Tribe, and other local partners. We plan to feature a balance of local groups, cultural organizations, and creative practitioners, as well as exceptional speakers available through the Humanities Washington Speakers Bureau. Each event will last 60–90 minutes and include time for Q&A and informal community conversation.

By highlighting local and regional voices, we invite audiences to reflect on Auburn's cultural diversity and the role of civic engagement in strengthening community life. Programs will be free and open to the public, designed to encourage participation from a wide range of community members. Each talk provides not only exposure to unique perspectives but also a welcoming forum for conversation, fostering deeper connections between Auburn residents and the cultural resources around them.

## **PROGRAM IMPACT/ PUBLIC BENEFIT**

*What is the significance of your program occurring next year? How does your project benefit or speak to the communities in Auburn? Please describe in 1000 words or less.*

In 2025, our pilot series showed strong interest and introduced us to new community partners. Continuing the program next year builds on this momentum, ensuring the Speaker Series becomes a consistent part of Auburn's cultural calendar.

The program benefits Auburn by highlighting the diversity of the region, offering free and accessible programming in a central location, and creating opportunities for dialogue. Each event introduces residents to a new perspective and provides a chance to reflect on Auburn's shared identity. Hosting the Speaker Series in 2026 also takes advantage of new opportunities. With Humanities Washington's Speakers Bureau offering curated, compelling voices from across the state, we can elevate the series with high-caliber presentations while remaining deeply rooted in Auburn's local context.

At a time when families and individuals are seeking low-cost, meaningful opportunities for connection, this program offers free cultural enrichment. The ripple effect of this programming extends beyond the events themselves. Past speakers have connected audience members to volunteer opportunities, creative projects, and new partnerships. For Auburn, these free programs are not just enrichment, they are catalysts for stronger civic ties and greater understanding across communities.

## **FEASIBILITY**

*Tell us how you intend to execute your program within budget and timeframe. Please describe in 500 words or less.*

The Kiwanis Club of Auburn has a proven track record of successfully hosting public programming at the Postmark Center, including the 2025 Speaker Series and our ongoing involvement with BRAVO! events. Building on this experience, we will implement the 2026 Speaker Series through clear planning, partnerships, and efficient use of resources.

By January 2026, we will confirm three speakers for the spring and have solid leads for the two fall speakers, drawing from local cultural groups, writers, intellectuals, and the Humanities Washington's Speakers Bureau. Dates at the Postmark Center for the Arts will be reserved for February, March, April, October, and November. Each program will run 60–90 minutes, with Kiwanis volunteers managing logistics such as setup, refreshments, and hospitality.

Promotion will include flyers, Kiwanis and Key Club networks and partners such as the Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Auburn Cooperative, local library channels, press releases, and the City of Auburn cultural calendar. The grant budget will cover speaker honoraria, travel costs if applicable, and publicity. In-kind support from Kiwanis volunteers and refreshments donated by local businesses ensure the program stays within budget. One new addition for 2026 will be incorporating at least one Humanities Washington speaker, which elevates the series while keeping costs predictable.

The series will conclude by November 2026, with final reporting completed in December.

**PROGRAM BUDGET**

**Expenses**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind/Non-Cash</b>
Program Staff/Personnel	\$0.00	\$2,000.00
Materials/Supplies/Equipment	\$500.00	\$0.00
Marketing/Promotions	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Other	\$1,500.00	\$0.00
Subtotals	\$2,000.00	\$3,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total:</b>	
		\$5,000.00

**Income**

<b>Source of Income</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind/Non-Cash</b>	<b>Confirmed/Received (Yes/No)</b>
Admissions	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Sales	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Donations	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	yes
Grants	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Applicant Cash	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Other	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	0
Subtotals	\$2,000.00	\$3,000.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total:</b>		
			\$5,000.00


**BUDGET CONFIRMATION**

Please check this box to confirm that the amounts above are correct.

**OPTIONAL** – You may attach flyers/photographs or any other supporting documents that illustrate the importance of your program.

Please check this box if you have read the grant application guidelines document and understand the criteria for the application.

By signing, I state that I am authorized to commit to the Postmark Center for the Arts in financial matters, and that any funds received will be used only for the purposes of the program. The undersigned certifies that the information in the application is true and complete to the best of his/her/their ability and knowledge.

Signed:  Dated: 09-30-2025

eSigned via GovOS.com  
Key: 8c431c60-f323-43f6-bdd2-8af2fc1b292d



# 2026 Postmark Center for the Arts Arts & Cultural Programming Grant Application Form

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Projects from January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026

Deadline: September 30, 2025

*granting committee will meet in November 2025*

If applicants are in need of a printed and/or translated copy of this document, it will be provided. Please contact Arts Program Supervisor, Allison Hyde at [ahyde@auburnwa.gov](mailto:ahyde@auburnwa.gov)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Shruti Ghatak

Street Address: 2165 N 161st Pl

City/State/Zip: Shoreline, WA 98133

Contact Name: Shruti Ghatak

Contact Number: 603-306-6794 Email: shrutighatak11@gmail.com

Website (if applicable): www.shrutighatak.com

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

Program Title: 'Fragile histories: Terracotta temple relief sculpture in contemporary dialogue

Program Start Date: January 01, 2026

Program End Date: March 21, 2026

Program Location/Venue: **Postmark Center for the Arts and/or Auburn Arts Alley**

Grant Amount Requested (\$500-\$2,000): \$2000

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION/PROPOSAL

*Please describe your intended program within half a page, or less than 1,000 words.*

### Project Description

This project, Title: 'Fragile histories: Terracotta temple relief sculpture in contemporary dialogue', highlights the endangered tradition of Indian terracotta temple reliefs while connecting it to contemporary art and community dialogue. Through a public lecture and presentation, I will introduce audiences to the history, symbolism, and cultural significance of temple reliefs, many of which are disappearing due to neglect, modernization, and lack of preservation. Alongside these discussions, I will display a selection of my own terracotta relief sculptures, which reimagine mythological and narrative forms for a contemporary context. By placing my work in dialogue with historical traditions, the program demonstrates how art can serve as both preservation and innovation.

The project will create awareness for India's endangered terracotta temple relief traditions through a public outreach program of lectures, discussions and curated display of original art.

### Activities

Deliver a public lecture on the history, symbolism, and endangered status of terracotta temple reliefs.  
Curate and display original terracotta sculptures in dialogue with historical traditions.  
Facilitate community discussions with South Asian diaspora, students, and the broader public.  
Organize educational outreach sessions for young artists with resources and creative inspiration.  
Document the program through photos, video, and written records for wider access.

### Goals

Raise awareness of an endangered heritage.  
Connect past traditions with contemporary practice.  
Strengthen cultural pride and community dialogue.  
Inspire students to engage with heritage-based art forms in innovative ways.  
Foster broader public appreciation for terracotta reliefs as a cultural legacy.

## **PROGRAM IMPACT/ PUBLIC BENEFIT**

*What is the significance of your program occurring next year? How does your project benefit or speak to the communities in Auburn? Please describe in 1000 words or less.*

Hosting this project in the coming year allows me to bring newly created terracotta works into public view alongside ongoing global discussions on migration, resilience, and cultural continuity. It also aligns with the growing interest in diasporic representation and intergenerational learning, ensuring that South Asian communities and younger artists can see their heritage honored and reimagined in a contemporary setting.

The individuals and communities who will benefit include South Asian diaspora communities of Auburn, who will see their cultural heritage represented and honored in a contemporary setting;

Students and young artists, who will gain exposure to both ancient traditions and new creative possibilities.

