Bordemos la Situación

2021 Community Project Grant - Individual Applicants

Heather Schulte

O: 541-554-0240

Mrs Heather Schulte

heatherdschulte@gmail.com
O: 541-554-0240
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 por el panel.

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.

In 2021, it is also important to the Boulder Arts Commission that the Cultural Grants Program is responsive to current pressures of the COVID-19 pandemic. There are no questions directly related to the pandemic on the application. However, the Commission asks the community to apply with projects, emphasizing collaborations, that directly address those most impacted by the pandemic. The goal is an equitable distribution of resources throughout the community in a way that supports economic and social recovery.

Awards: Organizations $25,000 @ maximum $5,000 each

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

Cycle: Annually.

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS – INDIVIDUALS: Monday, March 15, 2021 at 11:59 p.m.
Definitions: "Individual" is defined as: applications in which the project is created and managed by a single individual, a sole-proprietorship, or a for-profit business with only one employee. "Organization" is defined as: applications in which the project is being created and managed by a nonprofit or a for-profit business with multiple employees.

DECISION TIMELINE

- Monday, March 15 at 11:59 p.m. – Deadline for applications
- March 15 to 19 – Review by staff for eligibility and revision by applicants if necessary
- March 19 to April 2 – Preliminary review and score by panel (16 days)
- April 2 to 9 – Score processing by staff
- April 9 – Preliminary scores and comments sent to applicants via email
- April 9 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@boulderlibrary.org by Monday, April 19, 2021 at 11:59pm.
- April 19 to 23 – Response processing by staff
- April 23 – Responses sent to panel
- April 23 to May 10 – Final review and score by panel (14 days)
- May 10 to 14 – Processing of final scores
- May 14 – Final scores sent to applicants via email
- May 19, 2021 – Arts Commission meeting. Discussion and final decisions on grants

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. Organizations not headquartered in Boulder may be considered (refer to Panel Evaluation question entitled Boulder 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 https://www.municode.com/library/co/boulder/codes/municipal_code?nodeId=TIT14ARhttps://www.municode.com/library/co/boulder/codes/municipal_code?nodeId=TIT14ARChapter 14-1-2 of the City of Boulder Revised Code.
- Projects must take place after the grant funding decision and be completed by June 30, 2022.

MORE INFORMATION

General Eligibility Requirements
2021 Grant Application Schedule
2021 Scoring System
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.
  - Community priorities (Maximum 8 points)
  - Cultural offerings (Maximum 8 points)
  - Cultural equity (Maximum 8 points)
  - Proposed outcomes and evaluation strategy (Maximum 8 points)
  - Boulder focus (Maximum 4 points)
  - 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@boulderlibrary.org.
- 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 an Immigration Status Affidavit and Determination of Independent Contractor / Employee Status for Payment document. Colorado law requires proof of legal residency prior to payment. Applicants will receive the appropriate forms from payments@colorado.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@boulderlibrary.org with the following information:
  o an update on the project status,
  o a request to change the project completion date, and
  o 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.
- Visual arts and crafts

**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.
- N/A

**Annual budget**
If applying as an organization.

**Geographic area served***
If not applicable write N/A.
- Boulder, Front Range CO/Denver metro, and nationwide community

**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**
Bordemos la Situación

**Amount requested**
The maximum award amount offered is $10,000 for organizations. 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.

Bordemos la Situación developed out of a work in process, Stitching the Situation (originally "Situation Report"), a community created textile work documenting US COVID-19 cases and deaths through cross-stitch. Collective hand work transforms data into personal narratives, centering lives that numbers leave abstract. Working together locally and across the country, we archive and memorialize our loss, holding space for grief and healing. This work prioritizes communities vulnerable to the compounding effects of the pandemic.

This grant will fund Spanish translation services with a local female translator. This will include a Spanish language website, Spanish printed instructions for participants, and Spanish workshop materials, along with 6 months of translation support for new content. Spanish translation would enable many migrant workers, front line workers, undocumented residents, and other primary Spanish speaking communities to access and participate more readily. This funding will also support initial translation and interpretation training for a bilingual person who will organize this new branch of the work with and alongside Spanish speaking communities, both here in Boulder and beyond.
Project calendar*
Projects must take place after the grant deadline and be completed by June 30, 2022.

