

TD TD CULTURE LAB
webinars

**GET FUNDED:
GRANT WRITING
FOR SUCCESS**

With Rohit Mehta

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28 @ 7 PM - 8:30 PM
ONLINE VIA ZOOM
REGISTER THROUGH EVENTBRITE
[MISSISSAUGAARTSCOUNCIL.COM/TDCL](https://mississaugaartscouncil.com/TDCL)

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Mississauga Arts Council

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About the Speaker



Rohit Mehta
Founder and Lead
Consultant, DoGood
Fundraising

- Graduated from University of Toronto Mississauga.
- Active in the non-profit and charitable sector for 18 years.
- Worked for grassroots community organizations, small- and medium-sized charities, and national corporate groups.
- 7 years of grant review board experience.
- Appointed to a 5-year term with the Grant Review Team of the Ontario Trillium Foundation, Served a 2-year term the Ministry of Children and Youth Services' Youth Opportunities Fund.
- Founded DoGood Fundraising to raise funds for charities, non-profits, social enterprises, and artists.

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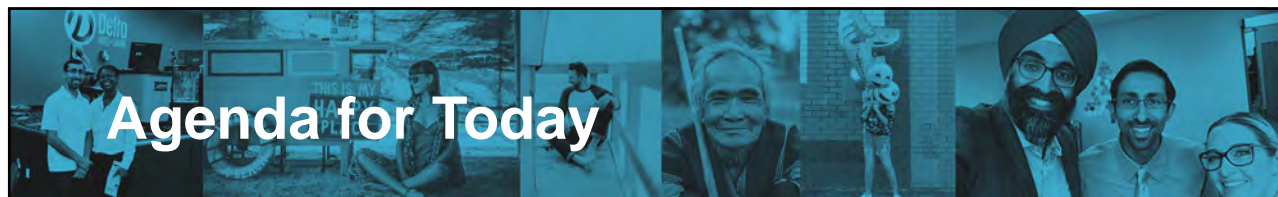


Our Services:

- **All-Inclusive Grant Writing**
- **Prospect Research**
- **Professional Development**
- **Insiders Membership**



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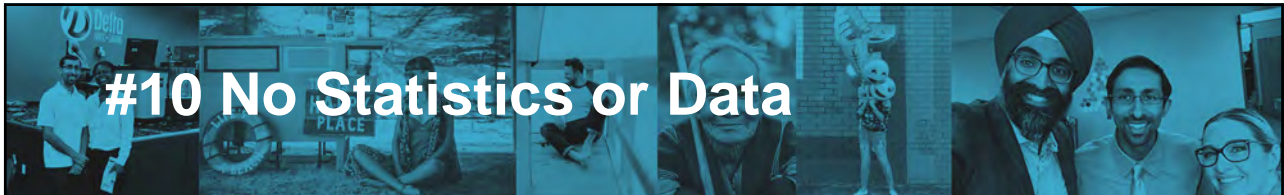
- 1. 10 Common grant writing mistakes**
- 2. Arts grants opportunities**
- 3. Discussion and questions**

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10 Common Grant Writing Mistakes

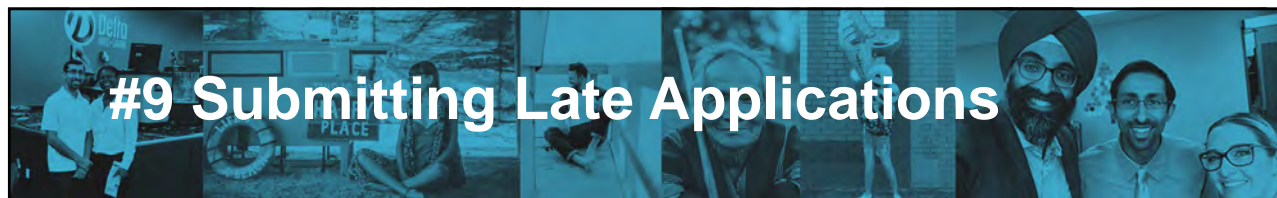
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#10 No Statistics or Data

