



OFFICE OF ARTS & CULTURE
SEATTLE

Application Preview

Hope Corps 2025: Downtown Seattle Arts & Cultural Activations

Apply at bit.ly/hope-corps-2025

INTRODUCTION

The Seattle Office of Arts & Culture (ARTS) invites individual artists, cultural producers, arts administrators, and creative workers, small community groups, and arts and cultural organizations of all sizes to apply to participate in Hope Corps by proposing project concepts that 1) generate career opportunities for the local creative workforce, and 2) contribute to the wellbeing and resiliency of Seattle's downtown community by activating its neighborhoods with community-driven projects, events, performances, and more.

Envisioned as an economic recovery program for Seattle's creative workforce, Hope Corps seeks to connect under- and unemployed artists and creative workers with career opportunities that benefit the public. The 2025 Hope Corps program is part of [Mayor Bruce Harrell's Downtown Activation Plan](#), and funding will go towards projects that employ creative workers through activations in Seattle's [downtown neighborhoods](#):

1. Belltown
2. Central Downtown
3. Chinatown-International District
4. Denny Triangle
5. Pioneer Square
6. Stadium District

Proposed projects should be unique events or activations, taking place in 2025 in street-level, accessible, outdoor or otherwise publicly visible spaces that provide engaging experiences for the public and bring audiences downtown.

Grants range from **\$5,000 - \$50,000** to support creative worker wages and project expenses.

Focus Areas

Projects should address one or more of the following focus areas:

- **Seattle is THRIVING - Creating a New Narrative for Downtown Seattle:** Why do you love Seattle? What helps you feel safe in your community? What is the history of this place? What has Seattle survived? How is Seattle changing? What makes you proud to be a Seattleite? What do you want to see in Seattle's future?
- **Placemaking, Place-keeping and Belonging:** Who belongs in Seattle's Downtown? Who belongs on Indigenous land? How do we live in community with our unhoused

neighbors? Who has been excluded from opportunity in Seattle's Downtown neighborhoods? How do the arts make our Downtown unique?

- **Climate and Water Justice:** How do water and the natural environment shape our city? How do Seattleites relate to nature? How do Seattle's residents steward the ecology around us? How can we create a healthy, resilient, and green Downtown? How can our city create a just, sustainable future?

Read the full [guidelines here](#).

If you don't have computer or internet access, or would like to discuss alternative ways of applying, contact Alex Rose, Hope Corps Program Manager, as soon as possible: alex.rose@seattle.gov.

We have interpreters who can speak to you in your language, including American Sign Language (via video). Just call us and tell us what language you speak. Expect a short pause while we find an interpreter to join the call.

Please complete and submit this application by **Tuesday, Sep. 3, 2024, 5:00 p.m. Pacific**. Please allow ample time to complete your application. Applications submitted after the 5 p.m. (Pacific) deadline will not be accepted.

APPLICATION

Application Instructions

This application contains a mix of multiple-choice and open-ended questions, as well as requests for file uploads. All questions are required, unless they are labeled optional. We estimate this application will take approximately 1-2 hours to complete. In Submittable, you may save a draft of your application and return to it again later using the Save Draft button located on the Submittable form.

You may also invite others to collaborate with you on the Submittable application - simply click the Manage Collaborators link located at the top of the Submittable form and follow the prompts to share your application.

The **deadline** for applications is **5 p.m. (Pacific), Tuesday, September 3, 2024**. Please allow ample time to complete your application in advance of this deadline; applications will not be accepted after the deadline.

Questions about Hope Corps? Please contact Program Manager Alex Rose (alex.rose@seattle.gov) for assistance.

Need tech support? Submittable maintains an FAQ and offers step-by-step guides on [their help platform here](#). For further assistance in using Submittable, please contact Submittable tech support at support@submittable.com.