And the broader public, who will be introduced to a unique global heritage art form that is seldom seen outside of its original context. By fostering awareness, dialogue, and cultural pride, this project will strengthen community connections and encourage greater appreciation for endangered art forms that carry stories of identity, spirituality, and resilience.

## **FEASIBILITY**

*Tell us how you intend to execute your program within budget and timeframe. Please describe in 500 words or less.*

Along with being a practicing artist, I am also an educator. I have designed and executed workshops in many art education institutes such as Pratt Fine Arts, Seattle Asian Art Museum, Seattle Art museum, Dale and Chihuly Garden and Glass museum and Museum of Flight. Have done many artist talks in colleges and galleries including Seattle Central college, Gallery 110 and Seattle Office of Arts and Culture. All these experiences involved lecture, demonstrations with the public which is the main component of this project and I totally believe that I can successfully complete this project.

**PROGRAM BUDGET**

**Expenses**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind/Non-Cash</b>
Program Staff/Personnel	\$1,000.00	\$1,500.00
Materials/Supplies/Equipment	\$900.00	\$0.00
Marketing/Promotions	\$100.00	\$0.00
Other	\$0.00	\$0.00
Subtotals	\$2,000.00	\$1,500.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>Total:</b> \$3,500.00

**Income**

<b>Source of Income</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind/Non-Cash</b>	<b>Confirmed/Received (Yes/No)</b>
Admissions	\$0.00	\$0.00	N/A
Sales	\$0.00	\$0.00	N/A
Donations	\$0.00	\$1,500.00	yes
Grants	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	no
Applicant Cash	\$0.00	\$0.00	N/A
Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	N/A
Subtotals	\$2,000.00	\$1,500.00	
<b>Total</b>		<b>Total:</b>	\$3,500.00


**BUDGET CONFIRMATION**

Please check this box to confirm that the amounts above are correct.

**OPTIONAL** – You may attach flyers/photographs or any other supporting documents that illustrate the importance of your program.

Please check this box if you have read the grant application guidelines document and understand the criteria for the application.

By signing, I state that I am authorized to commit to the Postmark Center for the Arts in financial matters, and that any funds received will be used only for the purposes of the program. The undersigned certifies that the information in the application is true and complete to the best of his/her/their ability and knowledge.

Signed:  Dated: 09-30-2025

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# 2026 Postmark Center for the Arts Arts & Cultural Programming Grant Application Form

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Projects from January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026

**Deadline: September 30, 2025**

*granting committee will meet in November 2025*

If applicants are in need of a printed and/or translated copy of this document, it will be provided. Please contact Arts Program Supervisor, Allison Hyde at [ahyde@auburnwa.gov](mailto:ahyde@auburnwa.gov)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Andy Perkovich

Street Address: 1607 East Main St

City/State/Zip: Auburn, WA 98002

Contact Name: Andy Perkovich

Contact Number: 2538612916 Email: andy@iikeloudmusic.com

Website (if applicable): iikeloudmusic.com

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

Program Title: Our Faces, Our Futures: Auburn Headshots Project

Program Start Date: January 01, 2026

Program End Date: December 31, 2026

Program Location/Venue: **Postmark Center for the Arts and/or Auburn Arts Alley**

Grant Amount Requested (\$500-\$2,000): 1,325

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION/PROPOSAL**

*Please describe your intended program within half a page, or less than 1,000 words.*

Our Faces, Our Futures: Auburn Headshots Project will bring free, professional-quality headshots and portraits to residents and visitors at the Postmark Center for the Arts in 2026. Over two or more open community days, participants will be invited into a professional photography setup and will receive a high-resolution digital image at no cost. This program emphasizes accessibility to clean, professional headshots that can be used for resumes, LinkedIn profiles, small business websites, and other career-building purposes. For many residents, the cost of professional photography is a barrier to presenting themselves confidently in professional spaces. By removing that barrier, this project creates a direct and practical benefit for community members seeking employment, starting businesses, or advancing their careers. At the same time, the project will remain inclusive of families and individuals seeking personal keepsakes, ensuring broad community participation. With participant permission, select images will be displayed in a rotating slideshow at the Postmark Center, allowing the community to see itself reflected in the space and reinforcing the Center's role as a hub for both creative and practical engagement.

## PROGRAM IMPACT/ PUBLIC BENEFIT

*What is the significance of your program occurring next year? How does your project benefit or speak to the communities in Auburn? Please describe in 1000 words or less.*

Our Faces, Our Futures would provide Auburn residents with a resource that directly supports economic mobility and professional development: free access to professional headshots. High-quality images are increasingly essential for job applications, networking, and small business branding, yet many individuals cannot afford them. This program addresses that gap by ensuring every community member, regardless of financial situation, can present themselves confidently in professional settings. The sessions will especially benefit: - Job seekers who need a polished headshot for applications and LinkedIn. - Students entering the workforce or applying to internships and colleges. - Small business owners and entrepreneurs who need professional images for websites and promotional materials. By combining these professional benefits with an inclusive community arts experience, Our Faces, Our Futures strengthens both the economic and cultural fabric of the city. Residents will leave with not only a portrait but also a tool that can open doors to new opportunities. The rotating slideshow at Postmark will further highlight Auburn's diversity and provide a visual reminder that the arts serve both creative and practical community needs.

## FEASIBILITY

*Tell us how you intend to execute your program within budget and timeframe. Please describe in 500 words or less.*

This project is highly feasible and cost-effective. As a professional photographer with more than a decade of experience, I already own the equipment needed to deliver high-quality results. The Postmark Center will provide space in-kind, reducing overhead costs and ensuring funds are directed toward participant experience.

Execution will follow a clear, manageable structure:

Jan–Feb 2026: Confirm event dates, finalize outreach with workforce centers and other local organizations.

Feb–Apr 2026: Promote through flyers, social media, job assistance programs, and business groups.

Summer/Fall 2026: Host one or two free headshot and portrait session days at Postmark.

Summer/Fall 2026: Deliver digital images securely to participants; curate slideshow of select portraits (with permission).

Sep–Dec 2026: Display slideshow at Postmark.

Budgeted expenses are modest and focused on personnel, outreach, and display. In-kind support from Postmark and volunteers provides additional stability. With prior success running portrait events, I am confident in delivering this project on time, within budget, and at a high standard of quality.

**PROGRAM BUDGET**

**Expenses**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind/Non-Cash</b>
Program Staff/Personnel	\$800.00	\$200.00
Materials/Supplies/Equipment	\$300.00	\$150.00
Marketing/Promotions	\$150.00	\$0.00
Other	\$250.00	\$0.00
Subtotals	\$1,500.00	\$350.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total:</b>	
		\$1,850.00

**Income**

<b>Source of Income</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind/Non-Cash</b>	<b>Confirmed/Received (Yes/No)</b>
Admissions	\$0.00	\$0.00	No
Sales	\$0.00	\$0.00	No
Donations	\$100.00	\$150.00	No
Grants	\$1,325.00	\$0.00	No
Applicant Cash	\$75.00	\$0.00	Yes
Other	\$0.00	\$200.00	Yes
Subtotals	\$1,500.00	\$350.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total:</b>		
			\$1,850.00


**BUDGET CONFIRMATION**

Please check this box to confirm that the amounts above are correct.

**OPTIONAL** – You may attach flyers/photographs or any other supporting documents that illustrate the importance of your program.

Please check this box if you have read the grant application guidelines document and understand the criteria for the application.

By signing, I state that I am authorized to commit to the Postmark Center for the Arts in financial matters, and that any funds received will be used only for the purposes of the program. The undersigned certifies that the information in the application is true and complete to the best of his/her/their ability and knowledge.

