



Field Funds // Open call:

Artist-led Gatherings

*\$500 grants tending to practitioners' emerging ideas and ongoing work.*

**Applications close November 30, 2025 at 11:59 PM EST.**

**Preview** the entire application form as a document [here](#).

**Questions? Access needs?** Write to [programs@abladeofgrass.org](mailto:programs@abladeofgrass.org) or attend office hours (see below).

**Field Funds recipients are selected randomly by a random number generator. All eligible applications have the same chance of being funded.**

We believe all parts of the creative process are valuable—from seeding new ideas to sharing work with audiences and archiving fleeting experiences. So, we designed a process where all eligible applications have the same chance of being funded. For this reason, there is no need for applicants to make a case for why a project is deserving of support, instead we ask applicants to speak directly and concisely to how they will specifically use \$500.

All applications will be reviewed for eligibility. All eligible applications will be automatically assigned a number, and a number generator will make final selections randomly. 4-5 applications will be selected for funding each cycle. Our intention is to create a nimble process that can be responsive to feedback and the changing needs of practitioners.

Learn more about Field Funds and see Frequently Asked Questions [here](#).

### **Who can apply?**

U.S.-based Artists, creative practitioners, and culture bearers with a demonstrated history of creating socially engaged art. Field Funds uses the terms artist and socially engaged art, but we understand that not all practitioners identify with the same language. Regardless of how

they describe their work, eligible applicants will be able to show in their application that their practice:

- Applies creative strategies and interventions that make society more just, kind, safe, and free.
- Involves and builds relationships with communities and collaborators in ways that are meaningful to those they work with.
- Uses processes and skills beyond those used to create studio artwork or traditional performance—including advocacy, dialogue, facilitation, organizing, and research.

Please note that Field Funds does not accept applications from nonprofit organizations or commercial businesses.

### **What can this opportunity support?**

Artist-led gathering for practitioners to bring groups of 3 or more people together. This could be a standalone gathering in person or online to further research, chase curiosities, or simply build connections. Or, this opportunity could add support to a larger project or event that is already in the works. There is no requirement that the gathering be public, and selected practitioners will have the freedom to use the \$500 contribution as they see fit.

Gathering proposals can support practitioners to:

- Pay fees to a facilitator
- Pay fees to accessibility service providers (ASL interpretation, CART or live transcription, image description, etc.)
- Pay rental or other fees to hosting venues
- Promote a gathering or event
- Provide COVID safety measures for events (testing, masks, hybrid options, etc.)
- Provide food and hospitality
- Provide honorariums to artists and/or participants
- Provide travel for participants

### **What kind of proposals are not eligible?**

Proposals from nonprofit organizations or commercial businesses, proposals for events or projects that are not initiated and led by artists, proposals to support the creation of studio work, books, exhibitions, or other presentations, and proposals for activities that take place after more than six months after the application deadline.

# Schedule

## Field Funds // Artist-led Gatherings

**November 3** - Applications open

**November 30, 11:59 PM ET** - Applications close

**December 3** - Selected applicants notified. **Applicants who do not hear from us by 6:00 PM ET on December 3 have not been selected.**

**December 10**- Funds distributed to selected projects

**December 10 - June 30, 2026** - Proposed activities take place

**July 15, 2026** - Follow up survey\* due

\*Selected applicants will agree to complete a brief follow up survey after completing their proposed activities. The survey asks for some documentation that the proposed activities took place (1-5 photos, screenshots, web pages, etc.), and 5 short answer questions asking: Did you complete your proposed activities? Did it go as planned? What did the \$500 support? Did anything surprising, exciting, or otherwise noteworthy come out of this experience? Is there anything else you would like to share with us about your experience?

## Office Hours

Our team will host open hours on Zoom for folks to drop in with questions about their applications or the process. Feel free to join any of these calls. Please note, other applicants may be present.

**Thursday November 13 — 2:00-3:00 PM ET ([register here](#))**

**Monday November 24 — 3:00-4:00 PM ET ([register here](#))**

Please reach out to [programs@abladeofgrass.org](mailto:programs@abladeofgrass.org) with any questions or access needs.

