

Website application - Keys to Inclusivity: Piano Music for All

2023 Community Project Grant - Individual Applicants

Wing Wong

Ms Wing Wong

Application Form

Grant information and confirmation

Si prefiere leer esta información en español, por favor haga clic aquí. Se puede responder a la solicitud en español. Un miembro del personal de la Oficina de Artes y Cultura traducirá sus respuestas para que sean revisadas.

For this application in other languages please contact the Office of Arts + Culture Program Manager Lauren Click at clickl@boulder.colorado.gov.

DESCRIPTION: Community Project Grants encourage innovation and exploration in order to achieve progress on the Community Priorities from Boulder's Community Cultural Plan.

PURPOSE: The Community Cultural Plan identifies a set of "Community Priorities" derived directly from the hopes and aspirations of Boulder's residents:

- Support the resiliency and sustainability of cultural organizations to enhance their ability to benefit the community.
- Create a supportive environment for artists and creative professionals, while fostering innovative thinking and leadership among them.
- Prioritize the civic dialogue about the ability of culture to positively contribute to the economy, social offerings, the environment, and the authentic expression of diversity.
- Develop Boulder's creative identity in becoming an innovative world leader in cultural matters and projects that identity to the region and the world.
- Focus on the expression of culture and creativity in the public realm through public art, the urban landscape, culture in the neighborhoods, and serendipitous encounters with the arts.
- Amplify the vibrancy of Boulder's cultural destinations: the lively mix of museums, performance venues, events, districts, studios, maker spaces, and other facilities that make Boulder an enticing place to visit, live, play, and work. Fill in the gaps and address issues of access and affordability.

These complex issues are the most important initiatives we can work on as a cultural community in the coming years. The purpose of the Community Projects Grant is to encourage innovation and exploration in order to achieve progress on these Community Priorities.

Awards: Individuals \$25,000 @ maximum \$5,000 each

Details: The award amount of \$5,000 for individuals. Smaller requests will be accepted.

Cycle: Annually.

TIMELINE

- Wednesday, March 15 at 11:59 p.m. – Deadline for applications
- March 15 to March 22 – Review by staff for eligibility and revision by applicants if necessary
- March 22 to April 5 – Preliminary review and score by panel (15 days)

- April 5 to April 12 – Score processing by staff
- April 12 – Preliminary scores and comments sent to applicants via email
- April 12 to April 19 – Applicants prepare and send written responses to the panel’s questions. The written response should be emailed to Lauren Click at clickl@bouldercolorado.gov by Wednesday April 19, 2023, at 11:59pm.
- April 19 to 26 – Response processing by staff
- April 26 – Responses sent to panel
- April 26 to May 10 – Final review and score by panel (15 days)
- May 10 to 19 – Processing of final scores
- May 19 – Final scores sent to applicants via email
- May 24, 2023 – Arts Commission meeting. Discussion and final decisions on grants

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- **General eligibility.** Meets all <http://boulderarts.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/General-Eligibility-Requirements-only.pdf><http://boulderarts.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/General-Eligibility-Requirements-only.pdf> [general eligibility requirements](#).
- **Open to all.** Anyone may apply once the [general eligibility requirements](#) are met, including individuals, artists, non-profit organizations, organizations with pending non-profit status, fiscally sponsored organizations and for-profit organizations with a community focus.
- **Service area and programming.** Projects must have a significant component of public programming that takes place within the city limits of Boulder. This programming must meet the criteria described in the [Chapter 14-1-2 of the City of Boulder Revised Code](#). For organizations, the applicant must demonstrate that they are headquartered in the city limits of Boulder. For individuals, the applicant must demonstrate that they reside at a permanent household address in the city limits of Boulder. Applicants may also demonstrate that they are partnered with a Boulder-based artist or organization. Examples of documentation to demonstrate being headquartered or residing in Boulder may include a utility bill, phone bill, pay stub, renter’s or mortgage bill, lease, insurance policy, or other official document. P.O. Boxes are not acceptable. The term “city limits of Boulder” is defined in the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan. For additional information on the planning area and Comprehensive Plan [visit this link](#). As a shorthand, office staff use addresses with the zip code starting with 803— to determine if it is in the acceptable area.
- Projects must take place after the grant funding decision and be completed by June 30, 2024.

