

UNM Limited Competition Announcement

Dear UNM Researchers,

The Office of the Vice President for Research is requesting statements of interest and pre-proposals for the **NEA FY27 Grants for Arts Projects (GAP)** limited competition. Grants for Arts Projects (GAP) provides project-based funding for organizations. Funded activities enable Americans throughout the nation to experience the arts, foster and celebrate America's artistic heritage and cultural legacy, and benefit from arts education at all stages of life. We also support arts and health programs, including creative arts therapies, that advance the well-being of people and communities. Projects are accepted in the artistic disciplines listed on the GAP website. (Please review in advance, as there have been a number of changes in the current program.)

Sponsor: NEA

Opportunity Title: FY27 Grants for Arts Projects (GAP)

Opportunity Number: February (2026NEA01GAP1); July (2026NEA01GAP2)

Sponsor Due Date(s): February 12, 2026; July 9, 2026 *This is the ONLY competition that will be held for the NEA Grants for Arts Projects for ANY deadline in 2026.*

Award Range: \$10K - \$100K

Number of Submissions Allowed from UNM: One (1). Independent components, like museums and institutes, may be allowed to submit separately, but you still must participate in the Limited Competition so we can be certain all requirements have been met.

Cost Share Requirement: All grants require cost share—a nonfederal match of **at least 1 to 1**. For example, if an organization receives a \$10,000 grant, the total eligible project costs must be \$20,000 and UNM must provide \$10,000 toward the project from nonfederal sources.

Solicitation: [GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS | National Endowment for the Arts](#)

Limited Comp. Instructions: We will be conducting a two-step internal competition to ensure we have a review committee in place by the pre-proposal deadline. You must complete both steps if you are interested in participating.

Limited Comp. STEP 1: Required SOI Due Date: **NOON on December 23, 2025** (for planning purposes)

Limited Comp. STEP 2: Pre-proposal Due Date: **NOON on January 7, 2026**

STEP ONE: Please submit your ~100-word **statement of interest** in UNM's [InfoReady Review portal](#). This is a required step, and no late submissions will be considered. Note that SOIs will NOT be scored; we require them to assist us in forming a review committee.

STEP TWO: Please submit your 3-page pre-proposal, abbreviated budget, cost share plan, and 2-page CV(s) for key personnel via UNM's [InfoReady Review portal](#). You will receive an email when the InfoReady competition has been converted from the SOI application to the pre-proposal application, but you may work on your documents outside the system before that. No late submissions will be considered.

Initial arrangements for meeting the cost share requirement must be made in advance of submission of the pre-proposal. The level of external/in-kind cost share contributions will be used as criteria for evaluation during review by the Limited Competition Review Committee.

The pre-proposal should address the major points that will be included in the proposal narrative, as follows:

Grants for Arts Projects submissions must include the following:

1. Clearly describe the specific arts project and state why the project is important. Include, as applicable, the target population that will be served, where the project will take place during the period of performance and alignment with one or more agency funding priorities.
2. Describe the major project activities and explain how they demonstrate artistic excellence and merit. Describe the resources involved, and the qualifications of the project's personnel. Include how artists, makers, and art workers will be compensated.
3. Describe the intended audience, participants, and community served, as well as plans to reach these beneficiaries.
4. Describe the value and appropriateness of the project to the organization's mission, artistic field, artists, audience, community, and/or constituency.
5. Describe the potential for the project to have regional, national, or artistic field-wide significance.
6. Define the goals and/or proposed outcomes and your plan to determine if those goals and/or outcomes are met.

The pre-proposals will be reviewed using the following criteria:

1. The **artistic excellence** of the project includes:
 - a. The quality of the artists and other key individuals, works of art, organizations, arts education providers, artistic partners, and/or services involved in the project.
2. The **artistic merit** of the project includes:
 - a. The value and appropriateness of the project to the organization's mission, artistic field, artists, audience, community, and/or constituency.
 - b. The ability to carry out the project based on such factors as the clarity of the project activities, resources involved, and the qualifications of the project's personnel and/or partnerships.
 - c. The potential for the project to have regional, national, or artistic field-wide significance. This includes local projects that can have significant impact within communities or are likely to demonstrate best practices for the artistic field.
 - d. Clearly defined goals and/or proposed outcomes and an appropriate plan to determine if those goals and/or outcomes are met.
 - i. This includes, where relevant in arts education, measures to assess student and/or teacher learning, and alignment with national core or state arts standards.
 - e. Evidence of direct compensation to artists, makers, art collectives, and/or art workers.
 - f. As applicable:
 - i. Engagement with individuals whose opportunities to experience and participate in the arts are limited by geography, ethnicity, economic status, or disability.
 - ii. Alignment with one or more agency funding priorities.
3. Necessity, reasonableness, allowability, appropriateness, and justification of the budget and the required costshare.
4. Overall Score.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact us at limited@unm.edu.

If you are affiliated with HSC, please contact HSC Limited Competition at HSC-LimitedComps@salud.unm.edu for more information.