

Artful Life 2026

Montana Arts Council

Overview

Artful Life is the Montana Arts Council's project designed to extend Creative Aging programs across our state. Funded through an awarded *Creative Aging, Creative Futures* grant from the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies, this project will involve 6-8 teams of 3 or 4 individuals comprised of one arts administrator, one teaching artist and/or one arts education curator/director and one professional serving older adults.

Teams selected to participate in the project will become members of a cohort that will together deepen their knowledge of Creative Aging program design through 4 peer learning sessions in the fall of 2026. These sessions will support each team in designing a series of programs for older adults in their community and will award grant funds of up to \$10,000 to carry out their program during calendar year 2027.

Using this initial form, one leader representing each team will submit their interest naming all known team members. As needed, MAC staff will work with each applicant to round out their team to a total of up to 4 members. Interviews with all applying teams will take place throughout May to identify the cohort by early June. A general timeline of the project follows below; those interested in applying are encouraged to reach out to Monica Grable, Arts Education Director, at (406) 444-6522 or Monica.Grable@mt.gov.

Overview of Timeline

May 1, 2026	Deadline to submit application (1 per team)
June 1-15	Notifications made to teams including final schedule and project agreement
Sept.15-Nov. 20	Four 2-hour cohort sessions scheduled (peer learning & support)
December 10	Teams submit their program plans for review
January 4-8, 2027	Contracts available, returned for payment processing
January 15	Grant payments in progress
Feb.1-Dec.15	Team-led programs take place (3-5 workshops)
Jan-Feb. 2028	Rescheduled and/or additional programs are held as applicable
March 15, 2028	Surveys collected, reporting steps take place
April 1, 2028	Reporting due
April or May 2028	Digital presentations prepared
	In-person cohort culminating event (date TBD)

Project Information

Project Name*

Character Limit: 100

Name of Project Lead*

Character Limit: 100

Project Lead Organization/Affiliation*

Character Limit: 250

Project Lead Email*

Character Limit: 100

Project Lead Phone Number(s)*

Please indicate if you are sharing a mobile phone number.

Character Limit: 100

Additional Team Members*

Please list the names, role/job title, and email addresses of other committed members of the team. Add **at least one other person here or up to a total of three**. A full Artful Life project team will consist of 3-4 individuals.

Character Limit: 500

Creative Aging Experience to Date*

Please share the Creative Aging experience members of your team have gained to date.

Character Limit: 1000

Interest Statement*

Please share a brief summary of your team's interest in Creative Aging work and/or your specific interest in the Artful Life project, together with the vision you share for providing access to Creative Aging opportunities in your community.

Character Limit: 2000

Assurances

By typing my name below, I am agreeing to act as the lead member of my team, providing the assurance that all members understand the following:

- This application does not guarantee participation in the Artful Life project
- Zoom interviews with each team will follow this submission to identify 6 - 8 teams for the cohort
- Priorities will be made based on readiness to participate, community need and geographic diversification
- All teams selected for the project are expected to participate in cohort activities as explained in the overview section of this form
- Grant funds of up to \$10,000 will be awarded in early 2027 upon submission of the team's program design

Type Lead Name Here

This acts as your digital signature

Character Limit: 100

Date

Character Limit: 10