MORE INFORMATION

2023 Grant Application Schedule
 2023 Scoring System
 General Eligibility Requirements
 General Grant Guidelines & Process
 Grant FAQs

REVIEW PROCESS

- **Deliberation.** Applications are reviewed by the Boulder Arts Commission grants panel. Final funding decisions are made at public Boulder Arts Commission meetings. See schedule.
- **Evaluation criteria.**

- o Community priorities (Maximum 8 points)
- o Cultural offerings (Maximum 8 points)
- o Cultural equity (Maximum 8 points)
- o Proposed outcomes and evaluation strategy (Maximum 8 points)
- o Encouragement points (Maximum 4 points)
- The complete scoring system and rubric for the Community Project Grants can be found here.

GRANT AWARDS

- **Notifications and dispersal of funds.** Staff notifies all applicants if their Application has been successful and begins the process of securing supporting information and issuing payment for successful applicants. Grantees must contact the grant coordinator to arrange for payment. Checks are sent by mail or electronically to bank accounts designated by the applicant.
- **Communications.** All official communications and notifications will be made to the named individual applicant or person designated as the organization contact. It is this person's responsibility to communicate Boulder Arts Commission requirements of the grant award to collaborators or other participants. This includes, but is not limited to, requirements for compliance with grant agreements, identifying Boulder Arts Commission sponsorship on publicity materials, and reporting.
- **Implementation.** Grantees shall implement programs / projects as outlined in the grant application. Any change to the project, venue, Grantee address, schedule, or staff / team members must be reported to culturegrants@bouldercolorado.gov.
- **Award amount.** The Boulder Arts Commission reserves the right to adjust the amount of a grant award offered to an Applicant.
- **PERA impacts.** Retirees affiliated with the Colorado Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA) will be impacted by a withholding requirement enacted by the Colorado State Legislature if awarded an arts grant. Details are available on the PERA website. See "Disclosure of Compensation."
- **Vendor forms.** Grantees must submit a City of Boulder vendor form and current IRS W-9 form in order to receive the grant award. The W-9 must be in the same name as the Grantee named on the grant application. Individual Grantees must also submit a Determination of Independent Contractor / Employee Status for Payment document and copy of their Driver's License. Applicants will receive the appropriate forms from payments@bouldercolorado.gov. Failure to supply a proper W-9 may invalidate the grant award.
- **IRS taxation.** Grant awards are non-transferable, taxable and are reported to the federal government.
- **Agreement.** When a grant award is made by the Boulder Arts Commission, the successful Applicant will be contacted by staff to sign a Grant Letter of Agreement. In that agreement, the Grantee will indicate the completion date of the project and the date a grant report will be submitted.
- **Issuance of funding checks.** Once the agreement is signed, staff of the Office of Arts and Culture will submit it to City Finance along with the invoice. Funds/checks are delivered within the next three weeks. Grants are initially funded at 80 percent of the grant amount awarded. The remaining 20 percent of the grant awarded is paid out upon receipt and Boulder Arts Commission approval of the grant report. Failure to submit a final grant report will result in ineligibility to apply for future grants.
- **Acknowledgment of Boulder Arts Commission funding.** All publicity for Boulder Arts Commission-funded projects must include the following credit line: *This project is funded (or funded in part) by a grant from*

the Boulder Arts Commission, an agency of the Boulder City Council. In lieu of the credit line, the Boulder Arts Commission Logo may be used. The Grantee must sign a release form and submit photographs and/or videos of the project that the Office and Arts and Culture may use on its website, social media, printed materials or for any other publicity purpose.

