



Aiken Singers Organization Music Grant Information

Aiken Singers Music Grants are awarded by the Aiken Singers Organization to Aiken County District school teachers to support programs of music education and performance outreach. Applications for funding are only accepted during an official application cycle. Applications will only be considered for programs or projects that fall within these categories:

MUSIC EDUCATION: A program or project which provides classroom music instruction for K-12 schools or after-school programs.

PERFORMANCE OUTREACH: A project that interprets and fosters an appreciation for our rich music heritage through public performances. Examples include vocal, choral, or instrumental performances at festivals or musical plays. Other public performances are not considered unless the applicant clearly demonstrates the project is in support of a program with an educational vs. entertainment focus.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS: Applications will only be considered from public schools in Aiken County serving grades K-12.

PROJECT TIMELINE: Grants applied for in 2024 must be for programs and/or projects taking place between January 1, 2024, and December 31, 2024. Applications must be received by September 30, 2024. Funds must be spent by December 13, 2024.

ELIGIBLE USE OF FUNDS: Funds will be considered for expenses associated with: Supplemental or visiting music instructor, teaching artist, and/or lecturer fees; instruments; instructional classroom materials, sheet music purchases, recordings, and software.

NON-ELIGIBLE USE OF FUNDS: Non-eligible expenses include general administrative or operating expenses; marketing and fundraising expenses; food or beverage; or accumulated deficits or debt. Costs associated with events or festivals will not be considered. While the Aiken Singers Organization realizes the vital importance of all music events and festivals in our communities, our focus is on supporting sustainable programs of music education and outreach.

FUNDING REQUESTS: The maximum amount for each grant request is \$500.00. Aiken Singers will reimburse only the funds spent up to the maximum of \$500. Receipts for all expenditures must be submitted. Two awards will be made in 2024. The Aiken Singers Organization reserves the right to offer an award less than the amount requested.

EVALUATION CRITERIA AND REVIEW PROCESS: Grant applications will be reviewed by the Aiken Singers Grant committee. They may consult with other music and arts professionals. The committee will review applications based solely upon eligibility requirements

and the merits of the application including artistic or academic merit; audiences and communities served; program feasibility, including available budget and personnel; and organizational history and prior achievements.

APPLICANT INTERVIEWS: The awards committee reserves the right to conduct applicant interviews either by phone or in person during the review period.

AWARDS AND DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS: All applications will be acknowledged when received. Grant awardees will be notified no later than one month after the application deadline. Aiken Singers will determine a time and place to present the awards. Awardees will provide a short write-up that can be used to publicize the award.

Revised 6.21.2024 by J. Pierce