

Creative Schools Fund Application SY25 - 26

Started: August 18, 2025

Deadline: September 30, 2025

Thank you for your interest in applying to the Creative Schools Fund! The Creative Schools Fund competitive grants go directly to schools to support residencies designed by CPS teachers in collaboration with arts partners.

In order for your application to be considered, we must receive your school's application submission by September 30, 2025 and your Partnering Arts organization's segment of the form by October 7, 2025.

Please use the "References" section to send the partner segment of the application to your partnering arts organization. To ensure your arts partner has time to complete their form, we recommend you begin the application process by clicking the "references" option at the top of the screen and then click "add reference". Once you complete this step, your arts partner will receive a link to complete their segment.

We recommend that you draft your application narrative in a separate document that can be shared between the school and the arts partner prior to inputting the information in the SlideRoom application.

If you have any questions, please email: csf@ingenuity-inc.org.

[Continue Application](#)

This program contains:

- Forms (3)
- References (up to 1)

Application Preview

FORMS

SY25 - 26 Applicant Contact Information

School & Contact Information

1. Official School Name

Schools are listed alphabetically. The numbers in the brackets (i.e. "[610066]") are official CPS school ID numbers and are for internal data tracking.

2. Arts Liaison First Name

3. Arts Liaison Last Name

4. Arts Liaison Email

5. Arts Liaison Phone Number

6. Leading School Staff Member for Grant Implementation, if different (First Name)

7. **Leading School Staff Member for Grant Implementation, if different (Last Name)**

8. **Leading Staff Member Email**

9. **Leading Staff Member Phone**

10. **CPS Staff Collaborator First Name, if different**

If different, please provide the name of the teacher or school staff member that will supervise and work in collaboration with the arts partner in the classroom.

11. **CPS Staff Collaborator Last Name, if different**

12. **CPS Staff Collaborator Email**

13. **CPS Staff Collaborator Phone**

14. **School Clerk First Name**

15. **School Clerk Last Name**

16. **School Clerk Email**

17. **Arts Partner Organization Name**

Please search for and select the name of your selected arts partner. Organizations are listed alphabetically, with teaching artists labeled as "Independent Teaching Artist". The numbers in the brackets (i.e. "[0100]") are artlook ID numbers and used for internal data tracking.

If the organization you're looking for is not listed, please contact artlook@ingenuity-inc.org to request that your arts partner be added to artlook and the dropdown. Organizations must have an up-to-date artlook profile to apply for a Creative Schools Fund grant.

SY25 - 26 Grant Proposal Overview

GRANT OVERVIEW

1. **SHORT PROJECT SUMMARY:** Please provide a 1 - 2 sentence blurb about the grant program or project you are proposing for the Creative Schools Fund. This blurb may be included in public announcements about your program if it is selected for funding.

2. **PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** Please describe the grant program or project you are proposing for the Creative Schools Fund in more detail. Include the specific goals for this program and how you will measure success.

3. **Please select the primary artistic discipline represented in this grant proposal.**

4. **If the program focuses on more than one artistic discipline, please select additional disciplines.**

5. **Which of the two primary Arts Education Plan 2.0 goals will this program address? Please note that you do not need to provide a detailed explanation of how the program connects to individual strategies in the plan, some of which may not be applicable to arts partnerships.**

Goal 1: Access to Arts Education - Giving students access to artistic disciplines they would not otherwise have the opportunity to explore

Goal 2: High Quality Arts Education - Supplementing CPS arts teacher instruction with new mediums, instructional strategies and cultural traditions; strengthening student Social and Emotional Learning and confidence; engaging students in professional artistic practice; expanding arts teaching capacity by adding professional arts education learning opportunities for arts and non-arts teachers

6. **Please describe how this program will increase arts access or quality for students, and help your school progress towards its arts goals.**

7. **Please describe how and why you selected the arts partner for this project including values that you share.**

8. Please describe the students that will participate in this grant program (consider, for example: student learning style, student demographics, neighborhood and/or family cultural/ethnic/linguistic context) and how you envision this program and partner being culturally responsive and addressing their assets and needs.
9. What school staff will be involved in this program? List and describe each individual's role in planning and implementation. Please consider the roles and responsibilities outlined on pages 22 - 23 of the SY25 - 26 CSF Guideline Packet.
10. What teacher or school staff member will work with the arts partner in the classroom? Arts Partner must be supervised and working in collaboration with an ISBE-licensed CPS employee at all times.
11. If Other School Staff, please describe and explain why this staff member was chosen.
12. Please describe the involvement the school Principal, Vice Principal, or other administration members have played in developing and/or supporting this grant.
13. What role will the arts partner play in planning and implementation? Please consider the roles and responsibilities outlined on pages 22 - 23 of the SY25 - 26 CSF Guideline Packet.
14. What grades will participate in this program? Please choose all that apply.
15. How many total students will participate in this program?
16. How many weeks will students participate in programming
17. How many minutes of instruction will take place, on average, each week in this partnership program?
18. **Program Timeline**
Please provide a timeline for the program, including planning time and projected schedule for the residency aligned with the CPS SY2025-26 Q3 - Q4 calendar. Please note that residencies should span between 4 and 13 weeks. Funds will not be loaded into school budgets until mid to late February. We recommend beginning programming in early March. There are roughly 13 school weeks from the start of March to the end of May 2026, but you should leave some room for cancellations, delays, and unforeseen events. It is not advised to plan programming for every available week during Q3 and Q4.
19. Where in the school will this program take place?
20. Will your program include Professional Development for CPS teachers led by your arts partner?
21. If Yes, please briefly describe the professional development plans.
22. Please confirm that student programming will take place during the school day, and not through out of school time activities:

SY25 - 26 Grant Budget

The Creative Schools Fund budget template is divided into two sections. The entirety of the fee paid to the Arts Partner should be listed under Arts Partner Costs. Other costs such as supplies, equipment, bus transportation and CPS Teacher non-instructional extended day pay for planning should be listed under School Costs. Arts partners must review and agree to the budget breakdown submitted through the application. The total budget should reflect your total grant request amount, up to \$10,000.

1. **ARST PARTNER COSTS: Partner Services - In-school-time arts programming provided by an arts partner**
Dollar Amounts Only
2. **ARTS PARTNER COSTS: Partner Services - Consulting support for professional development; curriculum development; and/or arts integration**
Dollar Amounts Only

3. **SCHOOL COSTS: CPS Teacher Planning - Teacher non-instructional extended day pay at \$51.78 per hour, including 1.45% added on for benefits**

Dollar Amounts Only

4. **SCHOOL COSTS: Field Trips and Experiential Arts Learning, Including bus transportation**

Dollar Amounts Only

5. **SCHOOL COSTS: Program Supplies - Materials and supplies for arts learning and culminating events that support the partnership (e.g.; art supplies; costumes)**

Dollar Amounts Only

6. **SCHOOL COSTS: Program Supplies - Hardware and equipment valued at \$500 or more each to support the partnership (e.g.; laptops; iPads; 3D printers)**

Dollar Amounts Only

7. **Please provide a narrative description for each budget item.**

8. **SCHOOL ATTESTATION: Please attest that, should your school receive a grant, it will comply with the following (select all that apply):**

REFERENCES

Provide 1 reference.

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