- **Thanking City Council.** It is suggested that all grant recipients write the Boulder City Council members to thank them for supporting the Boulder Arts Commission and the Office of Arts and Culture. Please let them know how this grant will be used, and the difference it will make to your organization. Please also invite them to attend your events and programs. Visit the City Council website page to find out more about contacting City Council members.

REQUIRED REPORTING

- **Timeframe for reporting.** The grant report is due one month after the project is completed.
- **Method.** Submit the report through the online system access through the boulderarts.org website. Log in with the same user name and password utilized to submit the application. After logging in, go to the 'Dashboard', then you'll see a 'Follow Up' section for the grant. On the far right is the 'Edit' button. That will take you to complete the final report.
- **Extension requests for reporting.** If circumstances delay the Grantee's ability to complete the project and/or the report, the Grantee must notify the Boulder Arts Commission before the original report deadline by submitting an email addressed to the Boulder Arts Commission at culturegrants@bouldercolorado.gov with the following information:
 - an update on the project status,
 - a request to change the project completion date, and
 - new report due date.
- **Responsibility.** The Grantee is responsible for submitting a report by the due date. The Boulder Arts Commission recommends reviewing the online report form well in advance. There is no grace period for the report.
- **Consequence of Delinquent Report.** Unless an extension request is approved by the Boulder Arts Commission in advance of the due date, all individuals or organizations / businesses attached as collaborators on the project will no longer be eligible to apply for Boulder Arts Commission grants until the delinquent report has been received.

Certification*

I certify that I have read the above information and that this project meets the Boulder Arts Commission's eligibility requirements and, if a funding award is made, will continue to comply with the Boulder Arts Commission's requirements and meet with guidelines for high artistic quality, community impact, inclusiveness, funding acknowledgment and reporting.

I certify

Applicant information

Discipline*

Select your discipline. If multi-discipline, please check all that apply.

Music

History and heritage

Tax status*

Cultural organizations/businesses are eligible. Nonprofit status is not required for this category.

Individual

Date established*

Add the date your organization was established. If not applicable write N/A.

N/A

Mission statement*

If not applicable write N/A.

Wing Wong (Ala Gialla) and Hanna Aparo are an Asian-American pianist-composer duo working to expand the definition of “American” music and educate the public about the accessibility and diversity of piano music. Their mission is to provide more musical, cultural and racial diversity in the music scene where there is gross underrepresentation of Asian-American female musicians and lack of funding in classical/instrumental music.

Hanna received a Master’s degree in piano performance from California State University- Fullerton. She works as a collaborative pianist throughout Boulder/Denver area and maintains her private studio in Boulder. Wing graduated with a Master’s degree of Music in Piano Performance at Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. She has performed frequently as a soloist, accompanist and chamber musician in Europe, North America, and Greater China. She maintains a private teaching studio in Longmont and conducts online consultation for musicians around the world.

Annual budget

If applying as an organization.

Geographic area served*

If not applicable write N/A.

City of Boulder

For individuals: organizational affiliation

Even if an organizational affiliation is stated, awards will be made to the individual whose account is associated with this application. If no organization affiliated, please state 'none'.

none

Number of full time employees*

If not applicable write 0.

0

Number of part time employees*

If not applicable write 0.

0

Number of volunteers*

If not applicable write 0.

0

Project information

Project title*

Keys to Inclusivity: Piano Music for All

Amount requested*

The maximum award amount offered is \$5,000 for individuals. Smaller requests will be accepted.

\$5,000.00

Project summary*

Provide a brief overview of the project.

Keys to Inclusivity: Piano Music for All is a series of piano concerts and a presentation to bring diverse and accessible piano music to the public. The project aims to dismantle the notion that piano music is something that can only be experienced in a formal, rule-heavy setting exclusively by those who are musically knowledgeable. Instead, we will create a casual and approachable public art experience through what we wear (non-formal dress), our venue (Boulder Public Library), performance length (75- 90 minutes rather than 2 hours), and our engagement with the audience (talking and providing context in between pieces). Though most people associate names such as Bach and Beethoven with piano music, our project disrupts the

misconception that all piano composers have been white males. "From Past to Present: Around the World in 80 Minutes" will expose attendees to music from a variety of cultures and countries. "A Tribute to Women Composers" will place its focus on all female composers. For the solo performances, Ala Gialla, an Asian-American immigrant, will perform her original music with narration, sharing her inspiration and stories.

