

OSCEOLA COUNTY

CULTURAL VENUES

**UNITED
ARTS**
CENTRAL FLORIDA

Central Florida's Local Arts Agency

We serve Lake, Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties

Our Mission: To inspire and enrich communities by strengthening arts, science, history, and culture through strategic collaborations and investments.

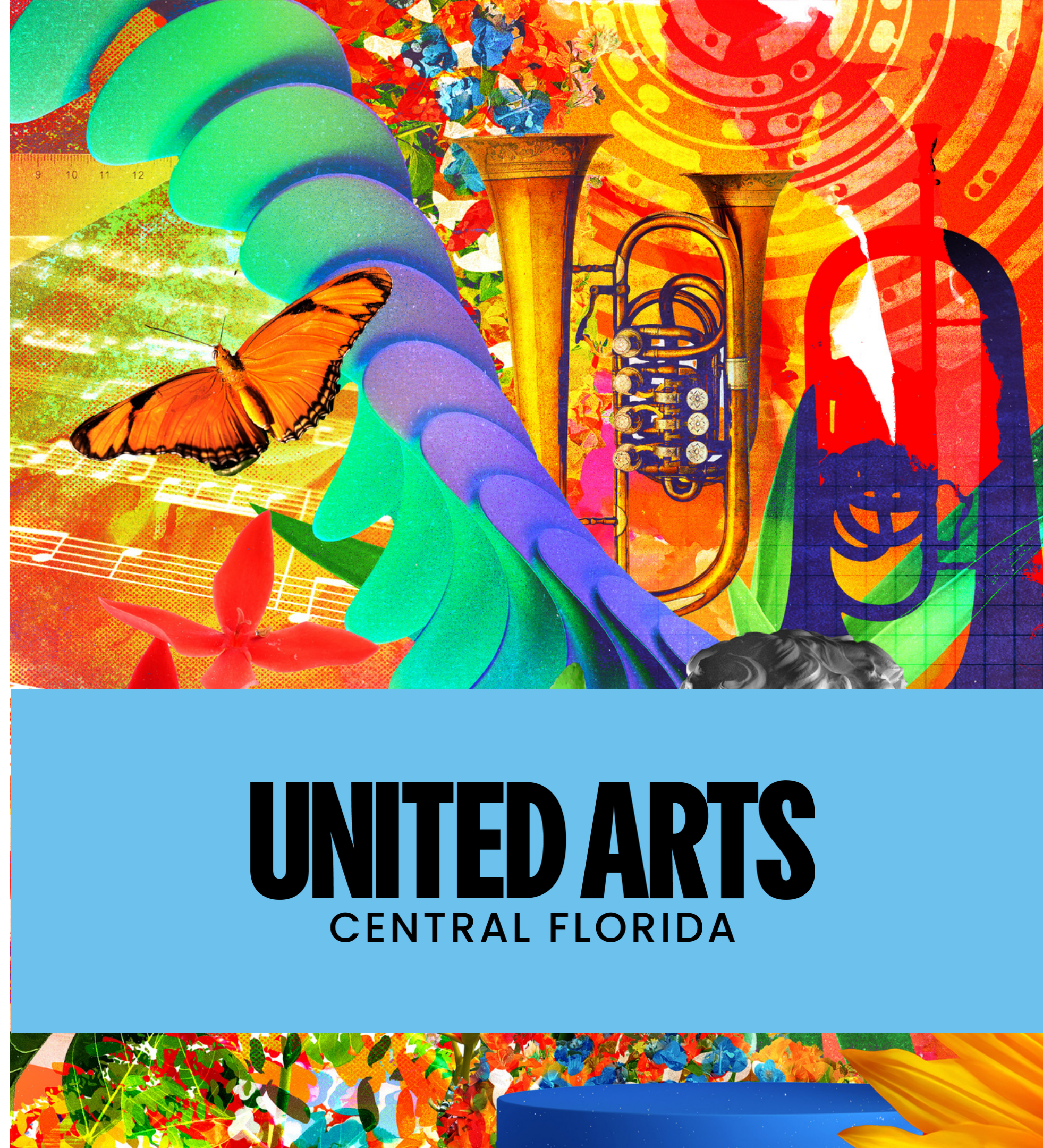
Our Vision: A thriving arts community that fuels lasting prosperity, creativity, and well-being for all in Central Florida.

We do this through

- Strengthening the arts and culture ecosystem
- Harnessing the transformative power of the arts to address our communities greatest challenges.

Our work makes art most accessible to all so that everyone, from our neighbors to our future generations, can live in a more inspiring and enriching community.

We don't make art, we make art possible!



