



Mississauga Arts Council

# micro grants Guidelines

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Mississauga Arts Council

## 2026 MAC MicroGrants - Guidelines and Information

Mississauga Arts Council's (MAC) MicroGrant Program provides funding to individual artists to support the creation and presentation of their projects. These MicroGrants target areas of interest or needs within the local arts sector and have been catalysts for collaboration across artistic practices.

**In the Winter 2026 MicroGrant funding round, MAC is offering Matchmaker MicroGrants to Individual Artists.** Matchmaker MicroGrants provide 50% matching funds to artist-led projects from any artistic discipline up to a maximum of \$3000. To be eligible for funding, projects must demonstrate a confirmed investment in the project at the time of application and must include a public-facing event or activity in Mississauga, engage audiences in Mississauga, and pay artist fees to Mississauga-based artists.

### Please read these guidelines carefully.

Below, you will find detailed information on MAC MicroGrants including:

- Matchmaker MicroGrant Program Details & Eligibility Requirements
- MicroGrant Assessment Criteria
- Important Dates & Deadlines
- MicroGrant Info Session Date & Webinar Link
- Application Form Requirements & Questions
- Frequently Asked Questions

**Deadline for submissions: Monday, March 23, 2026, by 5:00 PM EDT.**

NO LATE OR INCOMPLETE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

For more information, visit: [macarts.ca/microgrants](http://macarts.ca/microgrants)

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MAC's MicroGrant program is supported in part by RAMA Gaming Centre through the Mississauga Charitable Gaming Association and by generous donors like you.



## Winter 2026 MAC MicroGrant Funding Streams:

\* Multiple MicroGrants available - number of MicroGrants awarded is dependent on available program funding and subject to change.

### Matchmaker MicroGrants\* (50% of project budget up to \$3,000)

#### What are Matchmaker MicroGrants?

Matchmaker MicroGrants support Mississauga-based creatives to launch or complete an artistic project.

These MicroGrants are intended to:

- Grow the career impact of the artists involved
- Provide meaningful creative experiences to audiences in Mississauga
- Contribute to growing the strength and reach of Mississauga's Arts Sector



#### Who can apply?

- Individual Artists who live in or are based in Mississauga (applicants MUST have a Mississauga address).
- Previous MicroGrant winners are eligible to apply.
  - Final reports for any outstanding MicroGrant projects must be received AND approved by MAC before an applicant can apply for new MicroGrant funding.

Applicants do not have to be members of MAC to apply, however, if a project is successful, the recipient of the MicroGrant will need to join MAC or ensure their membership is current. (*Individual membership fees start at \$40/year*)

Learn about the benefits of MAC membership and join: [macarts.ca/mac-membership/](http://macarts.ca/mac-membership/)

#### Application Limits:

Applicants may only submit one (1) application for one (1) project. If an applicant submits more than one (1) MicroGrant Application, only their first application will be considered.

#### Project Eligibility:

Projects must be relevant to arts and culture in Mississauga and follow the guidelines.

#### Eligible projects **MUST**:

- Take place in Mississauga (this is mandatory and non-negotiable)
- Include an activity or event that takes place in Mississauga and is open to the public. The activity or event can be free or ticketed/paid. The activity or event CANNOT be private or invite-only.
- Pay artist fees to Mississauga-based artists
- Clearly outline confirmed revenue or in-kind contributions (e.g., sponsorship, grant investment, volunteer commitment, or other in-kind services)

## **Previously Funded Projects**

- Projects that have previously received funding through any of MAC's MicroGrant or Matchmaker MicroGrant Funding Streams ARE eligible to receive additional funds but must demonstrate project growth and/or community impact.

## **Project start date and end date:**

- The project timeline must be feasible with the details outlined in an achievable work plan
- Projects can begin at anytime (including in the past)
- Projects cannot end before April 1, 2026
- Projects must be complete by December 31, 2026

## **How much funding is available?**

- Up to 50% of the total project budget expenses
- Maximum of \$3,000

## **How does the funding work?**

Funding is provided as matching funds, meaning artists must already have confirmed revenue or in-kind support for their project at the time of their application.

- *Confirmed revenue* includes but is not limited to: grants, corporate or private donations, corporate sponsorships, or financial contributions from the artist.
- *Confirmed in-kind support* includes but is not limited to: volunteer hours, donated services, equipment, and/or venues.

The Matchmaker MicroGrant supports direct project-related costs only (see below for more details).

## **What expenses are eligible?**

Matchmaker MicroGrants may be used for direct costs of creation, production, and delivery of the project, including:

- Artist fees for Mississauga-based artists
- Venue rentals in Mississauga
- Equipment rental and production
- Marketing and promotion
- Project administration and overhead

## **What expenses are not eligible?**

- Activities occurring outside of Mississauga
- Expenses not directly tied to project creation or production
- Tuition for post-secondary programs or professional development workshops
- Research projects or research-related expenses
- Capital purchases (computers, buildings, vehicles, permanent signage etc.)
- Fundraising activities or costs
- Food, beverages, alcohol, etc.

