

# Presenter Development FY24

## Guidelines

## The Montana Performing Arts Consortium

The Montana Performing Arts Consortium (MPAC) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization serving Montana's community of presenting organizations and the artists who bring their talent to our stages. Its mission is to:

- Promote and encourage the touring of the performing arts throughout Montana in a professional and cost-effective manner.
- Provide support and technical assistance to performing arts presenters.
- Foster a favorable climate for both artists and presenters in Montana.

## Presenter Development Program

The Presenter Development Program is an opportunity for small-budget, rural presenters to receive artistic and outreach fee support for the 2023-2024 season series (FY24). This program supports a maximum of 20% of artist fees and/or 50% of artist outreach fees. This program depends on state funds from a Montana Cultural Trust legislative grant and the Montana Arts Council. These allocations are not guaranteed. Do not sign contracts assuming funds will be available. Participants receive promotional support in the form of funding ranging from a minimum of \$300 to a maximum of \$2,000. The average funding amount is \$900. Funds will be disbursed in December 2023, at the earliest.

## Application

- Applications may be submitted by
  - mail to MPAC, PO Box 1254, Great Falls, MT 59401
  - email (PDF or Word) to [info@mtperformingarts.org](mailto:info@mtperformingarts.org)
  - online form at [www.mtperformingarts.org](http://www.mtperformingarts.org).
- For paper/PDF submissions, please type or print legibly.
- For mailed paper applications, only one copy is required.
- **Deadline: July 27, 2023**

## Review criteria

Applications will be reviewed and scored against the following criteria:

- Applicant demonstrates understanding of the community's needs and strives to meet them through programming.
- Programming exhibits artistic and educational quality.
- Applicant provides artistic/cultural programming to an otherwise underserved community.

## Supported Activities

Examples of supported activities include:

- Efforts to develop current audience or target new audiences.
- Creating a new performing arts series in a community that does not have one.
- Expanding programming by adding artistic diversity or culturally diverse artists.
- Adding or modifying outreach activities to increase access or reach new audiences.

Consideration will also be given to:

- Presenters in communities where there is no performing arts series. E.g., organizations may occasionally present events, but did not organize or promote these events in a series format.
- Presenters in a community with an existing series with plans to add events that increase artistic quality and/or reach new audiences. Within this category, MPAC gives priority to series programming that attempts to broaden audience aesthetic perceptions by booking artistically and/or culturally diverse artists, or scheduling outreach activity designed to reach new audiences.

## Restrictions

Activities that **do not qualify** for support:

- Fundraising events or galas
- Self-produced, amateur, or student performances
- Community theater
- Events occurring before July 1, 2023, or after June 30, 2024

Applicants should omit these items from their application/budget section.

## Review process & notification

Presenter Development applications will be reviewed by a panel consisting of local professionals in the Montana presenting community and a staff member from the Montana Arts Council. The panel will meet in August 2023 and organizations accepted into the program will be notified by September 1, 2023.

## Eligible organizations

- Applicant must be a performing arts presenting organization located in a rural Montana community.
- Total artist fees budgeted for FY24 (2023-2024 season) must be less than \$25,000.
- Applicant is a 501(c)3 nonprofit or has a fiscal sponsor.

## Participant requirements

Organizations accepted into the Presenter Development program must meet the following requirements:

- Sign an Agreement Letter
- Present events in a series format with the following criteria:
  - A minimum of three (3) full-length performances by three (3) different professional performing artists.
  - Charge admission for full-length performances.
  - Promote events together under one series or organization name.
  - Supported events take place during a nine (9) month period between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2024.
- The series must include at least one (1) professional artist or artist group residing or originating in the state of Montana.
- The series must contain at least one (1) outreach activity in addition to that artist's full-length public performance.
- Sell a series ticket.
- Promote the series with at least one (1) of the following:
  - Series website
  - Series brochure
  - Active series social media account
  - Series email campaigns

- File a final report with MPAC which includes an individual evaluation (Form A) for each performance series event and one final series financial report (Form B), by June 15, 2024. Examples of Forms A and B are available at [www.mtperformingarts.org](http://www.mtperformingarts.org).
- Include the following credit line in all printed and electronic promotional materials as a contractual obligation:

*“This event made possible in part by the Montana Performing Arts Consortium Presenter Development Program, which is supported by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, Montana Arts Council, and legislative grant from Montana’s Cultural Trust.”*

**PLEASE NOTE: Participating organizations that do not include this line in their printed and electronic materials will not receive the second installment of their funding.**

## MPAC Annual Showcase & Conference

Presenters are strongly urged, but not required, to attend MPAC’s Annual Showcase & Conference. **The next conference will be held in Great Falls on October 13-15, 2023.** Registration is available at [www.mtperformingarts.org](http://www.mtperformingarts.org).

## Contact

For questions or assistance, contact Emily Wolfram, Executive Director at [info@mtperformingarts.org](mailto:info@mtperformingarts.org) or (406)284-5524.

## Application Check List (for mailed or emailed submissions)

- Signed and completed application.
- An organizational financial statement\*\* (profit and loss) for the fiscal year or season that ended in 2023 (last year).
- An organizational budget\*\* for FY24 (2023-24 season).
- A copy of either a signed letter of intent OR contract with each artist for the 2022-2023 season.
- A copy of the organization’s board of directors list.

\*\*If your organization’s primary purpose is not presenting performing arts, show only presenting activity and not the entire organization. \*\*

**INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

## How to submit your application

- Complete the online application at [www.mtperformingarts.org](http://www.mtperformingarts.org).
- Email a PDF or Word document of your application to [info@mtperformingarts.org](mailto:info@mtperformingarts.org)
- Mail one (1) paper copy to:  
Montana Performing Arts Consortium  
Presenter Development Panel  
PO Box 1254  
Great Falls, MT 59403

**APPLICATION DEADLINE: JULY 27, 2023**