Supporting Native Arts Grant Opportunity

2024 - 2026

NATIVE ARTS INITIATIVE

FIRST NATIONS DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE
Meeting Format

We encourage attendees to turn on their video if you are able to. All attendees will be muted throughout this webinar, unless they want to ask a question. If you have questions, please enter your question(s) in the chat.

**Audio Settings:** Change your audio settings to phone or computer audio. You can also click the upward arrow (^) next to change your speaker.

**Chat:** Send a message specifically to the hosts or to everyone in the meeting.

**Live Transcript:** Show subtitles for the webinar, view the full transcript or change the subtitle settings.

**Reactions:** Raise your hand to let us know you have a question.

The recording will be emailed to registered attendees. You can also find the recording on our website at: [www.firstnations.org/knowledge-center/webinars/](http://www.firstnations.org/knowledge-center/webinars/)
AGENDA

01 ABOUT FIRST NATIONS DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE
02 ABOUT NATIVE ARTS INITIATIVE (NAI)
03 NAI GRANT APPLICATION
04 QUESTION & ANSWER
NATIVE ARTS INITIATIVE TEAM

ABI WHITEING
Director of STCI
Blackfeet

CATHERINE BRYAN
Vice President
Navajo/Diné

JOHNNY McCRAIGIE
Lead Program Officer
Point of Contact
Colville Tribes

MARSHA WHITING
Associate Director, Grantmaking
Chippewa Cree/Sicangu Lakota

JACKIE BRAUHN
FNDI Consultant
Mission

Our mission is to strengthen American Indian economies to support healthy Native communities. We invest in and create innovative institutions and models that strengthen asset control and support economic development for American Indian people and their communities.

- Native-Led Nonprofit founded in 1980
- Headquartered in Longmont, Colorado – Satellite offices in New Mexico and California
- 52 staff members
- Grantmaking launched in 1993
- Awarded 3,385 grants totaling $79.9 million since 1993
- Serving Tribal Programs, Native-Led Nonprofits, and Community Organizations
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>01</th>
<th>FIRST NATIONS’ CORE PROGRAMS</th>
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| **NATIVE ARTS, LANGUAGE, & KNOWLEDGE**  
*Formerly Strengthening Tribal & Community Institution*  
Support for Native arts, language immersion, professional development, and coalition building to perpetuate Native lifeways. |
| **NATIVE AGRICULTURE & FOOD SYSTEMS INITIATIVE**  
*Formerly Nourishing Native Foods & Health*  
Support to advance food sovereignty and security and strengthen tribal food economies. |
| **CALIFORNIA TRIBAL FUND**  
Support for California-based, California-Native-led nonprofits and tribal programs in controlling and protecting their land, water, food systems, and culture. |
| **STEWARDING NATIVE LANDS**  
Support to uphold Native ecological stewardship and Native control of ancestral lands and resources. |
| **INVESTING IN NATIVE YOUTH**  
Support through Native Youth and Culture Fund, college scholarship and internship programs, and investment in projects and services that uplift Native youth. |
| **ADVOCACY AND RESEARCH FOR ECONOMIC JUSTICE (EMERGING)**  
Support to give Native communities, policymakers, and funders tools, resources, and opportunities to invest in and advance economic justice. |
02 | ABOUT NAI

NATIVE ARTS INITIATIVE
NATIVE ARTS INITIATIVE

WHEN
Established in 2014

WHAT
We provide:
• Direct grantmaking,
• Networking opportunities, and
• Training and technical assistance (TTA)

WHO
Native-led arts and cultural hubs who are working to preserve and advance traditional Native arts through programming