Project calendar*

Projects must take place after the grant deadline and be completed by June 30, 2024.

August 5 2023: Around the World in 80 Minutes Program 1 (Duo concert)

August 12 2023: Women Composers (Duo concert)

August 26 2023: Around the World in 80 Minutes Program 2 (Duo concert)

September 9 2023: Original Music Performance by Ala Gialla (Solo concert)

September 16 2023: Original Story Narration + Music Performance by Ala Gialla (Solo concert)

Project location*

Where do your projects take place?

Boulder Public Library

Collaboration*

Describe your and/or your organization's most significant interactions with other organizations and efforts. If this is a solo project with no partners beyond the applicant, respond with "None."

Hanna Aparo is my piano duo partner. She graduated from San Francisco State University and completed a Masters degree in piano performance at California State University- Fullerton. Ala Gialla, together with Hanna Aparo, have performed a few piano duo concerts in Longmont and Boulder, and have received high acclaim and interest for both their solo and duo performances.

Art in Public Places

By checking this box, I consider this project to include an art in public places component (for example, a public sculpture, mural, projection, or performance in the public realm). I have contacted publicart@bouldercolorado.gov and received feedback from staff which inform my understanding of project review, permitting, and timing considerations.

I confirm

Project completion date*

This is the last day of any public event related to the project. Project must be completed by June 30, 2024.

09/16/2023

Date grant report is due*

One month after the project completion date.

10/16/2023

Panel evaluation

Bulleted responses are encouraged in these sections.

Community Priorities. The City of Boulder’s Community Cultural Plan is a visioning and strategic document that describes how the people of Boulder will align efforts, with the support of the municipal government, to achieve our collective vision: *Together, we will craft Boulder’s social, physical, and cultural environment to include creativity as an essential ingredient for the wellbeing, prosperity, and joy of everyone in the community.* The Community Priorities are six points that summarize the community’s most common responses in answer to the question, “What is your vision for Boulder’s culture and creative economy?” Reference: Cultural Plan and Community Priorities.

Community Priorities*

Examples of ways to demonstrate impact on the Community Priorities may include descriptions of how your project or organization:

- Supports artists and creative professionals by providing professional development programming.
- Contributes to Boulder’s creative identity and creates a vibrant cultural destination through high artistic merit and excellence in the practice of a medium or discipline.
- Engages the community in civic dialogue about the arts through interactive outreach in the neighborhoods.
- Adds creativity in the public realm by engaging underserved populations in art making for their community.

In what way will this project contribute to one or several of the Community Priorities described in the Community Cultural Plan? Does the project contribute to one priority thoroughly?

Keys to Inclusivity: Piano Music for All will contribute to several of Boulder’s Community Priorities as described in the Community Cultural Plan, including focusing on the expression of creativity in the public realm, addressing issues of access and affordability in Boulder’s cultural offerings, and advancing civic dialogue about the authentic expression of diversity in the arts.

Public libraries are spaces that are utilized by all levels of society, including children, seniors, immigrants, and those living in lower-income households. Hosting Keys to Inclusivity here, which will include three duo and two solo piano performances along with one educational workshop, ensures that we fulfill our mission to bring diverse and accessible piano music to all sectors of the public.

All Keys to Inclusivity events will be completely free and open to the public. Having no entrance fee will address issues of affordability for cultural events and will open access to those who might typically be excluded because of ticket costs for music concerts.

Keys to Inclusivity will open a space for civic dialogue about the expression of diversity by featuring original piano compositions by Ala Gialla (Wing Wong), a female composer of Asian ethnicity and an immigrant from Hong Kong. This will help attendees broaden their definition of what constitutes “American” music.