- Artists must tell their story, by indicating results
- Numbers of albums sold, exhibitions, productions
- Data which indicates the demand or interest in your art
- Statistics should speak to your artistic practice and your work (avoid broad statements)

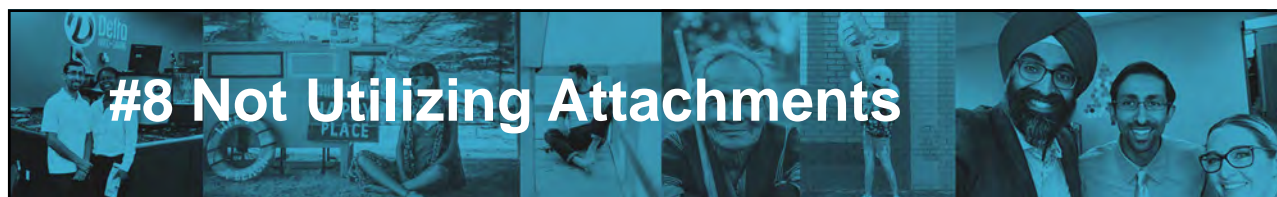
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#9 Submitting Late Applications

- A very frequent issue (happens to everyone)
- Oftentimes, systems crash at the last minute
- Fill out online applications in advance, and press submit as early as possible
- Always save a copy, before pressing submit
- When in doubt, reach out!

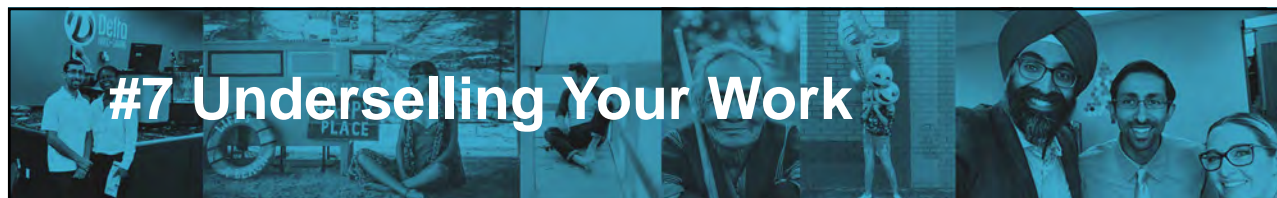
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#8 Not Utilizing Attachments

- As an artist, your work needs to be seen, heard, and experienced
- Many applicants often leave this blank
- Use every attachment available!
- Ideas: Testimonials, photos (add captions), newspaper clippings, awards, features, interviews, brief videos

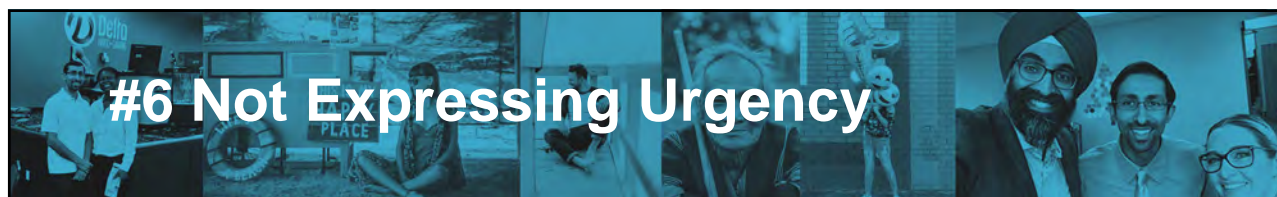
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#7 Underselling Your Work

- Show history or track record of past success
- Provide specific examples of past works, descriptions
- Include statistics without judgement
- Don't hold back - this is the moment to brag about your accomplishments!