Important Notices

- **Saving Your Application:** Submittable will automatically save your application at regular intervals, but you may also manually save your application at any time using the Save Draft button located at the end of this form. If you are completing your application in multiple sessions, please ensure you click the Save Draft button before exiting the application form to avoid losing your work.
- **Internet Browsers:** Submittable recommends using [Mozilla Firefox](#), [Google Chrome](#), or [Apple Safari](#) when using Submittable. Internet Explorer 11 or legacy versions of Microsoft's Edge browser (prior to version 20) are no longer supported, and you may run into problems if you are using the Submittable platform with these older browsers.
- **Privacy Notice:** Information that you provide below will become part of a record that is subject to public disclosure. The Office of Arts & Culture will not publish this information, but we are legally bound to provide it upon request. For more information, see the Public Records Act, RCW Chapter 42.56. To learn more about how we manage your information, see our Privacy Statement at seattle.gov/tech/initiatives/privacy.

Note: Questions below with a red asterisk indicate that an answer is required.

ELIGIBILITY

Please read the following eligibility criteria in full before proceeding with the application. You will be asked to affirm that you have read and meet these criteria before you may apply.

You are eligible to apply for Hope Corps funding if **you and your proposed activation project meet the following criteria:**

- You are an individual artist, organization, or community-based group located in, or presenting work regularly in, Seattle.
 - Organizations and individual artists representing communities most impacted by systemic oppression including low-income, people with disabilities, immigrant and refugee communities, and communities of color are encouraged to apply.
- Your activation project must occur between January 2025 and December 2025.
- Your activation project and its associated public benefit must take place in Downtown Seattle within the [identified Downtown Activation Plan boundary](#):

- Belltown
 - Central Downtown
 - Chinatown-International District
 - Denny Triangle
 - Pioneer Square
 - Stadium District
- Your activation project must address one or more of the three focus areas of this program (see [Guidelines](#) for more information on focus areas).
 - Your activation project must be promoted and made accessible to the general public – Seattle residents, workers, and visitors – to attend. This includes a free attendance option and accessibility for people who primarily speak languages other than English and people with disabilities. If you could use assistance to make your event more accessible, please contact alex.rose@seattle.gov.
 - Your activation project must pay each creative worker* a living wage, whether through wages, stipends, or contract payments. We define a living wage as \$32 per hour or more (this may vary for youth and students).
 - Your activation project may have a virtual component, but it must be primarily an in-person experience.
 - If your activation project is a temporary art installation, it must be displayed for at least 3 months.

***Creative workers** include artists, creatives, cultural workers, and everyone in between. Please see the [Guidelines](#) for further examples.

The following are **not eligible for funding**:

- Permanent installations and mural projects
- Capital improvement projects
- Religious services
- Fundraisers or private events

I have reviewed the eligibility information above and confirm that my activation project and I meet the eligibility requirements:*

- Yes
- No - please contact us to discuss your eligibility for Hope Corps

Unsure if you're eligible to apply for Hope Corps? Please contact Hope Corps Program Manager Alex Rose (alex.rose@seattle.gov) for assistance.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

This section of this application form collects basic information about you as an applicant.

I am applying as:*

- An individual
- An organization
- A community group

Name*

Individual Applicants: please provide your own name here.

Organizations and Community Groups: please provide the name of your organization, community group, or artist collective here.

(For Individuals only) Briefly describe who you are, your areas of expertise, key accomplishments, and experience producing activations, performances, events, or other relevant work. This response will help the review panelists understand your ability to carry out your proposed activation. (maximum 300 words)*:

This replaces a resume request and provides the panel information about your background, both lived and educational or professional experience.

(For Organizations/Community Groups only) Briefly describe your organization or group's background, areas of expertise, key accomplishments, and experience producing activations, performances, events, or other relevant work. This response will help the review panelists understand your ability to carry out your proposed activation. (maximum 300 words)*:

This replaces requests for resumes and provides the panel information about your organization's history, mission, vision, and values.