## 2026 MAC MicroGrant Assessment:

MAC Matchmaker MicroGrant applications will be evaluated based on the following elements:

- Impact & Innovation of the proposed project
- Qualifications and Experience of Applicant to undertake the proposed project
- Connection to the Community and Audience
- Attainable Project Schedule & Work Plan
- Realistic Budget

Successful MicroGrant applications will:

- Be an intriguing, valuable or impactful project
- Enrich arts offerings available to Mississauga audiences
- Demonstrate a commitment to supporting the Mississauga Arts community
- Contribute to the positive career development of the artists involved
- Include a feasible schedule, budget, and project details

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## Winter 2026 MAC MicroGrant Important Dates and Deadlines:

MicroGrants Open:	Wednesday, January 21, 2026
MicroGrant Info Session:	Wednesday, February 11, 2026 at 1:00 PM EST
MicroGrants Close:	Monday, March 23, 2026, by 5:00 PM EDT
Winners Notified:	week of April 13, 2026 (TBC)
Winners Announced:	week of April 27, 2026 (TBC)
Project Completion Date:	December 31, 2026
Final Reports Due:	1 month after project completion or by December 31, 2026 at the latest

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## 2026 MAC MicroGrant Information Session:

Mississauga Arts Council is hosting a MicroGrant Information Session via Zoom on Wednesday, February 11, 2026, at 1 PM EST.

Register for the Information Session here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/VkAY6LMURECSfAHMErjAQQ>

When you register, you will receive an email from Zoom with your link to attend the information session.

**Can't attend the information session?**

The information session will be recorded and available on MAC's YouTube. Feel free to email your questions in advance to [susan@macarts.ca](mailto:susan@macarts.ca) so they can be addressed at the information session.

# 2026 MAC MicroGrant Application Form:

Once you have carefully read these guidelines and have prepared your application materials, you can submit your application using our web form.

## MicroGrant Application Webform:

<https://form.jotform.com/260125115011234>

We encourage you to gather all the information below BEFORE starting your application. **Partially completed online applications cannot be saved and edited later.** View a preview of our webform here:

[www.macarts.ca/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/SAMPLE-2026-MicroGrant-Application-Form.pdf](http://www.macarts.ca/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/SAMPLE-2026-MicroGrant-Application-Form.pdf)

**All applications MUST be submitted through our web form. No applications by email or any other form will be accepted or considered.**

*If you require assistance completing the MicroGrant application web form, please email [susan@macarts.ca](mailto:susan@macarts.ca) and we will contact you to discuss accessibility support.*

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The Webform Application is divided into three sections and requires the following information:

## Section 1: Applicant Information

Required:

1. Applicant Name & Contact Info (Email, Phone, Address)
2. Link to Artist website or Project website
3. *Document Upload:* Artist CV/Resume
4. *Document Upload:* One document with three (3) Relevant Work Samples
  - a. The document should include:
    - i. links to online projects or images of your works etc.
      - Ensure any links to a Dropbox/Google Drive are not restricted by sharing permissions
    - ii. descriptions/explanations of how the works demonstrate your ability to undertake the proposed MicroGrant Project

Optional:

5. *Optional* - Sauga Arts HUB Profile Link  
(Learn more: [saugaartshub.com/artists-directory/](http://saugaartshub.com/artists-directory/))

## Section 2: Project Information

Required:

1. Project Name/Title
2. Brief Project Description (max 50 words)

3. Briefly describe your public-facing event or element of your project and how it will be beneficial to your intended audience in Mississauga. (max 100 words).
4. Who is your intended audience for this project (please be specific) and what is your communications plan to reach this audience? (max 100 words)
5. What Impact/Benefit will your project have on the artists involved and target audience/community in Mississauga? How will you measure these outcomes? (max 200 words)
6. Artistic Practice(s) Represented by the Project (*select options*)
7. How Many Artists are Involved in the Project?
8. How Many Mississauga-based Artists are involved in the Project?
9. Proposed Project Start Date
10. Proposed Project End Date (Must be between April 1, 2026 and December 31, 2026)
11. *Document Upload:* Project Proposal
  - a. Proposal should include a comprehensive description of your project; the activities and dates you plan to undertake; list of confirmed/proposed partners & artists, venues, etc.; and any other relevant information to the understanding of your project.
12. *Document Upload:* Work plan/timeline
  - a. Please indicate key milestones and communication/marketing details for your project.

Optional:

13. Additional Comments or Information about your project
14. *Document Upload:* Additional Support Documents that provide more context for your project.