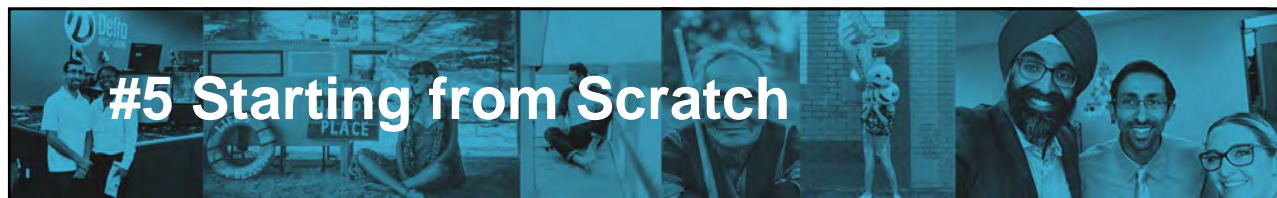
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#6 Not Expressing Urgency

- Particularly key during the post-Covid economy
- Indicate any significant challenge – create urgency!
- Use persuasive language, such as:
 - This grant is essential because...
 - This funding will enable me to immediately....
 - Without this grant, my artistic practice will...
- Urgency helps funders prioritize!

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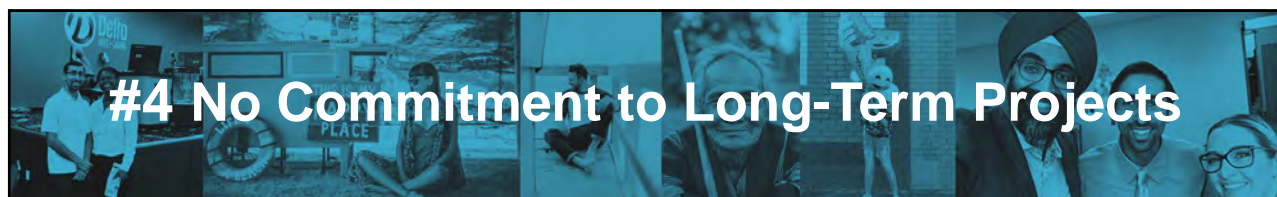


#5 Starting from Scratch

Tip: keep a folder of the following key documents:

- **Annual budget – what will it cost to operate your artistic practice this year?**
- **Strategic pitches – all past grant applications**
- **Common attachments – images of your work with descriptions, your bio, team member bios, list of records/ productions/ works produced**

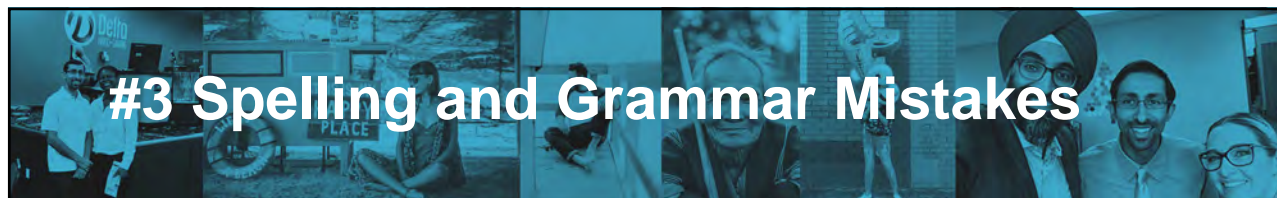
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#4 No Commitment to Long-Term Projects

- **It's often clear when a project has been invented to win the grant**
- **Instead, stick to your artistic practice, style and area of focus**
- **Long-term work will often receive more interest and investment from funders – it's a relationship**

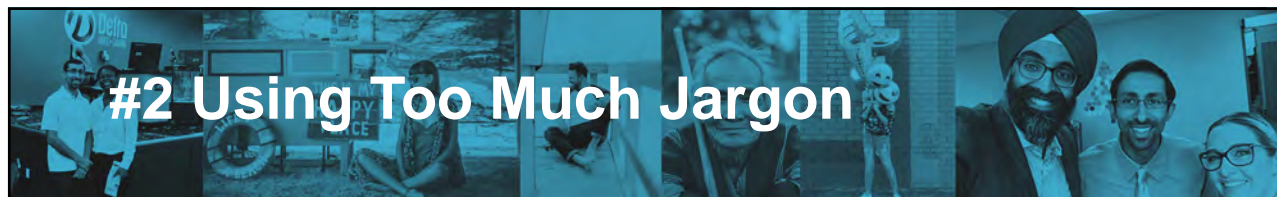
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#3 Spelling and Grammar Mistakes

