



Arts Education Grant Opportunities

2024–2025 School Year (FY2025)

- Jennifer Allen-Barron, Arts Education Director
- Martyna Sandoval, Grants and Programs Associate
- Thomas Tran, Grants Director

Our Mission

Oklahoma Arts Council leads, cultivates,
and amplifies the transformative power of the arts
for all Oklahomans and their communities.



Our Vision

- All communities are celebrated and enriched through creative expression
- Artists, arts organizations, and **arts education** thrive through robust public support
- The arts are recognized as essential to **education** and economic vitality



Grant Funding

- ≈\$3 million invested each year
- Expands arts access and opportunity
- Artistic disciplines include music, theatre, dance, literary arts, media arts, and visual art



Grant Programs

➤ Grants for Schools

Oklahoma PreK—12 school sites

➤ Grants for Organizations

Oklahoma 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations

Agencies of government (state, county, city, or tribal)

Public library branches

➤ Partnership Grants

➤ Visit arts.ok.gov for open grant opportunities



Grants for Alternative Schools

- Arts in Alternative Education
- Performing Arts Experience Grant for Alternative Education
- Capitol Art Field Trip Grants
- Classroom Supply Grants for Visual and Performing Arts



Arts in Alternative Education Grants

For OSDE-designated alternative education sites only

- Artist residencies or visiting artists leading sequential, hands-on **arts instruction during school hours**
- **Reimbursement** for eligible project expenses
- Two grants per school year, **up to \$5,000** each
- **5% award match** requirement
- Applications due **60 days** before project start date
(Applicants must have an existing grant portal user account, or request for one least 15 days before the 60-day deadline)





"This program showed [6th grade students] how the written word can help them to not only express their feelings but interact with their fellow students as well as their community. It opened up ways to appreciate language and its impact that will hopefully last them a lifetime.

This program left a powerful impression on the students. We finished the program with a talent show [...] It was a joyous finale to an excellent and well received program."

– Jody C., Midwest City Middle School

"Without this funding, our students do not have the opportunity to experience theatre. This project affords all students k-12 in our school as well as neighboring schools an opportunity to explore their interest and skills in the performing arts. This is one of the few events of this nature in our area and the only one that serves young children."

– Rebecca Franco, Purcell Elementary School



Performing Arts Experience Grants for Alternative Education

For OSDE-designated alternative education sites only

- **Reimbursement** for expenses to bring a performing artist to your alternative education site *OR* the expenses for travel to an arts-focused performance
- **Up to \$2,000**
- No award match requirement
- Applications due **60 days** before project start date
(Applicants must have an existing grant portal user account, or request for one least 15 days before the 60-day deadline)



Capitol Art Field Trip Grants

- **Reimbursement** for field trip costs to the Oklahoma State Capitol
- **Up to \$1,100** per grant
(based on school's proximity to Capitol)
- No award match requirement
- Applications due **30 days** before *confirmed* field trip date
(Field trips must be booked through arts.ok.gov/tours before submitting a grant application. Applicants must have an existing grant portal user account, or request for one least 15 days before the 60-day deadline.)



Classroom Supply Grants for Visual and Performing Arts

- **Reimbursement** for consumable supplies used in Fine Arts classrooms (for any discipline)
- One grant per school year, **up to \$500**
- No award match requirement
- Applicants must have a grant portal user account, or request one by 5:00 p.m. on **August 23**
- ****Applications due September 15****





“Students displayed their art at [...] an Opening Night Artists' Reception for all local students. FAME was the smallest school with art on display, but we had the most students and guests who attended. Parents, teachers, administrators, the mayor of Duncan and even our legislator attended. It was a proud moment for our stakeholders and a great night for our students.”

“Many of our students come to us with negative school experiences. FAME changes these negatives to a positive, and art is a large part of this transformation. This year over 59% of our students are considered homeless and 98% are on free-reduced lunches. For many of them, school is the one constant, positive experience in their lives. Art class gives them the opportunity to succeed and express themselves in a positive manner.”