## Section 3: Budget Information

Required:

1. *Document Upload:* Project Budget (Please use the template provided by MAC)
  - a. Download a budget template here:  
[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1HUI5mwXJBBSRmjya97sffmg0TSFLUgqG5l0RBaQ-\\_tk/copy](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1HUI5mwXJBBSRmjya97sffmg0TSFLUgqG5l0RBaQ-_tk/copy)
  - b. Save/Download a copy on your computer or in your google drive
    - i. Do not request access to edit the document, save a copy on your computer.
  - c. Rename the file to include YOUR NAME
  - d. Complete the budget
  - e. Download/Save a copy in PDF format
  - f. Upload your completed budget document to the MicroGrant webform.
2. Total Project Expenses
3. Amount of Funding Requested
4. List and briefly describe all confirmed sources of revenue for your project.
5. Has your project previously received a MAC MicroGrant?
  - a. If yes, please describe how your project has grown or why it continues to be impactful to audiences.

# 2026 MAC MicroGrants - Frequently Asked Questions

## **What is a grant?**

A grant is a sum of money given to an individual or organization, usually by a government, foundation, or corporation, to fund a specific project, research, or need. Grants do not need to be repaid (like a loan) but the grant winner must fulfil the terms of their project as outlined in their grant application.

## **How can I apply for a MicroGrant?**

Visit [macarts.ca/microgrants](https://macarts.ca/microgrants) to learn about MicroGrants and complete the online form by **5:00 PM on Monday, March 23, 2026, EDT.**

## **Where is the application form?**

You can submit your MicroGrant Application form here:

<https://form.jotform.com/260125115011234>

## **I do not have a Mississauga address, can I still apply for a MicroGrant?**

No. Only Mississauga-based artists with a Mississauga address can apply for a MicroGrant from the Mississauga Arts Council.

## **Do I have to be a member of MAC to apply for a MicroGrant?**

Applicants do not have to be members of MAC to apply for a MicroGrant.

If their application is successful, the recipient of the MicroGrant will need to join MAC or ensure their membership is current. (*Individual membership fees start at \$40/year*)

Learn about the benefits of MAC membership and join: [macarts.ca/mac-membership/](https://macarts.ca/mac-membership/)

## **What expenses are eligible?**

The grant supports direct project-related costs only. Matchmaker MicroGrants may be used for direct costs of creation, production, and delivery of the project, including: artist fees for Mississauga-based artists, venue rentals in Mississauga, equipment rental and production costs, marketing and promotion, and project administration and overhead costs.

## **What does “in-kind” mean?**

An in-kind contribution is a non-monetary contribution or donation. This includes donated goods, services or volunteer work to support a project. In-kind contributions can include goods or services offered free of charge or at a significant discount rate (ex. Free rehearsal space, volunteer services).

## **What kind of projects will be successful?**

MAC is looking for artist-led projects from any artistic discipline that are innovative and demonstrate a commitment to supporting the Mississauga Arts Community. Winning projects must include a public-facing event or activity in Mississauga, engage audiences in Mississauga, and pay artist fees to Mississauga-based artists.

### **Is there a deadline for me to complete my MicroGrant project?**

Yes. All MicroGrant projects must take place in 2026. *The end date of your project must be between April 1, 2026 and December 31, 2026.* (Project start dates can be flexible and can also be in the past).

### **When is the application deadline?**

All MicroGrant applications must be received by MAC by **Monday, March 23, 2026, by 5:00 PM EDT. NO LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

We encourage applicants to apply early to ensure their submission is received by the deadline.

### **Will MAC review my application before I submit it?**

MAC can only provide advice on submission requirements. MAC will not provide feedback on the content or quality of your application.

**Info Session:** We encourage you to review the guidelines thoroughly. We also encourage you to attend the info session or view the information videos on our website: [macarts.ca/microgrants](http://macarts.ca/microgrants)

**Webinars:** MAC has hosted TD Culture Lab webinars on Grant Writing and you can watch them here: [www.macarts.ca/programs/td-culture-lab/#videos](http://www.macarts.ca/programs/td-culture-lab/#videos)

*After reviewing these resources, if you still have questions, you can reach out by email for more information to [susan@macarts.ca](mailto:susan@macarts.ca).*

### **What if I require accessibility support to apply for a MicroGrant?**

If you require assistance completing the MicroGrant application web form, please email [susan@macarts.ca](mailto:susan@macarts.ca) and we will contact you to discuss accessibility support.

### **Who can I contact with questions or for more information?**

After reviewing the guidelines, information session (live virtual session on Wednesday, February 11, 2026, or YouTube recording), and frequently asked questions, you can address any additional questions to staff via email. Please contact [susan@macarts.ca](mailto:susan@macarts.ca) and allow 2-3 business days for a response.

**Apply for a Matchmaker MicroGrant through the Application Web form: <https://form.jotform.com/260125115011234>**