- Can be frustrating for grant reviewers
- Makes the application harder to read, reduces success
- Consider authoring proposals in Microsoft Word or Google Docs, then copy and paste content
- All proposals should be thoroughly reviewed

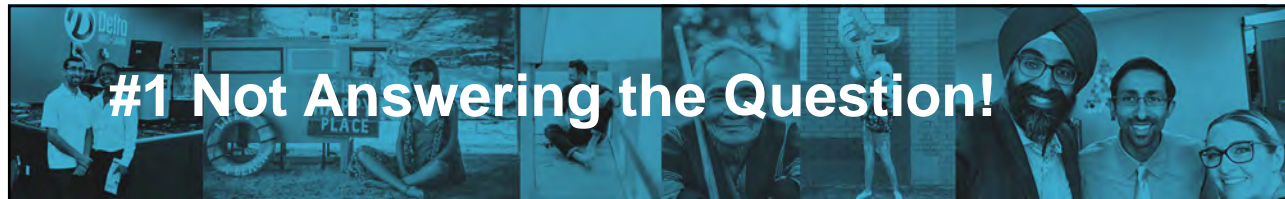
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#2 Using Too Much Jargon

- Write so that reviewers get it!
- Using complex language or many acronyms can make it difficult to understand
- Focus on using the funder's language and key words
- Tip: Have a friend or family member read your proposal

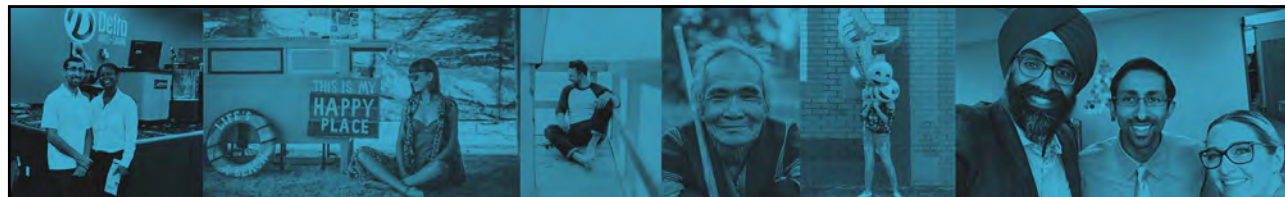
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#1 Not Answering the Question!

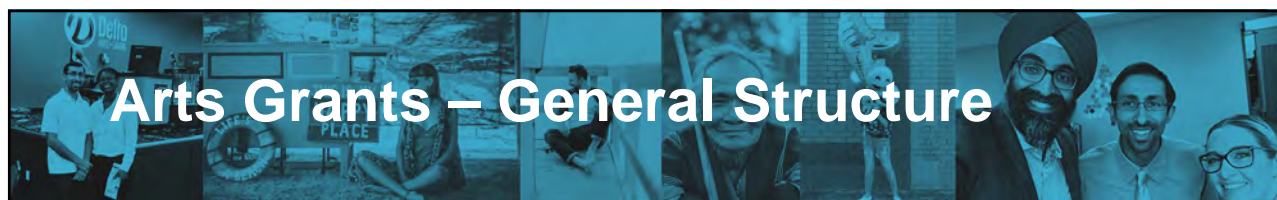
- **Very frustrating for funders**
- **Re-read your responses, even aloud**
- **Ask yourself: did I answer the question?**
- **Try to include the answer to the question right in the first sentence**
- **Avoid vague statements or unnecessary statistics**

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Current Arts Grant Opportunities

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Arts Grants – General Structure

1. **Begin with an online portal. E.g. OAC “NOVA”**
2. **Provide an artist bio, CV, and history**
3. **Answer specific questions relevant to your project, the impact on yourself as an artist, and the broad impact**
4. **A budget with detailed expenses**
5. **Signing all declaration pages and submission**

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Funding Opportunities: Music