PROJECT CONCEPT

What is the artistic discipline for your project concept? Check all that apply. *

- Arts Education

- Dance / Choreography
- Film / Media / Digital Arts
- Folk / Traditional / Heritage / Craft
- Literary
- Multi-disciplinary
- Music / Composition
- Service
- Theater / Opera
- Visual / Design
- Other artistic discipline (please elaborate _____)

Which Hope Corps focus area does your project address? Check all that apply. *

- **Seattle is THRIVING - Creating a New Narrative for Downtown Seattle:** Why do you love Seattle? What helps you feel safe in your community? What is the history of this place? What has Seattle survived? How is Seattle changing? What makes you proud to be a Seattleite? What do you want to see in Seattle's future?
- **Placemaking, Place-keeping and Belonging:** Who belongs in Seattle's Downtown? Who belongs on indigenous land? How do we live in community with our unhoused neighbors? Who has been excluded from opportunity in Seattle's Downtown neighborhoods? How do the arts make our Downtown unique?
- **Climate and Water Justice:** How do water and the natural environment shape our city? How do Seattleites relate to nature? How do Seattle's residents steward the ecology around us? How can we create a healthy, resilient, and green Downtown? How can our city create a just, sustainable future?

Do you have a preference for which Downtown Seattle neighborhood your project will take place in? *

- Yes, I want my project to take place in one specific Downtown neighborhood
- I am open to more than one Downtown neighborhood
- No preference, I am open to all Downtown neighborhoods

(for those that answer "one specific neighborhood") **In which Downtown Seattle neighborhood would you prefer your project take place? Select one option. ***

- *Belltown*
- *Central Downtown*
- *Chinatown-International District*
- *Denny Triangle*
- *Pioneer Square*

- Stadium District

Note: The peer review panel will be seeking geographic distribution of projects within the Downtown Activation Plan area and along priority corridors.

(for those that answer "I'm open to more than 1") **In which Downtown Seattle neighborhood(s) would you prefer your project take place? Select all that apply.***

- Belltown
- Central Downtown
- Chinatown-International District
- Denny Triangle
- Pioneer Square
- Stadium District

When do you prefer your project take place? Select all that apply.*

- January 2025 - March 2025
- April 2025 - June 2025
- July 2025 - September 2025
- October 2025 - December 2025
- Not yet decided/I'm flexible on timing

Project title*

Please give your project a working title. If your project is selected for funding, you will have the option to change your project title later.

Project description: Please describe your activation project concept. How does it address your selected Hope Corps focus area(s)? How will you engage the downtown community, including residents, visitors, businesses, and community organizations? What should we know about the participating artists or creative workers? What will the audience experience be? Please include anything else you feel is important to note. (maximum 500 words)*

Community connections: How does your proposed project uplift stories, creatives, and audiences from historically unserved and/or underserved communities that represent Seattle's diversity? (maximum 200 words)*

Downtown partnerships: How would you describe the relationship you/your group have with this neighborhood and/or Downtown Seattle? Describe any partnerships you envision for the implementation of the project and indicate whether or not that partner has already agreed to support your work. (maximum 300 words)*

Public access: Hope Corps Projects must take place in or be viewable from public spaces in Seattle's Downtown ([see map](#)) and be open to the general public. Describe how your project meets this requirement or what support you might need to make your project visible and accessible. (maximum 200 words)*

Your activation will need a City permit if you intend to limit access to a street, alley, or significant portion of the sidewalk, or if you would like to activate a City park. Do you anticipate needing a permit/permits for your proposed activation?*

- Yes
- No
- I'm not sure

How long will your project last? How many hours of public programming do you estimate will be provided.

Please use the following 3 prompts to answer the question. Your answers should **not** include planning, set up, or strike/disassembly hours. Your best guess is fine, and we know this may change during the planning process.

Total number of public hours across all programming days* _____

Example: If you plan to have programming take place on 3 days, and each day will have 4 hours of programming, that would be 12 total hours of programming.

Total number of days* _____

Example: If you plan to have programming take place on 3 days, and each day will have 4 hours of programming, the total number of days would be 3.