Signed:  \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: 09-05-2025

eSigned via GovOS.com  
Key: 65483100-9223-4396-90A2-6429C1112928



# 2026 Postmark Center for the Arts Arts & Cultural Programming Grant Application Form

Projects from January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026

**Deadline: September 30, 2025**

*granting committee will meet in November 2025*

If applicants are in need of a printed and/or translated copy of this document, it will be provided. Please contact Arts Program Supervisor, Allison Hyde at [ahyde@auburnwa.gov](mailto:ahyde@auburnwa.gov)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Auburn Symphony Orchestra

Street Address: PO Box 2186

City/State/Zip: Auburn WA 98071

Contact Name: Rachel Perry

Contact Number: 253-887-7777 Email: rachel@auburnsymphony.org

Website (if applicable): auburnsymphony.org

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

Program Title: Rhythm and Rhymes Story Hour

Program Start Date: March 01, 2026

Program End Date: June 30, 2026

Program Location/Venue: **Postmark Center for the Arts** and/or **Auburn Arts Alley**

Grant Amount Requested (\$500-\$2,000): \$2,000

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION/PROPOSAL

*Please describe your intended program within half a page, or less than 1,000 words.*

Auburn Symphony Orchestra (ASO) in collaboration with the Auburn Library will bring four, 45-minute combined music and literature programs to children and families: Rhythm and Rhymes Story Hour. Taking inspiration from a children's book, an ASO musician will teach an age-appropriate, interactive music program, and an Auburn librarian will then read the story aloud. Afterwards, families will be invited to explore instruments, and receive a craft to take home.

The literature that will inspire the program will represent the diversity of Auburn families. Books used during programs in 2025 included "How Do You Wokka Wokka?" by Elizabeth Bluemle, "Roar-orchestra" by Robert Heidbreder, and "Lloyd Finds His Whalesong" by Skylaar Amann. ASO Musicians will take themes, like rhythm and dance, from the book to create the music portion of the program, as well as weave in social-emotional lessons like how music can make us feel. ASO also has a set of classroom instruments including maracas, tambourines, and egg shakers to engage children in activities.

Families with children of all ages will enjoy this program, however, the lessons and books will be most appropriate for children ages 3-8. Scheduling these activities for 10:00am on Saturdays from March-June 2026 will create predictability to build participation. We would like families to register ahead of time so we know how many to expect.

ASO and the Auburn Library will also provide information about their other programs - summer reading, outdoor concerts, and other education programs. This will give an opportunity for families to continue to connect with music and literature in the community beyond this one program.

**PROGRAM IMPACT/ PUBLIC BENEFIT**

*What is the significance of your program occurring next year? How does your project benefit or speak to the communities in Auburn? Please describe in 1000 words or less.*

Both ASO and the Auburn Library strive to reach our community where they are so bringing programs outside the concert hall and the library are a priority. Music and literature are vital components of a child's education and access to a free program that includes both fills a need in the community. At a time when families are facing high costs due to inflation and limited resources, a free weekend educational program provides a fun, new activity for families. The highest attended program in 2025 had over 50 adults and children in attendance. With priority placed on diverse literature, children will see themselves reflected as dancers, musicians, and artists which is a powerful way to empower young people.

**FEASIBILTY**

*Tell us how you intend to execute your program within budget and timeframe. Please describe in 500 words or less.*

ASO and the Auburn Library had great success with this program in 2024 and 2025 and look to build on that success in 2026. After selecting the literature and booking the program dates, ASO administrative staff will hire the appropriate musician for each program. ASO and the Library would appreciate help from the City of Auburn to advertise a pre-registration form, and each organization will advertise the program opportunity to their audiences. At each program, we will advertise the next program date so that families can return for more fun! The library staff is volunteering their time and expertise to make this happen and budgeted items are predictable in order to stay within budget. ASO will hire a musician coordinator to create consistency and help build the content of each program.

**PROGRAM BUDGET**

**Expenses**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind/Non-Cash</b>
Program Staff/Personnel	\$1,900.00	\$1,000.00
Materials/Supplies/Equipment	\$0.00	\$0.00
Marketing/Promotions	\$100.00	\$0.00
Other	\$0.00	\$0.00
Subtotals	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total:</b>	
		\$3,000.00

**Income**

<b>Source of Income</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind/Non-Cash</b>	<b>Confirmed/Received (Yes/No)</b>
Admissions	\$0.00	\$0.00	N/A
Sales	\$0.00	\$0.00	N/A
Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00	N/A
Grants	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	No
Applicant Cash	\$0.00	\$0.00	N/A
Other	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	Yes
Subtotals	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total:</b>		
			\$3,000.00

**BUDGET CONFIRMATION**

Please check this box to confirm that the amounts above are correct.

**OPTIONAL** – You may attach flyers/photographs or any other supporting documents that illustrate the importance of your program.

Please check this box if you have read the grant application guidelines document and understand the criteria for the application.

By signing, I state that I am authorized to commit to the Postmark Center for the Arts in financial matters, and that any funds received will be used only for the purposes of the program. The undersigned certifies that the information in the application is true and complete to the best of his/her/their ability and knowledge.

Signed: eSigned via GovOS.com  
*Rachel Perry*  
Key: 8c431c60-1323-43f6-bdd2-8af2fc1b292d \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: 08-20-2025



# 2026 Postmark Center for the Arts Arts & Cultural Programming Grant Application Form

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Projects from January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026

Deadline: September 30, 2025

*granting committee will meet in November 2025*

If applicants are in need of a printed and/or translated copy of this document, it will be provided. Please contact Arts Program Supervisor, Allison Hyde at [ahyde@auburnwa.gov](mailto:ahyde@auburnwa.gov)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Allison Preisinger \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: 4606 S American Lake Blvd \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: Tacoma, WA 98409 \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: Allison Preisinger \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: 425-876-7911 \_\_\_\_\_ Email: [allison@ampstudiollc.com](mailto:allison@ampstudiollc.com) \_\_\_\_\_

Website (if applicable): <https://www.allisonpreisinger.com/interactive-evening-events> \_\_\_\_\_

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

Program Title: An Interactive Evening Suitable for Introverts \_\_\_\_\_

Program Start Date: February 04, 2026 \_\_\_\_\_

Program End Date: November 17, 2026 \_\_\_\_\_

Program Location/Venue: **Postmark Center for the Arts and/or Auburn Arts Alley**

Grant Amount Requested (\$500-\$2,000): 2000 \_\_\_\_\_

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION/PROPOSAL

*Please describe your intended program within half a page, or less than 1,000 words.*

We will host the Interactive Evening Suitable for Introverts event (or series) that was started in May, 2024. This event is open to all but is designed with a focus on encouraging those who consider themselves introverted to attend events and create alongside others. Audiences are offered a safe, mellow space to learn a new art form, connect with others, and enjoy entertainment in a low-pressure environment. Since 2024, we've hosted seven Interactive Evenings and look forward to continuing to bring the series to communities across Western Washington.

Each event space is arranged with a variety of seating options so everyone can choose the environment that feels best—alone, with a friend in a quiet corner, at a shared table, or in a designated break area with more solitude. We aim to make as many comfort-centered options available as possible. Other considerations include performances on the quieter, more laid-back side; workshops that allow for both participation and observation; and potentially, in the future, animals attendees can spend time with as a grounding presence away from the crowd.

Attendees are invited to learn a new craft through a relaxed, guided workshop at the start of the evening. Each event features a different hands-on activity such as collage, sewing, zine-making, or woodblock printing. After the workshop, participants can continue creating while enjoying performances from local artists in music, poetry, and other art forms.