WHY
• To support artists and intergenerational sharing of artistic skills and knowledge
• The cultural vibrancy and traditional artistic practices of Native communities are celebrated and amplified for the increased benefit of future generations
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<th>Period</th>
<th>Grants and Development Details</th>
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| 2014 – Early 2017 | • $600,000 in grants in the Upper Midwest  
• 19 Supporting Native Arts Grantees  
• 14 Professional Development Mini-Grantees |
| 2017-2019    | • $1,575,000 in grants in the Upper MW, SW, Pacific NW  
• 47 Supporting Native Arts Grantees  
• About 60 Professional Development Mini-Grantees |
| 2020-2023    | • $525,000 in Emergency COVID-19 assistance grants for arts and cultural programs |
| 2023-2026    | • 2023: $1,300,000 in NAI rebuilding grants in the Upper MW, SW, Pacific NW; $2,500,000 in CTI rebuilding grants in same region  
• 2024-2025: $1,500,000 in NAI grants in the same region; $725,000 in NAI grants (donor campaign) in other regions |
NAI: 2023-2025 COHORT MEMBERS

• Diné Bé’ Iiná Inc, Navajo Nation (NM)
• Hopi School (Hopitutuqaiki), Inc, Hopi Tribe (AZ)
• Malki Museum Inc, Morongo Band of Mission Indians, Cahuilla Indians and other Southern CA Tribes (CA)
• Pala Band of Mission Indians, Cupa Cultural Center (CA)
• Pueblo of Zuni, A:shiwi A:wan Museum and Heritage Center (NM)
• Tananáwit: A Community of Warm Springs Artists, Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs (OR)
• Upper Sioux Community, Tribal Historic Preservation Office, (MN)
• Woodland Indian Art Inc., Oneida Nation of Wisconsin (WI)
03 | NATIVE ARTS INITIATIVE

GRANT APPLICATION
GRANT DETAILS

Grant Application Due Date
• Wednesday, March 27, 2024, 5:00 PM Mountain Time

Grant Term
• July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2026 (totaling 24 months)

Grant Ceiling
• Proposal requests should not exceed $100,000

Number of Awards Expected
• 10-15 awards

Grant Notification
• First Nations will make final selections and notify all applicants about the status of their application on or before June 10, 2024.
  • mail@grantapplication.com
  • grantmaking@firstnations.org
ELIGIBLE ENTITIES

- All must be located in one of the regions eligible under the NAI.
- First Nations defines **Native-controlled** as:
  - A majority of the Board of Directors (for nonprofits) or majority of the leadership team (for community organizations) as being tribally-affiliated.
- For questions about the eligibility of your organization, please see our website
  - **FAQ sheet** : FNDI homepage > Grantmaking tab > FAQ > “Who is eligible to apply for grant opportunities through First Nations?”
NAI – ELIGIBLE REGIONS

Upper Midwest
- North Dakota
- South Dakota
- Minnesota
- Wisconsin

Southwest
- New Mexico
- Arizona
- Southern California*

Pacific Northwest
- Idaho
- Montana
- Oregon
- Washington

For a list of eligible communities in Southern California, see our RFP for [a link to the list](#).
NAI – ELIGIBLE PROGRAMMING

• There are existing program initiatives in place
• The current program
  1. Supports Native artists
  2. Increase access to and awareness of traditional Native American art and
  3. Increases the intergenerational transfer of knowledge of traditional Native artistic and cultural practices.
• Eligible Programming includes:
  1. Supporting Arts Programming
  2. Strengthening Organizational Infrastructure
ALLOWABLE GRANT ACTIVITIES

1) Examples of Activities Supporting Arts Programming

- Master/apprentice artist opportunities
- Archiving and collections/preservation efforts
- Arts exhibits
- Artists Focused gatherings
- Communal artist spaces for Native artists
- Artist-in-residence opportunities
- Artist-lead workshops and arts classes
- Artists co-operatives
ALLOWABLE GRANT ACTIVITIES

2) Examples of Strengthening Organizational Infrastructure Activities

- Governance training for organization’s Board of Directors
- Organizational strategic planning
- Strengthening IT systems
- Strengthening financial management
- Grant writing and fundraising plans
- Succession planning
- Organizational and/or programmatic marketing and communications plan
- Strengthening project management systems
- Leadership and staff professional development
APPLICATION CONTENTS

1. A brief history of your organization or tribal program
2. A description of the project and its purpose
3. How your program or project meets the Native Arts Initiative requirements
4. An overview of who your project program will serve
5. At least three specific goals or objectives to be accomplished during the project year
6. A program narrative
7. Plans for data collection and evaluation of grant activities
8. How you might utilize TTA opportunities
9. Project budget
10. Project timeline
Online Application System

Submit your application through the Online Application System.