UNITED ARTS
CENTRAL FLORIDA

ABOUT.

Investing in Osceola County's Cultural Tourism Infrastructure

The program supports repair, renovation, construction, and equipping projects that strengthen Osceola County's visitor-serving cultural facilities and cultural tourism infrastructure.

- Preserve, improve, expand, or equip eligible cultural facilities
- Strengthen Osceola County's cultural tourism assets
- Enhance experiences for visitors/tourists
- Increase the capacity of facilities to attract and serve visitors/tourists
- Support visitation and tourism-related economic activity

Funding is provided through Tourist Development Tax revenues. Applicants must explain how the proposed facility investment will support visitors, tourism, and / or Osceola County's tourism economy.

TOURISM.

What does Tourism Impact Mean for a Cultural Facility?

A project may demonstrate tourism impact by:

- Preserving an existing cultural facility that attracts and serves visitors
- Preventing facility closures or interruptions to visitor-serving programming
- Improving visitor safety, comfort, accessibility, or overall experience
- Increasing the number of visitors the facility can accommodate
- Expanding space for performances, exhibitions, events, or other visitor experiences
- Providing equipment needed to present new or enhanced cultural programming
- Allowing the facility to host larger events or attract new audiences
- Increasing visitation, ticket sales, visitor spending, or other tourism-related economic activity
- Supporting job creation or retention for larger projects, when applicable

TOURISM.

The Connection Should Be Clear

Applicants should explain:

- What capital improvement is proposed
- What will the improvement change at the facility
- How will that change strengthen the facility's ability to attract or serve visitors/tourists

Example

A roof replacement may not independently attract tourists. However, it may preserve a visitor-serving cultural facility, protect exhibits or equipment, prevent disruptions to public programming, and allow the facility to continue welcoming visitors/tourists.

FUNDING.

Program Funding

- Total funding pool: \$4.5 million over two years
- Minimum request: \$2,000
- Maximum request: \$4.5 million
- Match requirement: None
- Project period: February 2027 through August 2028
- Application limit: One application per organization, facility, project, site, or phase unless otherwise approved

Applicants must propose one clearly defined cultural facilities project that can be completed within the 18-month project period.

ELIGIBILITY.

Organizational Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in good standing with:
 - Internal Revenue Service
 - Florida Department of State, Sunbiz
 - Osceola County
 - United Arts
- Have operated eligible cultural programming, services, or facilities in Osceola County for at least two years
- Be current on previous grant reporting and contractual obligations
- Demonstrate organizational and financial capacity
- Provide IRS Forms 990 for the two most recently completed fiscal years
- Submit a complete application and all required materials by the deadline

ELIGIBILITY.

Facility Eligibility

The Facility Must:

- Be located in Osceola County
- Be open to the general public
- Provide eligible cultural, heritage, or visitor-serving experiences
- Meet applicable Tourist Development Tax requirements
- Be owned, leased, or operated by the applicant under an eligible arrangement

Eligible Facilities May Include:

- Publicly owned or nonprofit-operated museums
- Eligible auditoriums open to the general public
- Eligible performing arts venues open to the general public
- Historic cultural facilities open to the general public
- Other qualifying cultural or natural attractions

Arts education facilities are not eligible.

ELIGIBILITY.

Eligible Project Types

Repair

- Restores an existing facility to a safe, functional, or usable condition.
 - Examples: Roofing, HVAC, electrical, plumbing, structural repairs, fire suppression, waterproofing, and building envelope repairs.

Renovation

- Improves, modernizes, upgrades, or enhances an existing facility.
 - Examples: Accessibility improvements, gallery improvements, theater modernization, visitor amenities, restrooms, and code compliance.

Construction

- Includes new construction, building additions, expansion, and new visitor-serving cultural spaces.

Equipping

- Provides fixtures, equipment, and infrastructure directly related to the cultural facility.
 - Examples: Theatrical lighting, audio systems, rigging, projection, security systems, permanent exhibit equipment, and technical infrastructure.

ELIGIBILITY.

What is not Eligible

Ineligible Projects and Expenses Include:

- Acquisition of land or buildings
- Debt service or mortgage payments
- Past-due debts, fines, penalties, or interest
- Organizational operating deficits
- Fundraising expenses
- Lobbying activities
- Food and beverage expenses
- General administrative expenses unrelated to the facility project
- General office furniture or administrative equipment
- Routine operating expenses unrelated to the approved project
- Expenses incurred before execution of the grant agreement
- Projects located outside Osceola County
- Facilities or projects that are not open to the general public
- Arts education facilities

OWNERSHIP & SITE CONTROL.

