

CREATIVE SPACE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CSAP)

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Purpose

To provide direct support to qualifying creative organizations facing temporary or permanent displacement, or to those previously displaced.



CSAP Program Overview

- Building on the success of the 2019 CSAP Inaugural Year.
- Program budget is \$800,000
- Program eligibility includes:
 - Arts-focused nonprofits and
 - Select for-profit creative businesses, as allowed by definitions within the program guidelines



For-Profit Applicant Eligibility

- **Live Music Venue**: An establishment where live music programming is the principal function of the business and/or the business is a live music destination, and where the venue clearly establishes the ability of an artist to receive payment for work by percentage of sales, guarantee or other mutually beneficial formal agreement for every performance. A live music venue is a destination for live music consumers, and/or its music programming and is the primary driver of its business as indicated by the presence of at least five (5) of the following:
 - a) Defined performance and audience space;
 - b) Mixing desk, PA system, and lighting rig;
 - c) Back line;
 - d) At least two of the following: (i) sound engineer, (ii) booker, (iii) promoter, (iv) stage manager, or (v) security personnel;
 - e) Charges cover charge to some music performance through ticketing or front door entrance fee;
 - f) Markets specific acts through show listings in printed and electronic publications;
 - g) Hours of operation coincide with performance times; or
 - h) Programs live music at least five nights a week.
- **Performance Venue / Theater**: An establishment whose principal function and mission is to present live performances, plays, live music, film screenings, or other performances of artistic work produced by an artist, or arts and culture organization, accessible by public audiences.
- **Museum / Art Gallery**: Facility whose principal function and mission is to exhibit, present, and/or sell artistic work in a variety of media produced by an artist, artist collective, or arts and culture organization, accessible by public audiences. (For the purposes of this program's eligibility, this will not include City-run/owned, State-run/owned, or Federally-run/owned facilities.)

Eligible Uses of Funds

- Rent stipend
- Gap financing for property acquisition
- Other space-related needs such as facility improvements or displacement-related expenditures, and predevelopment plan

Changes to the Process 2020

- **Program budget** increasing from \$750,000 to \$800,000
- **Selection Committee Process**
- **Definitions and Supplemental Information** attachment to Guidelines adds definitions and clarification of specific topics.
- **Greater Transparency.** Recording the panel deliberations (stopping during proprietary financial/business operational discussions of for-profits).
- **Increase Applicant Prep Time.** Scheduling 60-90 days between opening grant and due date.
- **Zoning Verification Form.** This form will no longer be an eligibility requirement but will be included with the general application. Eliminating the eligibility phase of the process.
- **Sole proprietorships.** Sole proprietorships are eligible and will be evaluated according to their impact in the community. This clarification is made in the new Definitions and Supplemental Information attachment to the Guidelines.

More Changes to the Program

- **Rent Stipend Worksheet.** The Rent Stipend application will include a worksheet showing the difference between an applicant's old and new rent amounts.
- **Two Applications Instead of One:** one for Rent Stipend and one for Other Space-Related Needs/Gap Financing. Same launch and due dates.
- **Parameters Around Disqualification.** Establish clear rules for panel about what constitutes disqualifying an applicant and not scoring.
- **Appeals Process.** Implement the existing Cultural Arts appeals policy for:
 - Administrative error
 - Conflict of interest
 - Misrepresentation of facts

Program Information

<http://www.austintexas.gov/csap>

CSAP program description, guidelines, and link to application

