



# NEWS FROM TCA: JULY 2022

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In 2020, when-- like almost everything else-- the Children's Art & Literacy Festival was canceled, the Abilene Cultural District hosted socially-distanced outdoor summer children's performances instead, which helped support artists and families during those unstable times. Across the state, TCA saw arts organizations make the most of the situation while coping with financial losses from the drop in tourism. A new recovery grant is on the horizon-- see below for more information.

Photo courtesy of the Abilene Cultural Affairs Council.

## Texas Travel Industry Recovery Program Grants Due Soon

The Texas Travel Industry Recovery (TTIR) program is a State funding program that is open to entities—including arts entities—tied

to travel and tourism. Through TTIR, the Governor's Office of Economic Development & Tourism will be distributing the \$180M in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds allocated by the 2021 Texas Legislature in the 3rd Special Session, Senate Bill 8. These funds are to aid in the recovery of the Texas tourism, travel, and hospitality industry

**Texas Travel Industry**  
**RECOVERY  PROGRAM**

as a result of COVID 19. TCA encourages arts organizations to apply to this program to help further their recovery from the effects of the pandemic. Note that this program is not operated by TCA.

The program will provide one time payment to eligible Texas entities that experienced an economic loss due to COVID 19. Grants will not exceed \$20,000 for eligible expenses; grant funds will be paid on a cost reimbursement basis. Grants may only be used to reimburse costs incurred within the time period beginning November 8, 2021 through present day. More information can be found in the [program portal](#). There will be FAQs and a step by step video tutorial on the application process posted on the TTIR website to assist you with the application process.

Qualifying arts entities (arts nonprofits are classified as 71 in NAICS) should apply in the Category 2 group (**application timeline: August 1-21, 2022**). A [webinar](#) will be offered on **July 20, 2022** at 1:00 pm Central.

This information is based on a program summary provided by the Texas Travel Association.

## Upcoming TCA Deadlines

TCA has a few upcoming application deadlines. As always, the TCA staff is happy to discuss your goals and eligibility to determine which programs are right for you—you can schedule a [virtual appointment with a staff member](#). You may also request that a TCA staff member review your application and provide feedback. Ideally, these draft review requests would be made at least two weeks before the application deadline.

Applicants waiting for a **SAM UEI** to be issued by the federal government may still apply for a grant. The SAM UEI will need to be provided in order for a grant to be paid by TCA at a later stage.

### **Grant Program: Arts Respond Project**

Arts Respond Project grants provide project assistance grants to nonprofit arts organizations on a short term basis and may include administrative costs directly related to the project. Projects must address one of the following priority areas: economic development, education, health & human services, public safety & criminal justice, or natural resources & agriculture. Representatives of eligible organizations were emailed an overview video and handout on May 25.

**Activity dates must start:** Between September 1, 2022 and March 31, 2023

**Application deadline:** Midnight on July 15, 2022

**Application form:** [Online](#) now for eligible organizations

**Application Limit:** Organizations may submit one application for this deadline.

Organizations should not submit more than one application addressing the same priority area per fiscal year.

**Resources:** [Grant guidelines](#), [contact TCA staff](#)

### **Grant Program: Arts Respond Performance Support**

This program provides professional artist fees to Texas nonprofits, schools, colleges, and units of government for hiring an artist from the [Texas Touring Roster](#) to do a performance. These applications are funded based on a percentage of contracted fees. If you are hiring an artist for a planned in person event, we encourage you and the artist to discuss a contingency plan in case that event cannot be held as anticipated, and to outline that plan in the performance contract. Please let us know if you have questions about the plan you are considering.

**Activity dates must start:** Between September 1, 2022 and December 14, 2022

Application deadline: Midnight on August 1, 2022

Application form: [Online](#)

Resources: [Grant guidelines](#), [contact TCA staff](#)

## Get the Plate that Supports the Arts



Get TCA's *State of the Arts* license plate at <http://tinyurl.com/TXartsLP>. The plate looks great on all kinds of vehicles, shows Texas pride and support of the arts, and costs a mere \$30 a year in addition to vehicle registration. \$22 of the \$30 fee goes into TCA's grants budget! TCA is grateful to

the many Texas drivers who purchase the *State of the Arts* license plate, and to the wonderful arts organizations that help promote it to their patrons.

