

ARTS COUNCIL OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

GRANT PANELIST FACT SHEET

What is a grant panelist?

The Arts Council invites members of the community to apply to serve on the grant panels that review applications for funding from the Arts Council of Hillsborough County. Funds for these grants are provided by the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners. Panelists are selected based on their knowledge of and experience in arts and culture; nonprofit management; and the community.

What are the requirements to be a grant panelist?

- You must be able to objectively review grant applications from Hillsborough County nonprofits and individual artists.
- If you or a family member have an affiliation with an applicant, we will ask that you remove yourself from participation in reviewing that grant application to avoid a conflict of interest.
- You must be able to attend a one-hour orientation session and a half-day grant panel meeting in downtown Tampa, and commit to the necessary training and preparation time in advance.

What is expected of a grant panelist?

- Panelists must attend an orientation session.
- Panelists must read the grant applications in advance of the public meeting and assign preliminary scores based on established criteria.
- Panelists must complete their review and submit to the Arts Council by a specified deadline.
- Each application will take between 30-45 minutes to read and score.
- The number of applications varies according to grant programs, but typically will be between 15 and 25.
- All grant applications and panelist review materials must be accessed online.
- Panelists are required to attend the public meeting and participate in the discussions.

What are the benefits that a panelist can expect from the process?

- To become more informed about community-based organizations throughout the region.
- To engage in making important decisions regarding financial support of cultural organizations and individual artists in Hillsborough County.
- To network with your fellow panelists, all of whom share an interest in community and economic development through arts and culture.

How do you become a grant panelist?

If you are interested in serving as a grant panelist, please fill out the form on our website at <https://tampaarts.org/grant-panelist-application-form/>.

The Arts Council uses this information to determine prospective panelists' knowledge and experience, and to ensure diversity on each panel. Not all nominees can be selected to serve on the current year's panel, but the Arts Council retains all submissions for consideration on future panels. For more information, please contact the Arts Council office at 813.276.8250.