  Website, workshop and kit materials will be translated in summer 2021, with additional support for 6 months as new material is added.
  Recruitment for a co-facilitator this summer, with a contract to train this co-facilitator in translation and interpretation skills.
  Outreach to local communities will begin this summer, with stitching sessions scheduled once it is safe to do so (fall, winter if indoors is safe, spring 2022 and beyond).

Project location*
Where do your projects take place?

  Translation will happen digitally; stitching sessions will happen around Boulder and CO front range/Denver metro.

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."

  This project is essentially collaborative--it began with me stitching in my front yard with my neighbors (thank you, Creative Neighborhoods grant!). Now, over 150 stitchers nationwide are working on blocks, each representing one day's data. The Museum of Boulder hosted the work last summer. I am in contact with Boulder Food Rescue, CU staff, BMoCA, Boulder Community Hospital, the DAM, RedLine, and Denver Public Health about safe, in-person stitching sessions later this summer/fall, and beyond.

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.

Project completion date*
This is the last day of any public event related to the project. Project must be completed by June 30, 2022.

  04/01/2022

Date grant report is due*
One month after the project completion date.

  05/01/2022
Panel evaluation

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?

This project engages the community of Boulder through employing a Boulder resident to enable additional interactive outreach in neighborhoods and local organizations, centering our Spanish speaking neighbors. Collaborating with a local translator provides her work during a precarious time (translation is an art in itself), and brings a timely project to those in our community who have been further isolated during the pandemic. Through cross stitch (punto de cruz), Spanish speaking participants will both tell their own stories through creative means and their own cultural history, and gather safely (whether socially distanced in person, or via online platforms) to share their experiences with one another. The process of stitching slows time and opens space for dialogue, while also acting as a form of calming therapy. When possible, (with the help of a translator and consent of the participants) these sessions could include other community members and leaders for cross-cultural conversation about how COVID-19 has affected us all in different ways, building relational ground work for more effective and caring responses to future crises.

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?

This work engages distinct local communities through their own language and culture, providing a collective space to gather when being together is difficult and risky. Working together as individuals, each stitch both represents others and connects every single life represented to our collective society. It gives space for those stitching to process experiences this past year, while recording their perspectives through stitching patterns (imagery, text, etc.) that are part of a larger whole. It provides a simple framework that records the lives directly affected by COVID-19 and informs this data with the additional touch and lives of
the people stitching. It functions now, as the pandemic is unfolding, and will be available in its aftermath as we process what happened through stitching and mending our community, as well as a record for future generations to witness a multi-faceted story of this time. As this project is committed to centering those most vulnerable to the virus’ effects, these historically oppressed voices are given space to speak freely, whether through stitching or designing patterns to be stitched by others. Co-facilitators are and will represent intersectional identities, and share decision making equally.

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

This project provides support to underrepresented peoples, and is structured to do so from its core. Translation into Spanish enables accessibility across many underserved local populations. Cross stitch is a simple technique to learn, with a low bar for entry, and as it is often practiced by elders, offers an opportunity for intergenerational learning and passing down cultural heritage. All materials and instructions are provided for free, minus thread. For those who cannot afford or access thread, I have received donations to meet those needs, and respond to individuals on a case by case basis. Time to stitch is a factor, and I am developing ways for folks who do not have the time or ability to stitch to create designs for others to execute, so their voices and stories are included in the work. This also provides opportunities for those privileged with time to get to know another person’s perspective (any relationship between the two is developed on a consensual basis; anonymity preserved when requested, contact info shared when permitted). I am committed to bringing this work to these community’s spaces on their terms, working with them to enable participation in ways that honor their needs (informed by mutual aid frameworks).

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.

Translation will open up access for more primary Spanish speakers. Working with a local translator who is excited about this project will connect this project to more local Spanish speakers. I already maintain a list of participants (over 150 ppl), how they found the project, where they are located (6 in Boulder, 24 across CO) and each participant gained through this translation project will be recorded as such.

My website hosting provides engagement data as well, as does my newsletter software.

One big goal for translation is to find a co-facilitator who can engage and facilitate the Spanish speaking participants, expanding this project authentically, and engaging that community’s perspective to inform and shape the organizational aspects of the work.

Each participant is invited to share written testimony about their COVID-19 experience, and what drove them to participate in this work/inspire their designs, which will (eventually!) form an additional narrative archive of this project and potentially become a book.
I also plan to send a demographic form for participants to fill out anonymously to quantify who is engaging with the work, as well. My goal is to work toward representation that reflects COVID-19 impacts.