In May 2024, we hosted one of the first Interactive Evening Suitable for Introverts events at the Rabbit Box. It featured collage-making supplies, a facilitator to guide and support attendees, and live performances from three local musicians and a poet. During the event, an audience member remarked, "It's as if my collage is the stage while I'm listening to the artist on the actual stage." That quote encapsulates what these evenings are all about.

Our most recent event took place on July 11, 2025, at the Fremont Abbey in Seattle. It featured a Printing with Legos workshop led by local print artist Brian Lane, poetry by Rhea Melina, and music by Matney Cook, Allison Preisinger, and Lilacseason.

The structure for the Postmark Center for the Arts event (or series) will be similar. Each event is about 3 hours long with an hour or hour and a half dedicated to the creative workshop, then half hour sets by local musicians and short set by a local poet. Preference would be for a Friday or Saturday early evening.

At every Interactive Evening, we strive to create an atmosphere of creativity, connection, and community—centered on comfort, curiosity, and care.

## **PROGRAM IMPACT/ PUBLIC BENEFIT**

*What is the significance of your program occurring next year? How does your project benefit or speak to the communities in Auburn? Please describe in 1000 words or less.*

An Interactive Evening Suitable for Introverts is a community arts event designed to serve those who identify as introverted, highly sensitive, or who simply find typical social events overstimulating. While the event is open to all, its significance lies not only in what it offers, but how it offers it: a low-key, welcoming, and intentionally inclusive space where community members can learn, create, and engage at their own pace, and in ways that feel safe and restorative rather than demanding or overwhelming.

This event is particularly valuable to Auburn residents who may be eager to participate in the arts or build community, but who hesitate to attend larger or more stimulating events. By offering creative workshops, lower energy music and poetry performances, and opportunities for collective creativity, participants can gain both new skills and meaningful social connection. It recognizes that public benefit doesn't always look like loud applause or crowded dance floors—sometimes, it looks like quiet joy, shared focus, and a deep sense of belonging.

The project also provides a platform for local artists and facilitators to reach new audiences. Performers and workshop leaders will be chosen not only for their artistic quality but for their understanding of and ability to contribute to a calm and supportive environment. In this way, An Interactive Evening Suitable for Introverts not only serves attendees, but uplifts a broader community of creatives and educators invested in inclusive and mindful arts programming.

Auburn's community is diverse, and this event aims to reflect that by being inclusive of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities. While the design centers introverts, it welcomes anyone seeking a more intentional and relaxed way to engage with others and with the arts. Attendees may leave with new skills, inspiration, or friendships—but more importantly, with the memory of feeling seen, included, and safe just as they are.

## **FEASIBILITY**

*Tell us how you intend to execute your program within budget and timeframe. Please describe in 500 words or less.*

As a long time event producer and manager I have years of experience in coordinating events that people enjoy, including in a variety of positions for Northwest Folklife, Town Hall Seattle, and as the booker for the Royal Room from 2019-2020. Since 2004 I have produced multiple music events, fundraisers, and seven Interactive Evening Suitable for Introverts events to date. As a musician I have performed countless events in a variety of settings while encouraging and supporting other artists along the way. Since we have already hosted numerous Interactive Evenings, I am confident that we can stay within budget and execute the event within the timeframe that is agreed upon. I look forward to the opportunity to bring all of these skills together to host the Interactive Evening Suitable for Introverts series in Auburn in 2026.

**PROGRAM BUDGET**

**Expenses**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind/Non-Cash</b>
Program Staff/Personnel	\$800.00	\$500.00
Materials/Supplies/Equipment	\$350.00	\$150.00
Marketing/Promotions	\$250.00	\$100.00
Other	\$600.00	\$0.00
Subtotals	\$2,000.00	\$750.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total: \$2,750.00</b>	

**Income**

<b>Source of Income</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind/Non-Cash</b>	<b>Confirmed/Received (Yes/No)</b>
Admissions	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	No
Sales	\$350.00	\$0.00	No
Donations	\$0.00	\$150.00	Yes
Grants	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	No
Applicant Cash	\$250.00	\$0.00	Yes
Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	Yes
Subtotals	\$3,600.00	\$150.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total: \$3,750.00</b>		

**BUDGET CONFIRMATION**

Please check this box to confirm that the amounts above are correct.

**OPTIONAL** – You may attach flyers/photographs or any other supporting documents that illustrate the importance of your program.

Please check this box if you have read the grant application guidelines document and understand the criteria for the application.

By signing, I state that I am authorized to commit to the Postmark Center for the Arts in financial matters, and that any funds received will be used only for the purposes of the program. The undersigned certifies that the information in the application is true and complete to the best of his/her/their ability and knowledge.

Signed:  Dated: 07-29-2025

eSigned via GovOS.com  
Key: 8c431c60-f323-43f6-bdd2-8af2fc1b282d



# 2026 Postmark Center for the Arts Arts & Cultural Programming Grant Application Form

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Projects from January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026

**Deadline: September 30, 2025**

*granting committee will meet in November 2025*

If applicants are in need of a printed and/or translated copy of this document, it will be provided. Please contact Arts Program Supervisor, Allison Hyde at [ahyde@auburnwa.gov](mailto:ahyde@auburnwa.gov)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Manaswini Sridhar

Street Address: 612 237th st SE unit B

City/State/Zip: Bothell, WA 98021

Contact Name: Manaswini Sridhar

Contact Number: 339-224-0923 Email: spandana@manaswini.com

Website (if applicable): www.manaswini.com

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

Program Title: Chaturyuga - The time and Cycle

Program Start Date: July 01, 2026

Program End Date: November 15, 2026

Program Location/Venue: **Postmark Center for the Arts and/or Auburn Arts Alley**

Grant Amount Requested (\$500-\$2,000): \$2000

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION/PROPOSAL

*Please describe your intended program within half a page, or less than 1,000 words.*

Chaturyuga – The time and Cycle is an innovative Bharatanatyam dance, an one-hour performance that explores the ancient Indian concept of the four Yugas—a cyclical vision of time and virtue in Hindu cosmology—through compelling narrative dance, evocative original music, spoken word. The presentation is structured as a journey through the cosmic ages—Satya, Treta, Dvapara, and Kali Yuga—each depicted through distinct choreographic vignettes and musical textures. Drawing inspiration from scriptural sources and mythological stories, the dance interprets the rise and decline of dharma (righteousness) embodied by legendary figures. The project fuses tradition with contemporary elements. Dancers use classical Bharatanatyam gestures, expressions, and rhythmic patterns, while narration and poetry in English make the philosophical ideas accessible. Musical accompaniment blends Carnatic instruments with modern ambient soundscapes and percussive patterns to evoke each era's character.

## PROGRAM IMPACT/ PUBLIC BENEFIT

*What is the significance of your program occurring next year? How does your project benefit or speak to the communities in Auburn? Please describe in 1000 words or less.*

This Bharatanatyam project benefits and speaks to communities in Auburn by enriching the local cultural landscape with a unique offering of Indian classical performing arts that celebrates universal themes of time, renewal, and spirituality. The cyclical nature of time and human experience explored through Bharatanatyam resonates universally, connecting to Auburn's diverse audiences interested in philosophical, spiritual, and reflective art forms.

**Cultural Enrichment and Education:** The performance introduces Auburn's diverse audience to Indian classical heritage through Bharatanatyam's rich storytelling, connecting mythological and spiritual themes to universal human experiences of time, change, and renewal. This deepens cross-cultural understanding and appreciation.