## Texas Touring Roster Artist Rural Tours in July

In our continuing efforts to provide more quality performances and arts opportunities in underserved rural areas of the state, TCA selected eight Texas Touring Roster artists and groups to provide free performances in rural counties between March 1 and August 31 (TCA pays each artist a flat fee for the performances directly.). Each artist or group provides six performances in an assigned area, and the performances are hosted by local nonprofits, units of government, or schools. In the summer, these tours often serve youth summer reading programs in libraries. Hosts are reminded that any Texas nonprofit or unit of government (including a school or library) is eligible to apply for a Performance Support grant for up to half of a Texas Touring Roster artist's fee.



We received a warm thank you from the McCulloch County Library, which hosted AZTEX on June 25 for a kids' music workshop and general public performance later in the day. Mary Ann Gutierrez, library director, wrote, "I just wanted to say HOW WONDERFUL this group was. The children's workshop was incredible. The children were fascinated with all the instruments and the fact they were able to participate in creating music was amazing. We also had an hour filled with music for adults. Overall the experience and entertainment was amazing.

"A big thanks to the Texas Commission on the Arts for allowing our small community to experience such great talent, which normally some would not have been able to experience otherwise."

July brings more chances to catch free rural tour performances! AZTEX will conduct a workshop and a performance at Mason County library in Mason. The Kids Music Workshop will be on July 18 at 2 pm followed by a performance at 5 pm.

Award winning storyteller Elizabeth Ellis will present three performances of "Oceans of Stories Oceans of Fun" for children in Titus and Wood counties. She will be performing on July 7 at 2 pm and 6



children's workshop: courtesy of Mary Ann Gutierrez.

pm at Mount Pleasant Public library in Mount Pleasant and at Mineola Public Library on July 21 at 2 pm in Mineola.

If you're nearby, we hope you'll attend one of these performances! Special thanks to the fantastic artists conducting rural tours on TCA's behalf this year.

Photo of Elizabeth E is: Pau Porter; photo of AZTEX

## COVID-19 Information in ASL



Due to communication barriers, people who are deaf are often the last to know about pertinent information. Communication Services for the Deaf (CSD) is partnering with a number of entities to change that. CSD now offers Deaf representatives who are trained and ready to provide COVID 19 information in ASL statewide. Call the [ASL Now COVID 19 Hotline](#), or call 737 304 6562 on your video

phone to receive information in sign language. This hotline does not give medical advice. If you are sick, you are encouraged to contact your physician or call 911 in a medical emergency.

## Welcome Rron, Farewell Mary!



In late April, TCA said a fond farewell to Program Administrator Mary Kettlewell, who is leaving Texas for cooler weather and new adventures in Minnesota.

On July 1, we welcomed Rron Karahoda as our newest Program Administrator. Rron graduated in 2022 from the University of Louisville with a Master of Music degree in music composition. Before pursuing his degree, Rron served as the Annual Fund and Foundations manager at Kentucky Opera. In that role, his responsibilities included securing grants from government, businesses, and foundations in addition to organizing fundraising campaigns aimed at inspiring the organization's donors to further their support for the opera. As a composer, Rron specializes in composing dramatic vocal works and recently completed *Ashley*, a wholly original opera set in Brooklyn where he grew up. When he is not working in and around music, Rron enjoys spending time with his wife and cat, friends, and family.

At TCA, Rron (pronounced like "Ron") will work with music and opera constituents, among other duties.

Photo: In The Shade Photography

## New Federal Change Affects TCA Grant Applicants

The federal government has transitioned from using DUNS numbers to the SAM UEI as a unique entity identifier for institutions. This affects all TCA grant applicants. The SAM UEI is issued **at no cost (for free!)** through the federal System for Award Management website



(SAM.gov). **We strongly urge that you address this transition and get your organization's SAM UEI immediately and enter it into TCA's online grants system. If you need to request a SAM UEI, there is currently a backlog at the federal level. Register your need for a SAM UEI at SAM.gov as soon as you can (but only once) to get into the queue. [This resource](#) can help you request your SAM UEI.**

Once the SAM UEI is assigned to your organization, it's yours for good, as long as your organization stays in good standing with the federal government (an annual—**free**—registration in SAM.gov is required).

The SAM UEI is a unique 12 character identifier (a combination of letters and numbers) assigned to all entities (public and private companies, individuals, institutions, or organizations).

**Once you have your SAM UEI, you need to update your Organization Information in TCA's Fluxx grants system.** In order to change the Organization Information in Fluxx, you must be a **moderator for your organization**.

1. Go to the Organization Information Screen in Fluxx.
2. Click the edit button found in the top right corner of the screen.
3. Enter your new SAM UEI in the appropriate field.

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