Organization–Owned Facilities

- Applicants must provide documentation demonstrating ownership.

Leased Facilities

Applicants must provide

- A current lease agreement
- A letter of support from the property owner

Applicants will also be required to demonstrate that the remaining lease term is sufficient for the proposed investment.

BEFORE YOU APPLY.

Review the Guidelines Carefully

- The short eligibility form verifies that the organization meets the minimum requirements to apply

Before beginning the application

- Complete the organizational eligibility form
- Confirm that the facility and project meet program requirements
- Review all application questions and required uploads
- Gather two years of IRS Forms 990
- Prepare the current organizational budget and most recently completed fiscal-year actuals
- Gather contractor estimates, vendor quotes, photographs, assessments, plans, or drawings
- Prepare ownership or lease documentation
- Obtain a property owner letter of support if the facility is leased
- Submit early enough to address any technical or documentation issues

APPLICATION.

Step 1: Organizational Eligibility Form

- The short eligibility form verifies that the organization meets the minimum requirements to apply

Step 2: Full Application

Eligible organizations will complete an application addressing:

- Facility information and current tourism activity
- Project need and opportunity
- Audience, tourism, and economic impact
- Project readiness
- Organizational capacity and similar project experience
- Project budget and financial stability
- Long-term maintenance and sustainability
- Required project, financial, and site-control documents

Applicants are not expected to use the full character limit for every response. Answer should be proportional to the size, scope, and complexity of the project.

EVALUATION.

Project Need & Opportunity

Why is the project needed now, and what condition, challenge, or opportunity will it address?

Impact

How will the project:

- Enhance visitor experiences?
- Support tourism and cultural tourism?
- Increase visitation?
- Create economic activity?
- Create or retain jobs, when applicable?
- Benefit audiences?

Project Readiness

Is the project sufficiently planned and achievable within the project period?

Organizational Capacity

Has the organization successfully managed projects of similar size, scope, or complexity?

EVALUATION.

Financial Feasibility

Are the project costs realistic, and can the organization successfully manage and sustain the investment?

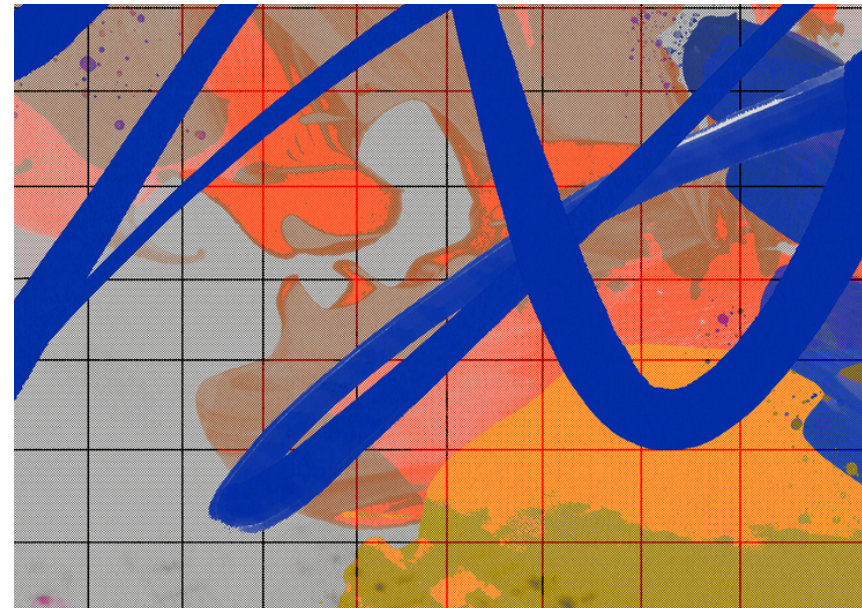
Long-Term Stewardship

How will the organization maintain, support, and use the investment after completion?

KEY DATES.

Application & Review Timeline

Milestone	Date
Application opens	Sep 1, 2026
Application deadline	October 16, 2026 at 11:59 p.m.
Staff eligibility and completeness review	October 19–30, 2026
Panel orientation and materials distribution	November 2–6, 2026
Panelist review and site visits	November 9, 2026–January 1, 2027
Review panel meeting	Week of January 4–8, 2027
Recommendation ranking	Following panel deliberations
United Arts Board approval	Jan 2027
Award notifications and grant agreements	Jan 2027
Project period	February 2027–August 2028
Final impact report	Due 60 days after project completion



THANK



ELYSE JARDINE

Sr. Director Community Outreach
(407) 790-7844
Elyse@unitedartscfl.org
Unitedartscfl.org

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YOU!