- **Ontario Arts Council: Music Production and Presentation Projects closes **March 28 and October 4, 2023****
 - **Individuals \$20k, Professional groups \$20k, Training groups \$5k, Northern semi-pro \$15k Community \$15k**
 - **Organizations, Collectives, and Individual Artists**

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Funding Opportunities: Music

- **Ontario Arts Council: Music Creation Projects closes [April 13 and September 13, 2023](#)**
 - **Self-directed creation \$4k, Commissioning \$20k**
 - **Composition and song-writing, enhancing music available to the public, contributing to arts education and community involvement**
 - **Individual artists, organizations**

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Funding Opportunities: Music

- **Ontario Arts Council: Music Recording Projects closes [May 17 and November 9, 2023](#)**
 - **Demo/EP recordings (series of songs under 25 minutes) \$4k,**
 - **Full-length album (single work or collection, over 25 minutes) \$10k**
 - **Organizations, Collectives, and Individual Artists**

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Funding Opportunities: Music

- **FACTOR Juried Sound Recording, closes [Mid-May and Mid-November 2023](#) *TBA**
 - 75% of the total eligible budget, to a maximum of \$67,500 (including Radio Marketing) for General Artist
 - Up to \$10,000 for sound recording component
 - Contributes toward the cost of acquiring, producing and marketing a full-length album.

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Funding Opportunities: Music

- **Toronto Arts Council: Music Creation & Audio Recording closes [September 5, 2023](#)**
 - Creation (support the writing/ composition) \$5k,
 - Demo/EP (short-form recordings) \$4k,
 - Recording full-length album (professional facility required) \$10k
 - (Toronto residence, at least 1 year duration, required)

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Funding Opportunities: Music

- **FACTOR Songwriter Development, [rolling deadline](#)**

- 75% of the total eligible costs up to \$2,000
- toward a year of songwriting initiatives, such as domestic and international travel for co-writing sessions and trips, songwriting camps and workshops, and eligible showcases.

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Funding Opportunities: Theatre

- **Toronto Arts Council: Playwrights closes [June 15, 2023](#)**

- For Individual Artists
- Support for new or emerging playwrights \$4k
- Support for mid-career or senior playwrights with professionally produced or presented work \$8k
- (Toronto residence, at least 1 year duration, required)

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Funding Opportunities: Theatre

- **Ontario Arts Council: Theatre Projects closes**
February 7 and August 3, 2023
 - **Creation \$5k, Creation in-residence \$10k, Workshops \$15k, Productions \$20k, Festivals/Initiatives \$15k.**
 - **Professional organizations, collectives, and individuals.**

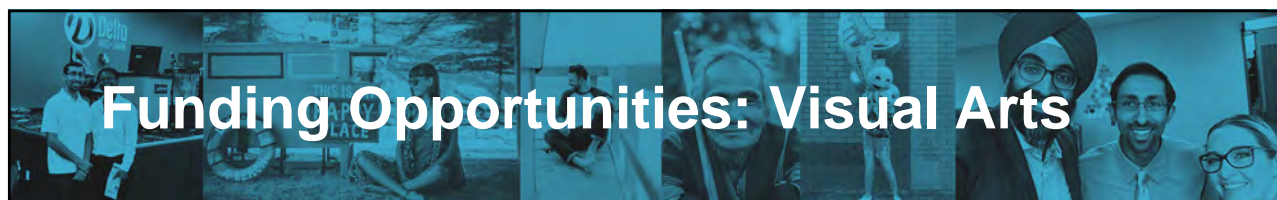
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Funding Opportunities: Visual Arts

- **Toronto Arts Council: Visual Artists Program closes**
Ongoing, until October 2, 2023
 - **Ongoing deadline for Individual Visual Artists**
 - **Level one (for emerging artists with 2 to 7 years independent experience) \$5k**
 - **Level two (for experienced artists with over 7 years of experience, and national or international recognition) \$10k**
 - **(Toronto residence, at least 1 year duration, required). Note temporary absences for up to 12 months may be ok**

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Funding Opportunities: Visual Arts