– Elizabeth R., FAME Academy Director

The Statistics

Alternative School Directors who received funding through the OAC's Arts in Alternative Education submitted responses on the effects the program had on their students.

94% Increase
in School
Attendance

91% More Likely
to Complete High
School

95% Increase in
Communication
Skills

100% Increase
in Learning to Set
and Achieve
Goals



Impact of Arts Programs in Alternative Schools

- **The Oklahoma Arts Council** has long observed how this project helps engage students in classroom settings and achieve course completion goals.
- **Anecdotally**, the most common feedback from school directors is the positive impact that arts programs have on student attendance.
- To assess the success of the project, researchers from the **Center for Educational Design and Research (CEDaR)** at the University of Oklahoma were approached and asked to specifically measure two stated goals for the funding: 1) help students overcome learning loss caused by the pandemic; and, 2) help students re-engage with classroom environments following the pandemic.



Impact of Arts Programs in Alternative Schools

Findings (Quantitative)

In the quantitative survey featuring the five-point Likert scale, average responses generally ranged from 4.375 to 4.688. Most respondents noted moderate to strong agreement that the fine arts programs at alternative education school sites funded by the Oklahoma Arts Council benefited student engagement, learning growth, and student attendance. Scores also showed the same levels of moderate to strong agreement with a set of qualities art courses potentially offer that benefit students.

Descriptive Statistics of Items for Student Engagement & Learning Growth	M	SD
Students express a positive interest related to the art class.	4.688	1.0145
Students seem to pay attention during the art class.	4.375	1.0247
Students are able to complete most of or all the class projects or lessons.	4.375	1.0247
Students show growth in content knowledge from the class.	4.500	1.0328
Students show growth in artistic skills.	4.437	1.0308
Students show growth in social and/or emotional skills in class	4.500	.8944
Students actively participate in class activities and discussion.	4.313	.8732
Overall, student behavior and discipline are not a problem during the class	4.500	.8165
Overall, student behavior and discipline do not negatively affect other students during the class.	4.375	.8062
Generally, students ask questions regarding the content or related projects.	4.375	1.0247
Student Engagement and Learning Growth Total	4.444	

Responses scored on a 5-point Likert scale; M=mean; SD=standard deviation



Impact of Arts Programs in Alternative Schools

- “Our art program gives our students who are at-risk of dropping out of school an opportunity to belong to the community.”
- “Students in our art program have less absences, are less likely to be involved in the juvenile justice system and had a higher GPA”
- “These students are usually on the cusp and investment can create an entirely productive member of society.”
- “Students’ relationships with one another improved through better communication.”
- “We changed lives and attitudes of most of these students. New positive attitudes toward learning.”
- “During an evaluation discussion after the class, when asked if we should do this again and when, the students all responded ‘tomorrow’.”

Teaching and Performing Artist Rosters at [arts.ok.gov](https://www.arts.ok.gov)



How to Get Started

Register user access to the grant portal at okarts.fluxx.io

Wait for emailed grant portal instructions:
Verify school *and/or* start grant application

Once school is verified, review grant opportunities and start application

Submit application;
Monitor status and wait for instructions

Grant Writing and Management Tips for Oklahoma Arts Council Grants

- **Plan** in advance;
Note deadlines
- Thoroughly **review** guidelines
and
requirements
- **Ask** questions
- Read and respond to **all**
questions; Proofread
- **Detailed**, but **concise**
- Provide **specific** examples
- Work in **advance**;
Submit in **advance**
- **Monitor** your email
inbox



arts.ok.gov

- Arts Education Programs: jennifer.allen-barron@arts.ok.gov or 405-249-7987
- Capitol Art Field Trip/Tour: tours@arts.ok.gov or 405-521-6813
- Grant Portal Access/Award Management: grants@arts.ok.gov or 405-521-2040