**Emotional and Intellectual Engagement:** Through expressive dance and English poetic narration, the program invites reflective contemplation and emotional connection, fostering empathy and mindfulness among attendees.

**Inclusive Accessibility:** The program is designed for no cost admission, maximizing access for broad community participation regardless of economic background. Digital marketing and community partnerships will further promote equitable attendance.

**Community Interaction:** Workshops and interactive segments will provide hands-on experience of Bharatanatyam's mudras and rhythms, empowering audiences to understand and engage actively with the tradition.

The project will be completed between July and November 2026, following a clear, step-by-step plan. July and August will focus on finalizing choreography, musical collaboration, and narration scripting. September and October will be dedicated to intensive rehearsals, costume preparation, the performance will take place in November, with thorough technical run-throughs and dress rehearsals to ensure a polished presentation.

## FEASIBILITY

*Tell us how you intend to execute your program within budget and timeframe. Please describe in 500 words or less.*

We intend to execute the Bharatanatyam program within the defined budget and time-frame by careful planning and efficient resource use. Key cost factors like musicians, recordings, costumes, and marketing will be negotiated early to secure favorable rates. Collaboration with local artists and smaller orchestras will keep costs manageable. The project timeline from July to November 2026 allows focused rehearsals and deliverables without unnecessary overhead. Regular budget reviews will ensure expenses align with funding, avoiding overruns. Cost-saving measures such as digital invitations and community partnerships for outreach will optimize funds. This disciplined approach ensures the project's artistic integrity and successful completion on time and within budget.

Estimated costs:

Artist fees [including dancer and musicians] - \$1500  
Recording fees - \$300  
Costumes - \$200

With 20 years of dedicated Bharatanatyam training and performance experience, I have consistently demonstrated artistic excellence and deep commitment to classical dance traditions. I have successfully choreographed, performed, and led multiple cultural projects that blend classical technique with contemporary storytelling, engaging diverse audiences. My work includes performances at reputable venues and festivals, often incorporate interdisciplinary elements, such as live Carnatic music and poetic narration, enhancing accessibility and audience connection.

One such recent work "Prakriti Ganitha" project performed for House of Kala was a profound exploration of the cosmic interplay of nature and mathematics through the classical form of Bharatanatyam and martial art form Kalaripayattu. This innovative production seamlessly combined ancient Indian dance traditions with contemporary themes, focusing on the concept of "Prakriti" or nature, and its intrinsic mathematical patterns visible in the universe. The project was lauded for its creative vision, technical excellence, and ability to communicate complex philosophical ideas in a visually and emotionally engaging format. "Prakriti Ganitha" not only enriched cultural dialogue but also expanded the expressive potential of Bharatanatyam, making it accessible and relevant to contemporary audience.

**PROGRAM BUDGET**

**Expenses**

Item	Cash	In-Kind/Non-Cash
Program Staff/Personnel	\$1,500.00	\$0.00
Materials/Supplies/Equipment	\$300.00	\$0.00
Marketing/Promotions	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other	\$200.00	\$0.00
Subtotals	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total: \$2,000.00</b>	

**Income**

Source of Income	Cash	In-Kind/Non-Cash	Confirmed/Received (Yes/No)
Admissions	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Sales	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Grants	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	0
Applicant Cash	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Subtotals	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total: \$2,000.00</b>		

**BUDGET CONFIRMATION**

Please check this box to confirm that the amounts above are correct.

**OPTIONAL** – You may attach flyers/photographs or any other supporting documents that illustrate the importance of your program.

Please check this box if you have read the grant application guidelines document and understand the criteria for the application.

By signing, I state that I am authorized to commit to the Postmark Center for the Arts in financial matters, and that any funds received will be used only for the purposes of the program. The undersigned certifies that the information in the application is true and complete to the best of his/her/their ability and knowledge.

Signed: eSigned via GovOS.com  
*Manaswini Sridhar*  
Key: 8c431c60-f323-43f6-bdd2-8af2fc1b292d \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: 09-30-2025



# 2026 Postmark Center for the Arts Arts & Cultural Programming Grant Application Form

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Projects from January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026

Deadline: September 30, 2025

*granting committee will meet in November 2025*

If applicants are in need of a printed and/or translated copy of this document, it will be provided. Please contact Arts Program Supervisor, Allison Hyde at [ahyde@auburnwa.gov](mailto:ahyde@auburnwa.gov)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Jennifer Treese \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: 920 E Seattle St \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: Kent \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name: Jennifer Treese \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Number: 7178080403 \_\_\_\_\_ Email: [calicodress9@gmail.com](mailto:calicodress9@gmail.com) \_\_\_\_\_

Website (if applicable): <https://calicodress9.wixsite.com/theblackdress> \_\_\_\_\_

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

Program Title: Calico Dress #9 Auburn Workshops \_\_\_\_\_

Program Start Date: January 16, 2026 \_\_\_\_\_

Program End Date: April 24, 2026 \_\_\_\_\_

Program Location/Venue: **Postmark Center for the Arts and/or Auburn Arts Alley**

Grant Amount Requested (\$500-\$2,000): <sup>2000</sup> \_\_\_\_\_

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION/PROPOSAL

*Please describe your intended program within half a page, or less than 1,000 words.*

A Calico Dress is coming to the PNW! Inspired by The Red Dress, Calico Dress #9 (the black dress) joins a series of linked collaborative garments through the Calico Garment Initiative.

The Red Dress project was conceived by Kirstie Macleod, a British artist, and provides an artistic platform for a diverse group of individuals and communities around the world to tell their stories through embroidery. The Initiative builds on the legacy of The Red Dress by bringing a smaller-scale project to local communities. Through embroidery and other textile decoration techniques, the stories and cultures of the community are captured on fabric to be shared and celebrated for years to come.

Embroidery on Calico Dress #9 will be completed through a series of 4 workshops hosted at the Postmark Center for the Arts and open to the public. These are free of cost and supportive of those with all skill levels - after all, this dress is a celebration of the many peoples and cultures that call the Auburn area home! All materials will be provided, and instruction will be available for those wishing to explore a new artistic medium. Each workshop will host up to 50 people on a walk-in basis to ensure everyone attending has an opportunity to contribute to the piece and last for 3 hours. This includes support for design and practice for those contributing to the dress.

**PROGRAM IMPACT/ PUBLIC BENEFIT**

*What is the significance of your program occurring next year? How does your project benefit or speak to the communities in Auburn? Please describe in 1000 words or less.*

The dress is currently in pieces and will continue to be embroidered this fall. I will be sewing the pieces into a unified dress in December 2025-early January 2026, so these workshops would be the first with the dress fully assembled. The intention is to begin exhibiting the dress as it continues to be embroidered so that the community can see the progression of the work. As 2026 is a national milestone, I see this as an opportunity to celebrate the diverse peoples and cultures that make up our community.

The project will provide both an arts/culture opportunity for Auburn residents and the opportunity to assist in developing a new artwork. Workshop participants will be part of producing a community-based artwork (as well as instruction and materials to practice embroidery and applique techniques). It increases access for under-served individuals or groups by providing free workshops so that those interested in these art forms (but would not be able to afford classes or materials otherwise) can participate.

**FEASIBILITY**

*Tell us how you intend to execute your program within budget and timeframe. Please describe in 500 words or less.*

I first began teaching craft classes as a teenager and have continued to teach and participate at craft and creative events ever since. I have taught historical craft in my hometown in central PA, was a college theater lead costumer in Boston, and taught historical crafts at the Renaissance Faire in Irwindale, CA. I currently make paper embroidery pieces as an amateur.