- **Ontario Arts Council: Visual Artists Creation Projects closes [May 3 and November 2, 2023](#)**
 - **Emerging artists (small exhibition record, at least 3 years of public presentation experience) \$5k,**
 - **Mid-Career (reasonable body of work, at least 8 years public presentation) \$7.5k**
 - **Established (extensive work, history of national and international exhibitions, 15 years of experience) \$15,000**
 - **Only one OAC Visual Arts, Craft of Media Arts program per year**

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Funding Opportunities: Visual Arts

- **Ontario Arts Council: Visual Arts Projects closes [November 23, 2023](#)**
 - **Galleries, up to \$15k**
 - **Ad hoc groups and collectives (visual artists or arts professionals, 50% of Ontario residents) \$15k**
 - **Independent curators – presentation projects \$15k**
 - **Independent curators – research projects \$10k**

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Funding Opportunities: Media Arts

- **Ontario Arts Council: Media Artists Creation Projects closes [April 4 and October 11, 2023](#)**

- **Emerging artists (completed at least one independent media work) \$10k**
- **Mid-Career artists (completed min 2 media works independently, 5 years of professional experience) \$40k**
- **Established artists (completed min 2 media works independently, 15 years of professional experience) \$40k**
- **Cannot also apply to the Visual Artists Creation Projects**

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Funding Opportunities: Media Arts

- **Ontario Arts Council: Media Arts Projects closes [April 27, 2022](#)**

- **Supports groups that present, document, or disseminate the work of Ontario media artists**
- **Presentation \$15k**
- **Professional development \$15k**
- **Publication \$15k**

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Funding Opportunities: Media Arts

- **Toronto Arts Council: Media Artists Program closes [October 16, 2023](#)**
 - For Individual Media Artists
 - Level one, (for emerging artists with 2 to 7 years of professional experience) up to \$6k
 - Level Two, (for mid-career and established artists with 8 to 14 years of professional experience) up to \$12,000
 - (Toronto residence, at least 1 year duration, required)

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Funding Opportunities: Dance

- **Ontario Arts Council Dance Projects closes [March 29, and October 5, 2023](#)**
 - The development, production and presentation of dance;
 - Creation (supports choreography and development of new work) \$5k,
 - Production and presentation (of live and virtual dance for public) \$20k,
 - Series and festivals (costs of series and festivals that promote choreographers and dance companies) \$15k,

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Funding Opportunities: Dance

- **Ontario Arts Council Dance Projects closes **March 29, and October 5, 2023****
 - **The development, production and presentation of dance;**
 - **Mentorship – individuals (for indigenous artists training in indigenous dance practices, and for deaf artists and those with disabilities) \$2.5k,**
 - **Training and community development (forums, workshops and master classes, equity and access initiatives) \$7.5k**

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Funding Opportunities: Dance

- **Toronto Arts Council: Dance Projects closes **February 15 and August 1, 2023****
 - **Creation \$10k, Production and Presentation \$20k, Dance Series and Festivals \$10k, Dance Field Development \$8k**
 - **Organizations, Collectives, and Individual Artists**
 - **(Toronto residence, at least 1 year duration, required)**

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Funding Opportunities: Craft

- **Ontario Arts Council: Craft Projects closes [October 26, 2022](#)**
 - Grant focused on research, creation or development
 - Emerging artists and curators \$5k,
 - Mid-career artists and curators \$7.5k,
 - Established artists and curators \$15k
 - Connections \$12k, Collaborations \$15k
 - Individual Artists, Organizations, and Collectives

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Funding Opportunities: Literary

- **Ontario Arts Council: Literary Creation Projects (Works for Performance) closes [October 24, 2023](#)**
 - Creation \$5k, Recording \$10k,
 - Creation and recording \$15k
 - No partial grants (all or nothing)
 - Individual Artists with a recent professional history with a history of public performance in dub, sound or performance poetry, storytelling, ASL poetry or other

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Funding Opportunities: Literary

- **Ontario Arts Council: Literary Creation Projects (Works for Performance) closes [September 7, 2023](#)**
 - **Creation of literary works for publication: \$12,000**
 - **have a recent professional publishing history with at least one traditionally published book (minimum of 48 pages) OR**
 - **at least three traditionally published short stories, comics, poems or other works for which you have received payment OR**
 - **a professional self-publishing practice**