Additionally, duo performances will expose attendees to music from a variety of classical and modern repertoire from various cultures and countries. Further, by directly engaging the audience through speaking to them and providing context and background in between performance pieces, attendees will learn about the beautiful diversity of other pianists, including Black, indigenous, female, and multicultural composers.

Cultural offerings*

In what way does your project fill a gap in the variety of cultural offerings in Boulder? What is exciting or new about your project?

Though many musical cultural offerings focus on singer-songwriter or a band, my piano duo partner and I have noted there is a gap in piano performances that are readily accessible to the public. After our last duo piano concert in Boulder, we were approached by a retired man around 65 who said he had never had an opportunity to see a piano concert. After I performed a solo piano concert in Longmont County, a man in his 50s also told me he'd never seen a piano concert before. Instances like these have opened our eyes to the need to provide more opportunities for the public to experience live piano. We have also received high acclaim and interests from our solo and duo performances.

Our project is new and exciting because it includes four-hands piano performances, which even fewer people have the opportunity to experience. In four-hands piano performances, two players are simultaneously at the same piano. During our duo concerts, Hanna and I will travel with our audience through the history and background of four-hands piano pieces. Our unique combination of piano performance with an educational aspect and unique cultural diversity is also exciting and new to Boulder's typical cultural offerings.

Cultural equity*

Among the goals of the Boulder Arts Commission is to encourage the equitable, fair, and just distribution of funds in support of the community. This includes providing support to applicants whose organizational leadership or audience represent groups who are typically underrepresented, i.e. culturally diverse groups, organizations focused on age diversity, etc.) Describe how your project does or does not fulfill one or several of these categories. Describe how your project will address affordability, availability, accessibility, accommodation, and acceptability to diverse groups. For reference, please review the Boulder Arts Commission and Americans for the Arts Statements on Cultural Equity.

References:

Boulder Arts Commission Statement on Cultural Equity

Americans for the Arts Statement on Cultural Equity

The 2022 Boulder Arts Commission Statement on Cultural Equity states an explicit aim to make grants and public art "part of the system that fosters fully accessible and welcoming opportunities for artists and audiences of all races, identities, and backgrounds." Our project aligns with that goal in several ways:

My piano duo partner and I are Asian-American females, a severely underrepresented group in the music scene. Providing a platform for me to share my original piano compositions as a woman of color and an immigrant advances Boulder's goals for racial equity in cultural offerings.

The programming for our piano concerts showcases a range of composers, which will lead to a high level of acceptability with diverse attendees. For example, our all-female composer program will feature pieces by women from France, Germany, Japan, and Black and White women from the US. During our two Around the World programs, we will play music written by male and female composers from Austria, Germany, Norway, the United Kingdom, Japan, Spain, Argentina and China.

By increasing visibility for diverse composers, we hope to contribute to the larger shift towards bringing marginalized voices to the forefront in the arts, especially in Boulder.

Proposed outcomes and evaluation strategy*

Describe your evaluation strategy for this project and how you will collect data. Please also include your goals for this project and how the benefit to the community will be measured.

The goals of this project are to:

Provide accessible piano music for all members of the public, especially those who have not experienced a live piano performance or felt it was not “for them”

Educate the public about the racial, gender, and cultural diversity of piano composers and performers

The community benefit will be measured through attendee surveys available in paper or digital format via a QR code. The following survey questions will gather information about the accessibility and inclusivity of the project, as well as evaluate its educational impact:

Have you attended a live piano performance before? If so, how frequently?

What is your age range?

Have you ever felt that live piano performances were not accessible or inclusive to you? If so, can you explain why?

Did the event showcase diversity in terms of race, gender, and cultural background?

Did you learn something new about piano music or the performers/composers?

Did the event challenge any assumptions or biases you had about piano music or performers/composers?

Did attending this increase your interest in attending similar events in the future?

How would you rate the event’s accessibility and inclusivity?