The first workshop for the dress was held at Cajun Fest this year in Kent on a walk-up basis, so the piece is ready for more workshops. I also have grants from the Kent Arts Commission and Renton Arts Commission to hold workshops in these respective cities this fall. These experiences have helped (and will help) me to continually improve the planning and estimates for the workshops. I have non-consumable supplies prepared from the first workshop and only need to provide materials that will be consumed during the workshops.

**PROGRAM BUDGET**

**Expenses**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind/Non-Cash</b>
Program Staff/Personnel	\$600.00	\$480.00
Materials/Supplies/Equipment	\$1,200.00	\$900.00
Marketing/Promotions	\$200.00	\$0.00
Other	\$0.00	\$0.00
Subtotals	\$2,000.00	\$1,380.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total:</b>	
		\$3,380.00

**Income**

<b>Source of Income</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind/Non-Cash</b>	<b>Confirmed/Received (Yes/No)</b>
Admissions	\$0.00	\$0.00	NA
Sales	\$0.00	\$0.00	NA
Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00	NA
Grants	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	N
Applicant Cash	\$0.00	\$1,380.00	Y
Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	NA
Subtotals	\$2,000.00	\$1,380.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total:</b>		
			\$3,380.00

**BUDGET CONFIRMATION**

Please check this box to confirm that the amounts above are correct.

**OPTIONAL** – You may attach flyers/photographs or any other supporting documents that illustrate the importance of your program.

Please check this box if you have read the grant application guidelines document and understand the criteria for the application.

By signing, I state that I am authorized to commit to the Postmark Center for the Arts in financial matters, and that any funds received will be used only for the purposes of the program. The undersigned certifies that the information in the application is true and complete to the best of his/her/their ability and knowledge.

Signed: eSigned via GovOS.com  
*Jennifer Treese*  
Key: 8c431c60-f323-43f6-bdd2-8af2fc1b292d \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: 09-30-2025



# 2026 Postmark Center for the Arts Arts & Cultural Programming Grant Application Form

Projects from January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026

**Deadline: September 30, 2025**

*granting committee will meet in November 2025*

If applicants are in need of a printed and/or translated copy of this document, it will be provided. Please contact Arts Program Supervisor, Allison Hyde at [ahyde@auburnwa.gov](mailto:ahyde@auburnwa.gov)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Anita White

Street Address: 30960 133RD AVE SE

City/State/Zip: AUBURN

Contact Name: Anita White

Contact Number: 4255189100 Email: ladiawhite@gmail.com

Website (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

Program Title: Collaborative Storytelling: Finding Your Voice in Community & Music Workshop

Program Start Date: April 11, 2026

Program End Date: April 11, 2026

Program Location/Venue: **Postmark Center for the Arts** and/or **Auburn Arts Alley**

Grant Amount Requested (\$500-\$2,000): \$2000.00

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION/PROPOSAL

*Please describe your intended program within half a page, or less than 1,000 words.*

Collaborative Storytelling: Finding Your Voice in Community & Music is an interactive workshop open to all ages 8 and up, designed for both musical and non-musical participants. Whether you're a singer, a writer, or simply someone with a story to share, this experience is about using your voice together.

Led by acclaimed soul and blues artist Lady A, and featuring a live performance by Lady A and her band, this session explores the tradition of call-and-response as a tool for connection, community-expression, and resilience. Rooted in African and African American musical history, call-and-response has long served as a way to speak truth, share struggle, and build community.

Participants will work together to create an original call-and-response song that reflects your own community's story, its challenges, strengths, and hopes for the future. Through guided lyric writing, rhythm exercises, and collective creativity, everyone will have a voice in shaping a piece that is meaningful and authentic.

What's Provided:

All materials, including notebooks, pencils, and pens, will be supplied by Lady A.

No instruments or prior musical experience are required.

What You'll Take Away:

A deeper understanding of music as a cultural and storytelling tool

A sense of empowerment through collective creation

A collaborative song written and performed by the group, centered on your community's unique story

A renewed connection to self, voice, and each other

## **PROGRAM IMPACT/ PUBLIC BENEFIT**

*What is the significance of your program occurring next year? How does your project benefit or speak to the communities in Auburn? Please describe in 1000 words or less.*

Collaborative Storytelling: Finding Your Voice in Community & Music is more than a workshop; it's a space for reflection, connection, and empowerment. Auburn is a city shaped by diversity, resilience, and ongoing change. This program invites residents of all ages (8 and up), backgrounds, and experiences to come together and share their stories through music, regardless of musical ability.

Using the tradition of call-and-response, rooted in African and African American cultural history, participants will create a collaborative song that reflects the identity, struggles, and hopes of their own Auburn community. This approach gives voice to individuals who may not often feel heard, and affirms that everyone has a story worth telling.

The workshop fosters intergenerational and cross-cultural connection, bridging people across age, race, and experience through collective creativity. With guidance and live music from Lady A and her band, participants will learn how storytelling through music can be a tool for healing, unity, and celebration.

In a time when communities often feel divided or disconnected, this project brings people together physically and emotionally, to listen, respond, and build something meaningful as a group. It promotes cultural awareness, artistic expression, and community pride.

By the end of the workshop, participants will have something lasting: a song born from the community they represent, capturing who they are and what they stand for, created by many, sung as one.

## **FEASIBILITY**

*Tell us how you intend to execute your program within budget and timeframe. Please describe in 500 words or less.*

Venue – In-Kind (Postmark Center for the Arts):

We will partner with the Postmark Center for the Arts to host the workshop. This space provides a welcoming, accessible venue at no rental cost, which significantly reduces overhead. The venue's existing sound equipment (or minimal needs) can be used to support live music and participant engagement.

Teaching Artist & Artist Fees (\$1,500):

Lady A and her band will open and support the workshop with live performance, musical guidance, and co-creation.

Two teaching artists will facilitate writing, group discussion, and guide participants through the collaborative songwriting process. This total budget covers time, prep, facilitation, and performance. The rate can be adjusted slightly based on final group size and duration.

Materials & Supplies (\$150):

Lady A will provide notebooks, pens, and pencils for all participants. These tools support lyric writing and idea development throughout the session. Materials will be purchased in bulk to serve groups of varying sizes at low cost.

Marketing & Outreach (\$150–\$200):

A portion of the budget will support local promotion:

Flyers, posters, and social media graphics

Outreach through community centers, schools, churches, social media and local organizations

This ensures participation reflects the diversity and spirit of Auburn.

This program is designed to scale for small or large groups, is accessible to ages 8 and up, and welcomes both musical and non-musical participants. It offers a powerful creative outlet and leaves Auburn with something lasting a community-generated song that reflects its people and their stories.

**PROGRAM BUDGET**

**Expenses**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind/Non-Cash</b>
Program Staff/Personnel	\$1,500.00	\$0.00
Materials/Supplies/Equipment	\$150.00	\$0.00
Marketing/Promotions	\$200.00	\$0.00
Other	\$150.00	\$0.00
Subtotals	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total:</b>	
		\$2,000.00

**Income**

<b>Source of Income</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind/Non-Cash</b>	<b>Confirmed/Received (Yes/No)</b>
Admissions	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00
Sales	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00
Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00
Grants	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00
Applicant Cash	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00
Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00
Subtotals	\$0.00	\$0.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total:</b>		
			\$0.00

**BUDGET CONFIRMATION**

Please check this box to confirm that the amounts above are correct.

**OPTIONAL** – You may attach flyers/photographs or any other supporting documents that illustrate the importance of your program.

Please check this box if you have read the grant application guidelines document and understand the criteria for the application.

By signing, I state that I am authorized to commit to the Postmark Center for the Arts in financial matters, and that any funds received will be used only for the purposes of the program. The undersigned certifies that the information in the application is true and complete to the best of his/her/their ability and knowledge.

