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new mexico arts
and the military



public support for the arts since 1965

New Mexico Arts FY25 Mini Grants



**2025 Mini Grant Recipient: The National Ghost Ranch Foundation
Veterans Gathering Weekend – Abiquiu, NM**

Arts & The Military Program Goals

1. Create more opportunities for military and veteran audiences – including active-duty service members, reservists, National Guard members, veterans, their families and caregivers, and others – to meaningfully engage with the arts.
2. Build capacity among New Mexico organizations to offer arts programs for military-connected participants.

2026 Mini Grants – What's New!

NEW! For 2026

- New application question:
#4. How many military-connected individuals do you estimate will benefit from your proposed programs or services?
- Online Workshop for awardees in January 2026
- More programming resources available

Mini Grant Eligibility

- 501 (c) (3) tax exempt, New Mexico nonprofit organizations, units of government, schools, colleges, universities, and Indian tribal government entities.
- Organizations receiving New Mexico Arts funding in other grant programs may apply.

Mini Grant Eligibility

ADVANCE REVIEW

- Advance review of your application is **required** *if*:
 - your organization is a new applicant
 - did not receive funding for a prior application
- Failure to submit application for advance review will **disqualify your final application.**
- Advance Review deadline is **Monday Sept 22, 2025.**
- **Please Note:** Organizations that have received a mini grant in the past are encouraged to submit their application for advance review if pursuing any new project ideas.



**2025 Mini Grant Awardee: The Groove Artspace
Workshops for Military Families – Albuquerque, NM**

Funding Amount

- Applicants **should** request \$2,500.
- Selected proposals will receive the full \$2,500
- No matching funds are required but organization may commit additional funds to the activity
- Grant funding is invoiced on a reimbursement basis – Available after completion of your project

Project Implementation

Project Activities can start anytime after:

January 2026*

and should be completed by

June 15, 2026.

Selection Criteria

Proposals will be reviewed using the following criteria:

1. Does the project create new or additional opportunities for military audiences to meaningfully engage with the arts.

Or

Does the project build capacity for your organization to offer arts programs in the future for military audiences.

2. Feasibility of activity or service within the timeline and organizational capacity.

3. Audience/participant recruiting and promotion strategies.

4. Appropriateness of budget.

5. Plan for evaluation that addresses specific measures of success and how they are documented.

Proposal Requirements

DEADLINES

- Application for advance review deadline:

Sept 22, 2025*

- Mini Grant final application deadline:

5pm (MST) November 7, 2025.

** Failure to submit application for advance review will
disqualify your final application*

Proposal Requirements

In a single PDF document or PDF Fillable Application Form, provide a clear and concise overview of your proposed project (maximum 2 pages - Online forms have character limits)

> *Select one* <

- Does the project create new or additional opportunities for military audiences to meaningfully engage with the arts

OR

- does the project build capacity for your organization to offer arts programs in the future for military audiences?

Proposal Requirements

Overview of Proposed Project to include:

- Organizational mission statement and a brief summary of past or current organizational activities.
- Describe your project goal(s).
- Who will be your primary audience?
- How many military-connected individuals do you estimate will benefit from your proposed programs or services?
- Describe how you intend to reach primary audience or highlight existing relationships with military connected audiences.
- What is the timeline of planned activities and where will they take place?
- List key project artists or staff with their relevant experience and roles in relation to the proposed project. List any community partners? What are their roles?
- Provide a project budget showing how New Mexico Arts funds will be used and any other project funding (please review eligible expenses).
- How will you measure the success of your project?



**2025 Mini Grant Awardee: CENTER,
Visual Storytelling Lab – Santa Fe, NM**

Image: Peter Evan Costas - The Mess Hall, Silver Gelatin

Types of Activity Support

- **Learning-Based Arts Projects**
- **Capacity Building Projects**

Projects can be new or ongoing but cannot end before the submission of an application.

Type of Activity Supported

Learning-Based Arts Projects

- Classes and workshops (frequency and duration may vary).
- Online/virtual learning-based arts programs.



**2025 Veteran-Civilian Reading/Workshop
presented Otero Arts, Alamogordo**

Type of Activity Supported

Capacity Building Projects

Projects that increase an organization's capacity to provide arts experiences and programming to military-connected audiences, including but not limited to:

- Professional development opportunities
- Contracted consultant services
- Research, development, and program evaluation expenses

Types of Allowable Expenses

Funding from New Mexico Arts and the Military Grants can be used toward the following expenses:

- Artistic, administrative, and technical fees
- Consultant and facilitator fees
- Consumable supplies
- Marketing expenses
- Rental fees
- Artist travel fee

Types of Ineligible Expenses

New Mexico Arts cannot fund the following expenses:

- Any events or activities already listed as part of another organization's application
- Projects or organizations (including fiscal agents) outside of the State of New Mexico
- Investment or contingency funding (i.e., accounts earning interest)
- Direct aid to individuals, including fellowships, scholarships, cash prizes, or awards
- Projects that have already occurred
- Projects in which school, college, or university course credit is the primary purpose
- Projects whose main purpose is recreational
- Cost of parties, receptions, fund-raising events, and other social functions
- Grant writing, solicitation of gifts/services, and donor appreciation programs
- Any food except when food is part of a per diem

Types of Ineligible Expenses

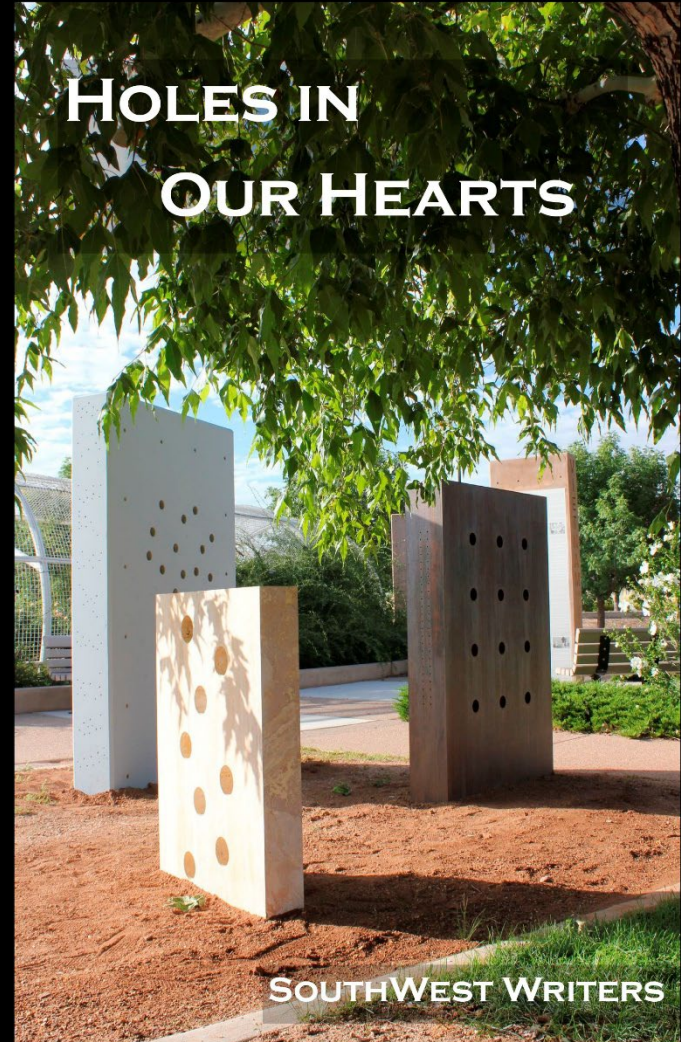
New Mexico Arts cannot fund the following expenses:

- Deficit reduction
- Negotiated indirect costs
- Projects in which commissions/ acquisitions of permanent works of visual art are the primary purpose
- Permanent acquisitions (i.e., buildings or land)
- Capital Improvements, new construction, renovation, or conservation
- Capital supplies & equipment such as copy machines, musical instruments, electronic equipment, computers, etc.
- Requests that fund other divisions, foundations, or employees and contractors of the Department of Cultural Affairs or members of the New Mexico Arts Commission

Unbreaking the Circle Stories of Service



HOLES IN OUR HEARTS



**2025 & 2023 Literary Anthologies produced
by SouthWest Writers, Albuquerque**

Mini Grant Deadlines

DEADLINES

- Preliminary Application for advance review deadline:

Sept 22, 2025*

- Mini Grant final application deadline:

5pm (MST) November 7, 2025.

** Failure to submit application for advance review will
disqualify your final application*

2026 Mini Grant Timeline

- **Final Deadline: 5pm (MST) November 7, 2025**
- Award Notification: December 2, 2025
- Project Activities should occur between January 2026 and June 15, 2026.
- Final Report and Invoice submitted to New Mexico Arts by June 15, 2026.

REMEMBER TO SERVE

Military and veteran audiences – including active-duty service members, reservists, National Guard members, veterans, their families and caregivers, and others) living in New Mexico.



Veterans Arts Showcase Month at Otero Arts, Alamogordo

New Mexico Arts Resources

- New Mexico Arts Website:

nmarts.org

- NMA Arts & the Military webpage:

<https://nmarts.org/all-programs/arts-the-military/>

- Creative Forces: NEA Military Healing Arts Network
- The National Initiative For Arts & Health Across The Military
- Mid-America Arts Alliance - Creative Forces Related Resources
- Armed Services Arts Partnership
- Veterans Art Project (VETART)
- Foundation for Art & Healing

New Mexico Arts

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Thank you!