Did the event inspire you to explore piano music further?

Additional Questions

Encouragement Points

Among the goals of the Boulder Arts Commission is to encourage the equitable, fair, and just distribution of funds in support of the arts community. Panel members use these “extra points” to balance the scoring, emphasizing applications which tend to score lower in standard categories or historically are underrepresented in grantmaking. Commissioners will be looking for these elements in your responses above.

Examples include:

- First-time applicants and those who have never been awarded a grant.
- Youth applicants who are applying with the help of a mentor of legal age.
- Have the potential to support community and participatory culture and non-professional artmaking.
- Applicants for whom English is not their first language.
- Non-western European art forms or other forms of culture that have typically been disadvantaged by the systems and traditions of grantmaking.
- Elements of the application that the panel member determines will significantly advance stated priorities of the Arts Commission, important issues in the community outside of the arts, or other impacts that are not expressed in the other scoring criteria.

Encouragement Points 1*

Please check yes if any of these are addressed in your application.

Yes

Encouragement Points 2*

Are you a first time applicant or have you not been awarded a grant before from the Commission?

Yes

Attachments

ATTACHMENTS

The following attachments are required. Please title your attachments according to the headings listed below.

Budget summary*

Provide a brief budget summary for this project including all revenue (monetary and in-kind contributions, including this grant) and expenses. Please title the attachment "Budget summary". Permitted file types: xl, xlsx, pdf.

Grant concert plan-Wing Wong - budget (1).pdf

Venue confirmation letter*

Attach confirmation from the hosting venue that the project is approved and scheduled. Please title the attachment "Venue confirmation letter". Permitted file types: doc, docx, pdf

Gmail - Canyon Theater confirmation.pdf

Service area confirmation*

Attach confirmation to demonstrate that you are headquartered Boulder, reside in Boulder, or are partnered with a Boulder-based artist or organization. Examples of documentation to demonstrate being headquartered in Boulder may include a utility bill, phone bill, pay stub, renter's or mortgage bill, lease, insurance policy, or other official document. P.O. Boxes are not acceptable.

Service area confirmation letter with document.pdf

Partner/Collaborator List

Provide a list of each individual / organization that has a significant coordinating role in this project. Please title the attachment, "Collaborator list". Include their name, contact information, and role. Permitted file types: doc, docx, pdf.

Collaboration List.pdf

Letters of support

Attach any letters of support that will be useful in understanding community involvement and enthusiasm for the project. This is optional. Please title the file, "Letters of support". Permitted file types: doc, docx, pdf

Letters of support-WING WONG.pdf

Other support materials

Attach any documents that will help the jury fully understand the project, including videos and other materials that may help the commission evaluate artistic quality. This is optional. Please title the file, "Support materials".

Permitted file types: doc, docx, xl, xlsx, pdf

Support materials (Wing Wong_Ala Gialla).pdf

Submission and signature

Application on the website (optional)

I certify that, if funding is awarded, my application may be presented on the boulderarts.org website. The Office of Arts and Culture staff will send a copy of the document to the applicant listed for approval in advance of posting on the website.

Yes

Certification*

I certify that all information contained in this application and attachments is true and accurate. All funded activities must provide equal access and equal opportunity in employment and services and may not discriminate on the basis of disability, color, creed or religion.

I certify

Full name*

Wing Wong

Submission date*

03/13/2023

TO COMPLETE AND SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION

All required fields must be filled in with the appropriate information and/or attachments. Click on the "Submit Application" button and an email notification that your application has been received will be sent. If you do not receive a confirmation email, please notify staff immediately. Note that once the application is submitted, it cannot be revised or added to. Please make certain that you have included all information and attachments prior to submitting.

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

- Grant concert plan-Wing Wong - budget (1).pdf
- Gmail - Canyon Theater confirmation.pdf
- Service area confirmation letter with document.pdf
- Collaboration List.pdf
- Letters of support-WING WONG.pdf
- Support materials (Wing Wong_Ala Gialla).pdf