



## Creative Aging SD FY27 Call for Proposals

### Introduction

The South Dakota Arts Council invites teaching artists, creatives, culture bearers, libraries, healthcare providers, senior centers, tribal communities, assisted-living facilities, arts organizations, local arts councils, and community partners to participate in the FY27 Creative Aging SD initiative.

Creative Aging SD supports participatory, sequential arts programming for adults age 55+ that promotes creative expression, lifelong learning, accessibility, social connection, creativity, and community engagement.

Programs should emphasize active participation, skill-building, creative confidence, and meaningful engagement over time rather than one-time demonstrations, events and/or performances.

Creative Aging SD encourages accessible, inclusive programming welcoming participants of varied physical, cognitive, cultural, and social backgrounds.

**Program Areas** - Proposals may include variations of the following:

**Visual Arts** — painting, drawing, collage, printmaking, photography, mixed media, film/video, art appreciation, visual storytelling, and hands-on creative exploration.

**Writing & Literary Arts** — poetry, memoir, storytelling, journaling, oral history, reflective writing, creative writing, literary discussion, and personal narrative development.

**Music** — singing, drumming, rhythm activities, songwriting, listening exercises, instrument-based participation, music appreciation, and collaborative music-making.

**Movement** — dance, chair choreography, stretching, mindfulness-based movement, expressive gesture, adaptive movement, and creative physical expression.

**Drama & Storytelling** — theater, improvisation, role-play, reader's theater, collaborative storytelling, voice expression, performance activities, and confidence-building creative play.

**Folk & Traditional Arts** — traditional arts, crafts, heritage arts, storytelling traditions, cultural practices, intergenerational knowledge sharing, and culture bearer-led activities.

**Arts in Health** — art activities that support social connection, emotional well-being, lifelong learning, self-expression, reflection, stress reduction, creativity, and community engagement through the arts.

## **FY27 Program Timeline**

- July 1, 2026 - August 15, 2026 — Proposal Window Open
- **July 15, 2026 - June 30, 2027 — Programming Window (30 days post for final reporting)**
- *Beginning August 11th, 2026* — Every second Tuesday Monthly, 11:00 AM CT / 10:00 AM MT — Creative Aging SD Cohort Meetings (Zoom Link for FY27 Tuesday's Meeting [LINK](#))
- Winter 2027 (TBD) — Creative Aging SD Summit
- July 31, 2027 — Final Reporting Due

## **Program Expectations**

Creative Aging SD proposals should:

- Emphasize active participation and sequential learning
- Foster creativity, confidence, and social connection
- Encourage accessibility and inclusion
- Honor participant voice, cultural knowledge, and lived experience
- Include consistent communication between artists and host organizations
- Document programming through photos, artwork, stories, or reflections when permitted
- Encourage family, caregiver, and community engagement when appropriate

Programs generally include 6–10+ weeks of ongoing instruction or creative engagement.

## **Eligible Applicants**

- Teaching artists, creatives, and culture bearers
- Tribal communities and tribal organizations
- Libraries and senior centers
- Arts organizations and local arts councils
- Long-term care and assisted-living facilities
- Healthcare organizations
- Nonprofit organizations with 501(c)(3) status
- Community partnerships and collaborative projects

Collaborative partnerships between artists and host organizations are strongly encouraged.

## **Teaching Artists Should Submit**

- Contact information
- Artistic discipline(s)
- Brief bio or resume
- Program description
- Simple 6–10-week outline demonstrating sequential learning
- Estimated budget
- Proposed host site or community partner (if known)
- Brief description of accessibility considerations or adaptive approaches, if applicable

## **Host Organizations Should Submit**

- Organization information
- Community need or program goals
- Participant information

- Preferred art forms or programming interests
- Existing or desired artist partnerships
- Primary onsite contact person
- Brief description of accessibility considerations or participant support needs
- Brief description of how the organization will support ongoing 6–8+ week programming and participation

If partnering with an artist(s) at the time of application, host organizations are encouraged to briefly describe the proposed schedule, structure, or theme of programming.

## **Documentation & Acknowledgment**

Awardees receiving Creative Aging SD support will be asked to submit photos, participant artwork or writing samples, flyers, exhibition or performance documentation, and brief participant stories or reflections in their final reports.

Please include this acknowledgment statement in promotional or published materials:

“South Dakota Arts Council support is provided with funds from the State of South Dakota, through the Department of Tourism, and the National Endowment for the Arts.”

SDAC Creative Aging SD Cohort Facebook Group: Awardees are invited to join the SDAC Creative Aging SD Cohort Facebook group for cohort updates, photos, resource sharing, peer support, accessibility solutions, statewide networking, and ongoing community engagement. Currently a private group, please use the provided SDAC photo release form before sharing photos in promotional or published materials.

## **Application Submission**

Artist Application [link](#) (Google form) Host Organization Application [link](#) (Google form)

If you have any trouble using the Google Form, you are welcome to email your proposal to me with the requested application information.

## **For more information contact:**

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