Signed: eSigned via GovOS.com  
*Anita White*  
Key: 8c431c60-1323-43f6-bdd2-8af2fc1b292d \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: 08-22-2025



# 2026 Postmark Center for the Arts Arts & Cultural Programming Grant Application Form

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Projects from January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026

Deadline: September 30, 2025

*granting committee will meet in November 2025*

If applicants are in need of a printed and/or translated copy of this document, it will be provided. Please contact Arts Program Supervisor, Allison Hyde at [ahyde@auburnwa.gov](mailto:ahyde@auburnwa.gov)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Ilana Zaks

Street Address: 623B North 138th st

City/State/Zip: Seattle, WA, 98133

Contact Name: Ilana Zaks

Contact Number: 617-610-1771 Email: ilanazaks31@gmail.com

Website (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

Program Title: Love, Madness and Masquerade

Program Start Date: January 01, 2026

Program End Date: June 13, 2026

Program Location/Venue: **Postmark Center for the Arts and/or Auburn Arts Alley**

Grant Amount Requested (\$500-\$2,000): 2000

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION/PROPOSAL

*Please describe your intended program within half a page, or less than 1,000 words.*

Violinist Ilana Zaks presents a vivid and emotionally charged program that brings Shakespeare's characters to life through music. Love, Madness, and Masquerade draws on the dramatic breadth of Shakespeare's works—romantic entanglements, supernatural mischief, tragic fates—and reframes them through 19th- and 20th-century musical interpretations.

This program features virtuosic fantasy works, lush theatrical suites, and bold modern reimaginings, each introduced by the performer with brief spoken commentary. These introductions illuminate the musical storytelling and Shakespearean themes behind each piece, inviting listeners of all backgrounds to connect with the drama, humor, and humanity that still resonate today.

### Program

#### Part I: Love, Masquerade, and Magic

Exploring comedy, transformation, and enchantment, this half offers a lighter but emotionally rich set of works.

Felix Mendelssohn - Scherzo, Nocturne, and Intermezzo from A Midsummer Night's Dream (~10 min)

Erich Wolfgang Korngold - Much Ado About Nothing Suite, Op. 11 (~13 min)

Commentary: Originally composed for a Viennese stage production, Korngold's suite tells the witty, sharp-edged love story of Beatrice and Benedick.

Thomas Adès - Suite from The Tempest (~9.5 min)

Commentary: Adès' haunting modern score conjures Shakespeare's island full of spirits, storms, and transformations.

Ernst - Fantasie Brillante on the March and Romance from Rossini's Otello, Op. 11 (~15 min)

Intermission (~15 minutes)

#### Part II: Tragedy, Passion, and Fate

The second half shifts into Shakespeare's darker emotional terrain, exploring inner conflict, young love, and inevitable loss.

Sergei Prokofiev - Romeo and Juliet: "Masks" (arr.. Jascha Heifetz) (~5 min)

Sergei Prokofiev - Eight Scenes from Romeo and Juliet, Op. 64 (~25 min)

Adapted by Ilana Zaks from Borisovsky's viola arrangement, this suite is a sweeping musical retelling of Shakespeare's tragedy—from playful early scenes to the heartbreak of the final parting.

Leonard Bernstein (arr... Penaforte) - West Side Story Suite (~12 min)

## PROGRAM IMPACT/ PUBLIC BENEFIT

*What is the significance of your program occurring next year? How does your project benefit or speak to the communities in Auburn? Please describe in 1000 words or less.*

Significance of Performing Love, Madness, and Masquerade: Shakespeare in Music in Fall 2025 and Its Impact on the Auburn, WA Community

Performing Love, Madness, and Masquerade in Fall 2025 offers a timely and meaningful opportunity to engage Auburn's diverse community through shared stories that explore universal human emotions—love, conflict, identity, and fate—using Shakespeare's timeless works as a foundation. These themes continue to resonate deeply today, providing common ground for reflection and connection in a community rich with cultural diversity and evolving identities.

This program uniquely bridges classical music, literature, and contemporary life by presenting Shakespearean characters and narratives through 19th- and 20th-century compositions for violin and piano. Violinist Ilana Zaks enriches the experience with brief spoken commentary before each piece, making the music accessible and inviting for audiences of all backgrounds, ages, and levels of musical familiarity.

How the Project Benefits and Speaks to the Auburn Community

Building Community Through Shared Cultural Heritage:

Shakespeare's stories are a part of the global cultural fabric, and their exploration through music provides a platform for community members in Auburn to come together around shared human experiences. Themes of love, jealousy, reconciliation, and fate transcend cultural and generational boundaries, helping foster empathy and understanding among Auburn's residents.

Expanding Access to Professional Artistic Experiences:

Auburn's cultural scene benefits from the addition of high-quality chamber music programs like this one. Bringing a professional artist with a clear commitment to storytelling and audience engagement offers enriching artistic experiences outside of larger urban centers

## FEASIBILITY

*Tell us how you intend to execute your program within budget and timeframe. Please describe in 500 words or less.*

Ilana Zaks will present a professional chamber music recital featuring violin and collaborative piano. The program explores Shakespeare's characters and stories through 19th- and 20th-century music, lasting approximately 95 minutes (without intermission). Each work will be introduced with a brief spoken commentary by the performer, enriching audience understanding and connection.

Program Execution

The recital will be performed in two parts with a 15-minute intermission, adaptable to venue or audience needs. The spoken commentary (2-3 minutes per piece) provides historical and thematic context, making the music accessible to diverse audiences.

Rehearsals will be scheduled to ensure artistic excellence and ensemble cohesion. Ilana Zaks and the collaborative pianist will plan at least three rehearsals before the performance, including a full dress rehearsal at the venue when possible.

The performance requires a venue equipped with a high-quality piano and suitable acoustics for chamber music, such as a community arts center, small concert hall, or cultural space. Minimal staging and lighting needs keep production costs manageable. Standard concert seating and space for performer introductions are sufficient.

Audience Engagement

In addition to the performance, the artist is available to participate in optional community engagement activities tailored to the presenter's interests and budget. These may include pre-concert talks, post-concert Q&A sessions, or workshops with local students focusing on Shakespeare's influence in music and storytelling.

**PROGRAM BUDGET**

**Expenses**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind/Non-Cash</b>
Program Staff/Personnel	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
Materials/Supplies/Equipment	\$700.00	\$0.00
Marketing/Promotions	\$300.00	\$0.00
Other	\$0.00	\$0.00
Subtotals	\$2,000.00	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total:</b> \$2,000.00	

**Income**

<b>Source of Income</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind/Non-Cash</b>	<b>Confirmed/Received (Yes/No)</b>
Admissions	\$0.00	\$0.00	no
Sales	\$0.00	\$0.00	no
Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00	no
Grants	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	No
Applicant Cash	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
Subtotals	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total:</b> \$5,000.00		

**BUDGET CONFIRMATION**

Please check this box to confirm that the amounts above are correct.

**OPTIONAL** – You may attach flyers/photographs or any other supporting documents that illustrate the importance of your program.

Please check this box if you have read the grant application guidelines document and understand the criteria for the application.

By signing, I state that I am authorized to commit to the Postmark Center for the Arts in financial matters, and that any funds received will be used only for the purposes of the program. The undersigned certifies that the information in the application is true and complete to the best of his/her/their ability and knowledge.