Additional Questions

Boulder focus*
Are you a Boulder organization/individual serving Boulder or are you an organization/individual outside of Boulder and to what degree do you focus on Boulder programming?

I am a Boulder resident, and as stated elsewhere, have established and developing relationships with Boulder organizations and communities. Boulder will be the initial focus of this work (and was at the beginning of the larger project), and will serve as a hub for other Spanish-speaking communities to get involved, potentially across the country. I have participants in San Diego, and El Paso/Juárez that have expressed interest in Spanish language accessibility, so that potential is ready and waiting. This Boulder-based project is already having national impact, and will allow even greater accessibility and reach through funding translation support.

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 community. This includes providing support to applicants who have not yet received a grant in this cycle. Confirm if your organization has received more than $1,000 in funding from the Boulder Arts Commission in the current cycle.

No

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.

Budget summary.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

Venue Confirmation.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.

Collaborator 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

LetterofSupport.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.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
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*
- Budget summary.pdf
- Venue Confirmation.pdf
- Collaborator list.pdf
- LetterofSupport.pdf
- Support materials.pdf
Bordemos la Situación Budget
Heather Schulte

**Income:**
BOoAC Community Projects Grant = $5000

**In kind:**
Office space (2) $375/mo x 8 mo = $6000
Computer (2) = $2000
Phone (2) $50/mo = $600

**TOTAL:**
= $13,600

**Expense:**
Initial website and paper material translation
Incl. 6 month support for updates = $3250

Translation and interpretation training for co-facilitator
$50/hr x 35 hrs = $1750

**In kind:**
Office space (2) $375/mo x 8 mo = $6000
Computer (2) = $2000
Phone (2) $50/mo = $600

**TOTAL:**
= $13,600
Bordemos la Situación

This project (translation) will occur via remote communication between myself and a local translator, not at a particular location. The resulting website will be online, and will reside at www.bordemoslasituacion.com (already reserved for this work).

The ensuing outreach to individuals will happen via telecommunications as well, and most stitching will take place in individuals’ homes, or other locations yet to be determined. Those are outside the immediate scope of what this grant funding will support.
Bordemos la Situación Collaborator list
Heather Schulte

Ingrid Castor-Campos
Translator
(720) 628-0435
inanna.hoy@gmail.com

Ellen Teig
Board member, Boulder Food Rescue
(720) 226-5211
ellen@boulderfoodrescue.com

Ellen connected me with Ingrid, and is working with me to plan stitching sessions with BFR
March 12, 2021

Dear Boulder Arts Commission,

As a Boulder-based public health consultant who works towards health equity, I am writing this letter to ask the Boulder Arts Commission to support the Situation Report/Bordemos la Situación project with a 2021 Community Project grant.

The Situation Report/Bordemos la Situación is a community needlework project that brings people safely together to document the lived experience of the COVID-19 pandemic. Funding the Situation Report/Bordemos la Situación project would expand its accessibility to Hispanic/Latino/a/x communities in Boulder.

While approximately 14% of Boulder County’s population identify as Hispanic/Latino/a/x, almost 40% of hospitalizations and nearly 18% of deaths due to COVID-19 have involved members of the Hispanic/Latino/a/x community (Boulder County Public Health, https://www.bouldercounty.org/families/disease/covid-19/covid-19-illness-data/). By creating a cross-sector collaboration between the arts and public health, the Situation Report/Bordemos la Situación project can work to help heal the disproportionate incidence of COVID-19 in Hispanic/Latino/a/x communities in Boulder.

People turn to the arts in challenging times, because the arts help us heal, share stories, make meaning, and drive collective action and social change. It is vital that everyone in our Boulder community has the same opportunity to access this type of work as we move from relief to recovery. Please support the Situation Report/Bordemos la Situación as it does exactly this.

Sincerely,

Ellen Teig, MSPH
Public Health Consultant
ellenteig@gmail.com
Stitching with my neighbors, summer 2020. Each bordered area represents one day’s data—each blue stitch a recorded COVID case in the US, each red a death. This photo shows some of February into March 2020.

My neighbors, holding the 3 initial panels (in process), which represent Feb-June 2020.

Initial 3 panels installed at the Firehouse Art Center in Longmont as part of the show, *Situation Report*, on view March 12 - April 5, 2021.
Individuals and families all over the US are participating, stitching blocks which represent one day’s data. I began sending these kits in late June 2020 and continue to do so.

Examples of various blocks in process. More can be viewed on Instagram @stitchingthesituation and the project’s Facebook page.