## Application Outline

### Section 1—Introduction

**Section 2—Eligibility:** These questions gauge your fit for this opportunity and provide space for you to share links to your creative work and past experiences.

**Section 3—About You:** This section collects your contact information and more information about your practice.

**Section 4—Proposal:** Here's where you describe what you're working on and how \$500 would support you.

**Section 5—Our Curiosities (Optional):** This page is optional and includes questions that would help us better understand who this program is reaching and gathers your feedback.

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### Section 2

## Application Form

### Eligibility:

- Are you currently 18 years or older?\*
- Do you currently reside within the United States or U.S. island jurisdictions?\*
- If selected, would you be able to provide a SSN, ITIN, or other U.S. tax identification number?\*
- If selected, do you agree to complete a brief survey about how your project went?\*
- Do you identify as an artist, creative practitioner, or culture bearer?\*

### Eligible creative practices:

Field Funds uses the terms artist and socially engaged art, but we understand that not all practitioners identify with the same language. Regardless of how they describe their work, eligible applicants will be able to show in their application that their practice:

- Applies creative strategies and interventions that make society more just, kind, safe, and free.
- Involves and builds relationships with communities and collaborators in ways that are meaningful to those they work with.

- Uses processes and skills beyond those used to create studio artwork or traditional performance—including advocacy, dialogue, facilitation, organizing, and research.

**Please provide:**

- 1-3 links that would help us understand how your creative work enters the world. These could be: documentation of projects on your portfolio site, google docs, photos/videos of projects elsewhere online, listing pages for events or presentations of your work, reviews or media coverage of your work, social media posts documenting or describing your work. To gauge eligibility, we are looking for publicly available proof that your creative practice engages some audience.\*
- A brief timeline or narrative of your artistic activities relating to socially engaged practice. This can be your resume, CV, bio, or another list or description of your artistic background and how your work has entered the world before. This can be your bio, CV, resume, or another list or description of your artistic background and how your work has entered the world before. Feel free to copy and paste in text you already have or a link to your bio or work history online.\*

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Section 3

**About You:**

- Name\*
- City\*
- State\*
- Phone number\*
- If selected, how do you prefer to be contacted?\*
- Email
- Text
- Phone call
- How would you briefly describe your practice in 1-3 words? (for example: artist, creative practitioner, filmmaker & organizer, etc.)\*

**Briefly describe in 1-5 sentences (200 words max):**

- What is your socially engaged art practice?\*
- What community or public does your work engage?\*

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Section 4

**Proposal:**

This cycle of Field Funds can support artists to host or improve upon gatherings related to their creative work. We define a gathering as an opportunity for practitioners to bring groups of 3 or more people together. This could be a standalone gathering in person or online to further research, chase curiosities, or simply build connections. Or, this opportunity could add support to a larger project or event that is already in the works. There is no requirement that the gathering be public, and selected practitioners will have the freedom to use the \$500 contribution as they see fit.

- What would you use \$500 to support? Please select the categories that best describe your proposed expenses.
  - Pay fees to accessibility service providers (ASL interpretation, CART or live transcription, image description, etc.)
  - Pay fees to a facilitator
  - Pay rental or other fees to a hosting venue
  - Provide COVID safety measures for events (testing, masks, hybrid options, etc.)
  - Promote event or gathering
  - Provide food and hospitality
  - Provide honorariums to artists and/or participants
  - Provide travel for participants
  - Other (write in)
- What are you working on? Please briefly describe what you would use the \$500 for and how it supports your eligible practice (see Section 2—Eligibility for more context about eligibility).

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**Our Curiosities (optional):**

The following questions are optional and designed to help us understand who this program is reaching and how it could improve. Responses here are not considered when determining the eligibility of your application.

- How did you hear about this opportunity? (optional)
  - A Blade of Grass is currently exploring how artists use gathering as a tool in their organizing and creative practices. Are there specific goals or outcomes that you are gathering in service of? (optional)
  - Do you have recommendations of artists or artist-run initiatives that gather folks? Are there projects that should be on our radar as we explore gathering? (optional)
  - Do you have any feedback for this process or anything else you would like to share with our team?
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