Signed: eSigned via GovOS.com  
*Ana Zaks*  
Key: 8c431c60-f323-43f6-bdd2-8af2fc1b282d \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: 06-16-2025



# 2026 Postmark Center for the Arts Arts & Cultural Programming Grant Application Form

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Projects from January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026

**Deadline: September 30, 2025**

*granting committee will meet in November 2025*

If applicants are in need of a printed and/or translated copy of this document, it will be provided. Please contact Arts Program Supervisor, Allison Hyde at [ahyde@auburnwa.gov](mailto:ahyde@auburnwa.gov)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: Chelsia Berry / Maria Brown / Nicole Turner

Street Address: 4615 Yakima Ave

City/State/Zip: Tacoma, WA 98408

Contact Name: Nicole Turner

Contact Number: 206 512 7283 Email: quiltedline@gmail.com

Website (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

Program Title: Redefining Luxury – The Black Experience of Sustainable Textile Practices

Program Start Date: February 21, 2026

Program End Date: February 21, 2026

Program Location/Venue: **Postmark Center for the Arts and/or Auburn Arts Alley**

Grant Amount Requested (\$500-\$2,000): 630.00

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION/PROPOSAL

*Please describe your intended program within half a page, or less than 1,000 words.*

In the summer of 2025, our group of 3 applicants presented a workshop twice at the Tacoma Art Museum as part of the Threads of Freedom Project organized by the Chayah Movement. This coincided with Juneteenth but the presentation can really be given at any time. We would like to expand the project slightly and present it in Auburn at Postmark, independent of the Chayah Movement and art museum.

Background: two local Black fashion designers and textile artists Chelsia Berry and Maria Brown were the presenters. They were joined by Nicole Turner (local weaver) who presented specifically on one portion of the project (Kente weaving).

Program Title: Redefining Luxury – The Black Experience of Sustainable Practices

Description: Luxury is more than exclusivity—it's tradition, craftsmanship, and sustainability. This immersive workshop explores the deep-rooted sustainable fashion practices within the Black experience, tracing their origins from Africa to Black American fashion today.

Through storytelling, history, and hands-on engagement, attendees will discover:

1. Styles, Stealings & "Stuck Withs" – A journey through Black American fashion, from tribal hand-sewing techniques to Wax Cloth (Ankara) and the empowerment of sewing machines.
2. The Styles of Kings & the Enslaved – How embroidery, weaving, and royal garments transformed into reclaimed style and Dandyism.
3. What Never Left: Mending is Luxury – highlighting alteration specialists in Ghana, featuring insights into modern Ghanaian fashion plus Kente cloth weaving (presenter Nicole Turner).

This is an interactive lecture with time for reflection and participant involvement. We would need a way to project our slides onto a screen or blank wall. The slides are NOT text heavy. Instead, they are primarily photographs that breathe life into the workshop material.

After the interactive lecture and Q&A, Attendees will also:

- View and touch a piece of authentic Kente weaving, handwoven by expert Ghanaian weaver Kwasi Asare. Other fabric samples are also available to view and handle: wax print, indigo-dyed pieces, etc.
- Receive a piece of handwoven cloth inspired by Kente weaving as a symbol of tradition lost and reclaimed. Available for the first 25 attendees.
- Explore weaving on looms to gain insight into Kente weaving, guided by Nicole Turner.
- A QR code that leads to resources on recommended reading, Kente weaving resources, where to buy authentic Ankara fabric, etc. Past participants tended to spend about 15 minutes on average exploring the resources on the website.

This is an interactive, educational, and empowering workshop best suited toward people ages 10 and above due to the length of the workshop.

Workshop length: 2 hours plus set up and tear down. We recommend giving about an hour and ten minutes for the lecture, plus time for Q&A and exploring the weaving projects afterward, so about two hours total with the public.

For the purposes of completing the application we randomly chose a date and are open to discussing a different date with Arts commission / Postmark staff.

## **PROGRAM IMPACT/ PUBLIC BENEFIT**

*What is the significance of your program occurring next year? How does your project benefit or speak to the communities in Auburn? Please describe in 1000 words or less.*

This is a unique workshop bringing together two local Black fashion designers who have a wealth of knowledge of the history of textiles. No prior knowledge of textiles is needed from attendees. The program is engaging on both an intellectual and emotional level. If a person were interested in these topics alone, they would likely need to take college classes, do quite a bit of historical reading, read textile-related research, etc. Instead, the three presenters have created an engaging two hour program that requires no previous knowledge of textiles/fashion.

We really honed in on what the average audience would be interested in within these topics, while pulling in pieces of history to give greater context and understanding. The workshop works well for people of all backgrounds. Black Americans will see their culture and history represented, and other participants will be able to see commonalities and aspects of textile and craft history that they can relate to. As a whole, the audience will gain understanding of what traditional African textile practices made their way to North America over the last 400 years. For example: indigo dyed textiles are currently everywhere and are experiencing a "viral moment" but this dyeing technique originated in west Africa. So how (and why) did this technique end up spreading all over the world? This is just one of the topics covered in the lecture.

The workshop would be free to the public. We prefer scheduling the workshop on an evening or weekend to increase the accessibility of the class to the public.

The QR code resources will be slightly reworked to be relevant to an Auburn audience. A few of the resources are currently more geared toward Tacoma residents. We featured local resources for finding authentic Ankara fabric, local weaving/sewing/textile resources, how to properly source authentic Kente handwoven items, etc. The purpose of the QR code resources is to give participants a chance to take the next step with the content they learned in the workshop and make the material as local, relevant and personal as possible.

## **FEASIBILITY**

*Tell us how you intend to execute your program within budget and timeframe. Please describe in 500 words or less.*

We have presented this workshop before (twice) but would be making small adjustments to it to expand a few sections of the program for purposes of clarity and tying elements of the presentation together. Much of the work is already done and so there is no significant time/planning to consider. Nicole would be weaving the small handwoven samples for people to take home and also setting up the looms for the post-lecture weaving exploration so there is some time involved in that. Nicole would need two months notice before the presentation in order to fit that into her schedule of other work. Thirty dollars would cover the yarn supplies needed for this project. The remaining money would cover the fees for the presenters divided into three portions.

A small amount of time would also be needed to update the resources in our QR code. We would add in Auburn-specific textile resources into the QR code to supplement the resources that are already there.

**PROGRAM BUDGET**

**Expenses**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind/Non-Cash</b>
Program Staff/Personnel	\$600.00	\$0.00
Materials/Supplies/Equipment	\$30.00	\$0.00
Marketing/Promotions	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other	\$0.00	\$0.00
Subtotals	\$630.00	\$0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total: \$630.00</b>	

**Income**

<b>Source of Income</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind/Non-Cash</b>	<b>Confirmed/Received (Yes/No)</b>
Admissions	\$0.00	\$0.00	Yes
Sales	\$0.00	\$0.00	Yes
Donations	\$0.00	\$0.00	Yes
Grants	\$630.00	\$0.00	No
Applicant Cash	\$0.00	\$0.00	Yes
Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	Yes
Subtotals	\$630.00	\$0.00	
<b>Total</b>	<b>Total: \$630.00</b>		


**BUDGET CONFIRMATION**

Please check this box to confirm that the amounts above are correct.

**OPTIONAL** – You may attach flyers/photographs or any other supporting documents that illustrate the importance of your program.

Please check this box if you have read the grant application guidelines document and understand the criteria for the application.

By signing, I state that I am authorized to commit to the Postmark Center for the Arts in financial matters, and that any funds received will be used only for the purposes of the program. The undersigned certifies that the information in the application is true and complete to the best of his/her/their ability and knowledge.

Signed:  Dated: 09-29-2025

Key: 8c431c60-f323-43f6-bdd2-8af2fc1b292d