

FEBRUARY 2021

PRAIRIE POSSIBILITIES

A monthly summary of available grant opportunities for North Dakota's rural communities and the Native Nations that share our geography.

PREPARED BY



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ARTS MIDWEST

WHAT: GIG (Grow, Invest, Gather) Fund

WHEN: May 3, 2021 for projects happening July through December, 2021;
November 3, 2021 for projects happening January through June, 2022

GRANT RANGE: \$2,500

PURPOSE: Arts Midwest today announced the launch of new granting program called the GIG (Grow, Invest, Gather) Fund, designed to provide support to arts organizations as they re-build and re-imagine during the continued uncertainty caused by COVID-19.

These flexible grants will help organizations across the Midwest increase their capacity to gather their community to experience the power of creative expression together.

Nonprofit organizations located in Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, or Wisconsin and the Native nations that share this geography can apply to receive \$2,500 from the GIG Fund. These grants will support costs associated with engaging artists in community experiences as safely as possible given the current circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic. Grants can be also allocated towards capacity building work.



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

WHAT: Challenge America

WHEN: Part 1 - Submit to Grants.gov - April 22, 2021 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time
Part 2 - Submit to Applicant Portal - April 27 – May 4, 2021 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Time

GRANT RANGE: \$10,000

PURPOSE: Challenge America offers support primarily to small organizations for projects in all artistic disciplines that extend the reach of the arts to populations that are underserved.

Challenge America features an abbreviated application, a robust structure of technical assistance, and grants for a set amount of \$10,000. Grants require a cost share/match of \$10,000 consisting of cash and/or in-kind contributions. Total project costs must be at least \$20,000 or greater.



USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT

WHAT: Value-Added Producer Grant (VAPG) Program

WHEN: March 22, 2021

GRANT RANGE: Planning Grants \$75,000;
Working Capital Grants: \$250,000.
Matching Funds Requirements: 50 percent of total project costs.

PURPOSE: The Value-Added Producer Grant (VAPG) program helps agricultural producers enter into value-added activities related to the processing and marketing of new products. The goals of this program are to generate new products, create and expand marketing opportunities and increase producer income.

You may receive priority if you are a beginning farmer or rancher, a socially-disadvantaged farmer or rancher, a small or medium-sized farm or ranch structured as a family farm, a farmer or rancher cooperative or are proposing a mid-tier value chain.

Who may apply for this program?

Independent producers, agricultural producer groups, farmer- or rancher-cooperatives, and majority-controlled producer-based business ventures, as defined in the program regulation, are eligible to apply for this program.

How may funds be used?

Grant and matching funds can be used for planning activities or for working capital expenses related to producing and marketing a value-added agricultural product. Examples of planning activities include conducting feasibility studies and developing business plans for processing and marketing the proposed value-added product. Examples of working capital expenses include:

- Processing costs.
- Marketing and advertising expenses.
- Some inventory and salary expenses.