What is the Performing Arts Worker Relief Fund?

A resource for performing arts workers who are facing a loss of income due to the ongoing COVID-19 crisis.

Who is eligible for assistance?

“Performing arts workers” includes all aspects of the performing arts including actors, administrators, box office/event staff, carpenters, dancers, designers, directors, dramaturgs, musicians, playwrights, production staff, singers, teaching artists, technicians, etc.

Any resident of the San Francisco Bay Area who has worked professionally or vocationally in local performing arts, who has been an active participant in the arts community (those whose life’s work is the performing arts, regardless of the income derived from work in the performing arts) and has experienced a loss of income due to COVID-19 because of:

- Cancelled performance/s
- Loss of performing arts work
- Loss of supplemental income/job

How much money can be requested and how often?

Grants for $500, $1,000, and $1,500 may be requested once per person per month through the duration of this crisis. Repeated funding, however, is not guaranteed. If approved, the amount received may fluctuate according to how much is available within the Fund.

How will decisions be made?

Priority will go to:

- Demonstration of a proportionate scale of loss (how does this month’s loss of income compare to average monthly income over the last 3 months?).
- Those that have limited access to other funding opportunities (such as unemployment, other employment).

Applications will be reviewed weekly starting Monday, March 30, 2020. Applications received by 5pm on Mondays will be reviewed the following Wednesday and notified by the following Friday. At that time, you will either be notified that you have received funding or that your application is being resubmitted for consideration the following week. The total number of grants given each week will be dependent upon the funds raised.

How may Artist Relief Fund monies be used?
For any need that arises due to loss of work as described above. Eligible expenses may include rent/mortgage, groceries/food, medicine/health care, child care, transportation, etc.

Who administers the Fund?

Rotating three-person committees made up of Theatre Bay Area staff and community representatives will review all applications, verify the information in a confidential manner, and make all final decisions. TBA’s accounting staff handles the fiscal component of the Fund.

How quickly will funds be distributed?

Theatre Bay Area is anticipating signing checks once a week during this crisis. We expect to be able to mail checks to grantees within 2 weeks of notification of grant award. This is dependent on required paperwork being promptly returned upon notification and no additional government restrictions on Theatre Bay Area’s operations.

The Artist Relief Fund is not available to staff or board members of Theatre Bay Area. A donation cannot be earmarked for a specific person. For further information email tba@theatrebayarea.org or visit https://www.theatrebayarea.org/page/COVID-19relief-fund.

Please submit your application and accompanying materials here: https://theatrebayarea.wufoo.com/forms/s10has1o078mcgm/