

Visual Arts Grant Programs

Funding Year 2024-2025

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Visual Art Grant (VAG) Program?

Visual Arts Grants can only be awarded to a person or organization that will be installing permanent or semi-permanent artwork (for a minimum of two years). The work must be located in Emeryville and be accessible to the Public for a minimum of 40 hours per week.

Who can apply for a Grant Programs and how much can I apply for?

Individual artists, teams, or organizations registered 501 (c) 3 non-profit. Individual may be, but are not required to be sponsored by a fiscal agent. Community Promotion Grants will be awarded up to \$10,000 per application and Visual Arts Grants will be awarded up to \$17,500 per application, minimum application for Visual Art Grants is \$3,000.

What is a Fiscal Agent?

A fiscal agent holds a 501(c)3 non-profit status and sponsors a non-exempt person or organization by providing a pass-through for funds for the grant project. If you need assistance this may be a way to bolster your application as a new applicant but is not required for Grants. Who offers these services, what they offer and potential costs to applicant will be covered in the Pre-Application Seminar.

Can I apply if I do not live in Emeryville?

Yes, but the project/program must be for the Emeryville community and be held or completed in Emeryville. Further if not a non-profit agency you must have a Business License in Emeryville.

How will I know when the Grant Programs are available?

Prior applicants who have received grants from the City prior or who have expressed interest in the program will be notified. There will also be a public call for applicants. The information will be published on the City website, in the City Activity Guide and will also be advertised through social media. Email notifications will be made to artists previously identified via contracting or show presentation.

Can I Apply for More than One Grant?

Yes, but you must provide separate applications for each program or project.

Can I receive a Community Promotion Grants Combined with Visual Arts Grants?

Recipients of Community Promotion Grants may be awarded to a person or organization receiving a Visual Arts grant if the award is for a project element not covered in the Community Promotion Grant (for example if a mural was commissioned depicting folkloric dancers under a Visual Arts Grant, a Community Promotions Grant could fund a community event with a folkloric band and dance instructors and/or performance for the community to the same organization).

What types of Program or Projects Are Allowed under Visual Art Grants?

Visual Arts Grants can only be awarded to a person or organization that will be installing permanent or semi- permanent artwork (e.g. a mural with access agreement with limited term) including but not limited to:

- Mosaic
- Affixed sculptures
- Mural
- Stained Glass
- Ceramics
- Wood work
- Multimedia

Installations that use innovative materials or new explorations of creative expression are invited.

Works funded by the Visual Arts Grants must be displayed for at least two years of the period of the grant program.

What are the insurance requirements? What do I do if I do not have such insurance?

Insurance is available for project specific activities and costs associated (estimated at a few hundred dollars) are an eligible cost for the grant. Those seeking first time coverage for a Visual Art Grant can meet broker(s) or receive referrals at the Pre-Application Seminar. These costs are an eligible use of Grant funds.

What are the permitting requirements for Visual Art Grants? Are these costs eligible grant expenses?

Some art installations require a building permit and/or an encroachment especially if they are affixed at any height or may create a tripping or falling risk. While murals and a small-scale mosaics do not require Building Permits, a sculptural element affixed, or potentially tripping the public or offering a climbing risk may require structural engineer's stamp for the installations

drawings and a [Building Permit](#). These costs if required are an eligible use of Grant funds. Those potentially triggering a Building Permit or Encroachment Permit under a Visual Art Grant can learn more about their costs, how long they take and what they require at the Pre-Application Seminar.

What sites are eligible for Visual Art grants

Some properties have been identified as interested in art installation on their sites and are included to simplify the process as [on the application page](#). Contact Amber Evans at aevans@emeryville.org or 510-596-4382 for the contact information of the sites you are interested in.

How will applicants be assessed?

Following the closing date, applicants will be assessed by a committee comprised of 2 Members of the Parks and Recreation Committee, 2 members of the Public Art Committee (PAC) supported by a Community Services staff member. Applicants will provide a brief overview of their project to the Committee. After the Committee makes their decision, they will forward their recommendations to the City Council for final approval and all grantees will be notified by the Community Services Department. Visual Arts Grant Award recommendations will also be reviewed by the PAC, prior to consideration by the City Council.