Refer to the NAI RFP and the Grantmaking Webpage on the First Nations website to download instructions for First Nations’ Online Application System.

**TIPS:**
1. Prepare your application responses in a Word document.
2. Submit all the required attachments.
APPLICATION TIPS 01

WORD COUNT
• We increased the maximum word count for each section, so you do not have to spend time fighting with the word count for most of the sections. You do not need to reach the maximum word count for each section.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES (strict word count of 35 words for each objective)
• Think SMART: Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-Bound.
This section helps us understand how you are going to implement your project and when you plan to complete the activities that are essential to making your project a success. It also helps you when it comes time to do the work because you’ve already started a timeline and outlined some important goals as part of your application.
• Each application must have no less than three objectives, but there is room for up to six.

Example: “By June 30, 2026, ten youth who are new to regalia making will have learned traditional skills and techniques from an experienced artist and will have created two pieces of regalia.”
APPLICATION TIPS 02

PROGRAM/PROJECT NARRATIVE

• Share exactly how your work is going to support Native artists, the intergenerational sharing of artistic skills and knowledge, and how your project will preserve and advance your community’s traditional arts and culture into the future.
  • From the RFP (pg. 2): Selected Native-controlled nonprofit organizations and tribal government programs must have existing program initiatives in place that support Native artists and the field of traditional Native arts through efforts to preserve traditional Native arts and artistic practices and advance intergenerational sharing of artistic skills and knowledge.

• Be sure to discuss each of your program objectives from the previous section, and tie them back to the “big picture”.

• Connect your budget to your narrative: Explain how your budget expenses relate to your proposal and objectives.
  • Be specific! Please be sure the budget line items proposed in your budget correspond to the implementation of the project objectives you propose and your overall proposal. (e.g. the arts coordinator salary line item is included because this position is important to the implementation of the proposed programming.)
APPLICATION TIPS 03

BUDGET

• We want to see in your budget:
  • How your cost breakdown is reasonable and directly related to proposed grant activities.

• You can use First Nations’ [Sample Budget Template](#) (pg. 7) or your own budget. Be sure to include:
  • Budget item name
  • Item details
  • Amount of First Nations’ funds allocated to the item
  • Amount of other funds allocated to the item
  • Total budget amount for the item

Be sure to explain your budget line items in either the budget item detail lines and/or in your narrative.
EVALUATION SECTION TIPS

Evaluation is about understanding your impact. You want to:
• Know if your project is achieving the goals you want it to.
• Know if you are on track to meet your objectives.
• Know if your project has made the intended impact.

Grant application questions about evaluation:
1. In implementing your project objectives, what do you hope to learn through the grant period?
2. What are some ways you will measure whether your project and proposed activities are successful or need modifications or tweaks?
3. How you will know whether your project is gaining traction and/or is successful. This item should be connected to your proposed objectives and to your overall project purpose and goal(s).
GRANTEE REQUIREMENTS

1. Grantee orientation call
2. Virtual and in-person Native Arts Gatherings
3. Virtual NAI Cohort Meetings
4. One interim and one final report
5. Year 1 & 2 Budget Report
6. NAI Surveys (one to two per year)
7. Data collection
8. Training & Technical Assistance - optional
REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

1. Budget (PDF or Excel format)
2. Timeline (PDF or Excel format)
3. Description of Board of Directors (PDF format)
4. Description of Key Leadership Staff (PDF format)
5. Tax Status Documentation (PDF format)

*First Nations provides a sample budget and timeline template that can be found linked on the RFP.

- Sample Budget Form
- Sample Timeline Form
04 | QUESTIONS?

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**Grantmaking System Contact**
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Office: 303.774.7836

**NAI RFP**
[www.firstnations.org/rfps/native-arts-initiative-grant/](http://www.firstnations.org/rfps/native-arts-initiative-grant/)

*Due Wednesday, March 27, 2024 5:00PM MDT*