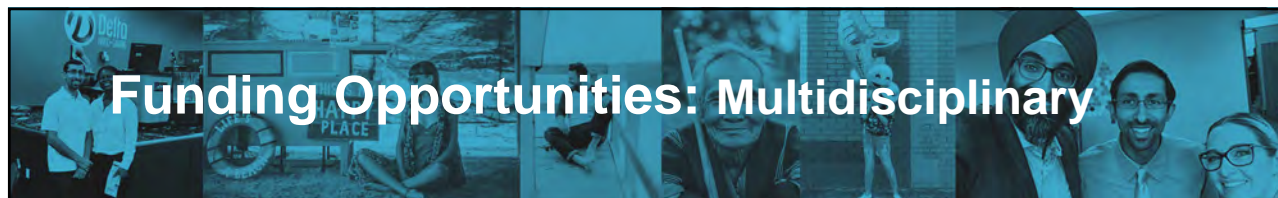
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Funding Opportunities: Deaf + Disability

- **Ontario Arts Council: Deaf and Disability Arts Projects closes [October 12, 2023](#)**
 - **Creation (covers the costs of research and development) \$10k,**
 - **Production (costs of production and or creation) \$10k,**
 - **Professional devt. (costs of study or training, mentorship, internship or apprenticeship, documentation) \$10k**
 - **Professional artists and arts professionals who are Deaf and/or have a disability**

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Funding Opportunities: Multidisciplinary

- **Toronto Arts Council: Black Arts Projects closes**
Ongoing until October 2, 2023
 - **Creation & Development \$10k, with mentorship \$15k,**
 - **Presentation \$15k, with mentorship \$20k**
 - **Individual Artists, Organizations, and Collectives**
 - **(Toronto residence, at least 1 year duration, required)**

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Funding Opportunities: Multidisciplinary

- **Ontario Arts Council: Multi and Inter-Arts Projects closes**
March 22 and September 21, 2023
 - **Creation \$10k, Production and presentation \$20k,**
Series/Festivals \$15k, Development \$8k
 - **Individual Artists, Organizations, and Collectives**
 - **Does not fund events or activities that take place outside of Ontario**

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Funding Opportunities: Curatorial

- **Ontario Arts Council: Curatorial Projects: Indigenous and Culturally Diverse closes [October 11, 2023](#)**
 - Curatorial projects by Indigenous curators, \$30k,
 - Curatorial projects by curators who are People of Colour \$30k
 - Fees for the curator (max \$10k), mentor (max \$2k) and artists; publication expenses (max \$5k), and exhibition productions costs (max \$10k)

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Funding Opportunities: Exhibitions

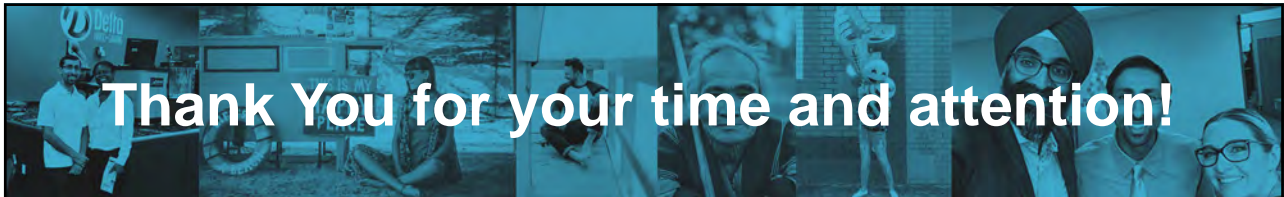
- **Ontario Arts Council: Exhibition Assistance [opens late June, likely closes January 2024](#)**
 - minimum \$500, maximum \$2,000
 - artists and artist collectives working in visual arts, craft and media art practices in the presentation of their artwork in a confirmed public exhibition.

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Questions and Discussion

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Thank You for your time and attention!

- **We Write Winning Grants!**
- **Contact: Rohit Mehta**
- **647-710-4261**
- **info@dogoodfundraising.ca**



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