Please elaborate on your plan for when your project/activation(s) will take place. See examples below.* _____

Examples:

- My project will take place on the first Friday of each month from May through August.
- I plan to have 3 days of programming in the Summer and 3 days in the Fall.
- My project will be on view for at least 3 months.
- My project will take place on one day only, for 3 hours.

How many creative workers do you anticipate employing through this project?*

The primary goal of Hope Corps is to pay creative workers for their labor. Each creative worker must be paid a living wage, whether through wages, stipends, or contract payments. We define a living wage as \$32 per hour or more (this may vary for youth and students).

How many people do you think might attend/visit your project in total?

- Estimated in-person attendees*: _____
- Estimated virtual attendees (if applicable): _____

Factors to consider: possible limitations to audience size based on the type of activation you're proposing; activation's proximity to transit hubs or pedestrian areas; timing of activation coinciding with other activities or events downtown, etc.

Please identify your requested grant category (we ask for a specific dollar figure in the next question about your budget):*

- **\$5,000-10,000 / Small activations** – approximately 4-8 hours of public programming, supporting 1-2 creative workers
- **\$15,000-30,000 / Medium activations** – approximately 12-24 hours of public programming, supporting 3-6 creative workers
- **\$35,000-50,000 / Large activations** – approximately 28-40 hours of public programming, supporting 7-10 creative workers

What is the estimated budget for this project? Please indicate total requested award amount (and in parentheses, list primary line items such as creative worker wages, supplies, rentals, marketing, project management, liability insurance, permits, etc.).*

Example: Total: \$40,000 requested award amount (Wages: \$32,000. Supplies/Materials: \$6,000. Marketing: \$1,000. Insurance: \$1,000.)

This rough budget will help reviewers envision the scope and scale of your project, and the ways you would spend the funds, if awarded. You may indicate any additional financial support you have secured for this project, if applicable. Final budgets will be requested for project proposals that are selected by the panel; ARTS staff will provide support in developing these detailed budgets.

Please see funding guidelines for details on how award funds may be spent.

While envisioned primarily as a funding initiative, Hope Corps may also connect projects with other resources to assist with fulfilling their vision. What kinds of support might help your project succeed? Select all that apply.*

- Additional funding beyond this grant
- Fiscal sponsorship
- Developing my project concept into a full project plan (detailed budget, timeline, etc.)
- Technical production support (audiovisual, staging, etc.)
- Identifying project partner(s)
- Identifying location(s)
- Help with City processes and approvals that may be required to implement a project (e.g. event permits, licensing, etc.)
- Marketing and promoting my project
- Documenting my project
- Guidance for paying creative workers
- Navigating insurance questions
- Support with something else (please elaborate _____)
- No support is desired

WORK SAMPLES

Please submit **1 - 2 work samples** that demonstrate your abilities and achievements as an individual artist, cultural producer, arts administrator, or creative worker, or as an organization, community group, or artist collective. Acceptable work samples include, but are not limited to:

- articles or blog posts
- documentation of previous artwork and/or completed projects
- and/or documentation of work in community

Your work samples should help demonstrate your ability to successfully implement a Hope Corps project.

Up to 2 work samples per applicant will be accepted and shared with the peer review panel. If you are submitting 2 work samples, they must be of different formats (written, audio, video, images).

Please provide your work samples in 2 of the following formats. **Each bulleted item represents 1 work sample:**

- 1 written work sample = 1 writing sample of up to 500 words in PDF format (includes letter of support, blogs, articles, etc.)
- 1 image work sample = 5 images in jpg/jpeg or png format
- 1 audio work sample = up to 2 minutes of audio (audio files cannot be uploaded, so you need to provide a link to your audio sample on SoundCloud, Google Drive, Dropbox, etc.)
- 1 video work sample = up to 2 minutes of video (video files cannot be uploaded, so you need to provide links to your video work sample on YouTube, Vimeo, Google Drive, etc.)

Examples of work sample combinations include:

- 500-word written work sample + 5 images
- 5 images + 2 minutes of audio or video
- 500 word written work sample + 2 minutes of audio or video
- 2 minutes of audio + 2 minutes of video

I will provide work samples in (you may select up to 2):*

- Written format
- Image format
- Audio format
- Video format

PLEASE NOTE: If you provide more than 2 work samples, the panel will be instructed to review the first 2 provided. If your work samples go over the stated limits, panelists will be instructed to only review the allotted amount per the guidelines above (e.g., if you provide a written sample that is longer than 500 words, the panel will review the first 500 words; if you provide a video that exceeds the 2 minute limit, the panel will only watch the first 2 minutes).

Once you have selected your work sample type(s), relevant prompts will appear in the form.

Work sample identification information including the year created and a brief description of the

sample's relevance to this application are included as part of the file upload. **Please do not leave these fields blank or your application will be returned to you for revision.** If you need assistance converting your files to an accepted format, please contact Alex Rose at alex.rose@seattle.gov.

Written and/or Image Work Sample Uploads

[[Choose File]]

- What year was this work sample created?* _____
 - Please provide a brief (1-2 sentence) description of the work sample.*
-

Audio/Video Work Sample Links

To submit an audio or video work sample, please provide a link to where your sample can be found online (e.g., YouTube, Vimeo, SoundCloud, Google Drive, etc.).

- If your link is password protected, please provide the password _____
- If your audio or visual work sample exceeds the 2 minutes maximum and you would like reviewers to review a specific portion of your linked work sample, please provide a start and end time _____

If you do not provide a start and end time, the panelists will review the first 2 minutes of the link. If you provide a start and end time that exceeds the 2 minute limit, the panel will begin reviewing at the start time provided and only continue for 2 minutes.

- What year was this work sample created?* _____
 - Please provide a brief description (1-2 sentences) of your work sample.*
-

Demographic Data

The Seattle Office of Arts & Culture has a [Commitment to Racial Equity](#), and we would like to know how we are reaching underrepresented artists, organizations and communities in Seattle. The following questions are voluntary and will be used to assess our Race and Social Justice Initiative work citywide. We ask that you answer these questions even if you have answered them before so that we can assess each of our programs. **Answers are being collected for internal assessment and evaluation and are not part of your application. Your personal demographic information will not be shared with selection panels, but a high-level report of**

applicant pool demographic information will be shared to indicate broad trends in representation and outreach. Most questions are marked as required but you have the option to select "decline to state" for any and all questions you do not wish to answer.

Privacy Notice:

Information that you provide below will become part of a record that is subject to public disclosure. The Office of Arts & Culture will not publish this information, but we are legally bound to provide it upon request. For more information, see the Public Records Act, RCW Chapter 42.56. To learn more about how we manage your information, see our Privacy Statement at www.seattle.gov/tech/initiatives/privacy.

[NOTE: Specific demographic questions are available in the Submittable form, or upon request, but are not included in this Application Preview document for brevity. These demographic questions are standardized across all Office of Arts & Culture grant programs, and responses to these questions are not visible to review panelists.]

Ready to submit?

If you would like to save a draft of your application and return to complete it later, please click the Save Draft button in the Submittable form.

If you're ready to submit your application, please click the Apply button at the bottom of the Submittable form. You'll receive a message at the email address associated with your Submittable account confirming that your application has been successfully received and summarizing what to expect next. **Don't see the confirmation email in your inbox?** Please check your spam or junk mail folder, as messages from Submittable are sometimes misdirected there.

[] I, the applicant, acknowledge that I have read and followed the guidelines. I understand that if any of my Work Samples exceed their maximum limit the panelists will start their review at the beginning of the file or link and stop at the maximum limit allowed. I acknowledge that if I do not provide a start time or end time for audio/video samples that the panelists will review and evaluate my material from the beginning of the link and stop at the maximum limit allowed.*

[[Save Draft]]

[[Apply]]