

CelticMKE Cultural Grant Application 2016

Our organization has been awarding cultural grants since 1998 to fund projects related to any aspect of Irish or Irish-American culture. The grants, of up to \$2,000 dispersed in smaller amounts, is intended for an individual of any age or ethnic background who proposes *a clearly defined project* that will lead to a greater understanding of the depth and variety of these cultures. Grants are given to individuals only, not to groups.

We seek applicants who will use the grant to create a project that can be disseminated to a wide audience through publication, performance, exhibit, or other public method. Applicants are expected to be familiar with their topic, to know what material is already available, and to discuss how their project will contribute a new or different angle of vision on the subject.

Past grant projects awarded include: publication of a book of Irish session music, publication of research on Irish currachs, completion of an Irish graphic novel in Irish Gaelic, and funding for costumes and props for an Irish character lecturer.

THE APPLICATION

Name: _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Name of parent or guardian, if under 18 years old: _____

Address: _____
(Street Address) (City) (State/ZIP code)

Day phone: _____ Evening phone: _____ E-mail: _____

How did you learn about this grant? _____

(The above information is for our outreach purposes only.)

If I am awarded this grant, I agree

- to submit a status report by October 31 of the next year,
- to submit a final report or to give a presentation to the Cultural Grant committee *within two months* of completing the project,
- to permit Irish Fest to use this application information, photos, or other materials to be agreed upon for news releases.

Signature of applicant (and guardian if under 18): _____

Date: _____

Applications and letter(s) of reference must be received in the CelticMKE office between September 1 and October 31. ABSOLUTE DEADLINE: OCTOBER 31.

How to send your materials:

Email – culturalgrant@celticmke.com

Regular Mail – Irish Fest Cultural Grant, Attn: Jeannie Cissne, 1532 Wauwatosa Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53213

Fax – (414)476-7712 to the attention of Jeannie Cissne

Please answer the following questions on a separate piece of paper, preferably in a Word Document, and submit with the above application form.

1. Describe in detail the project for which you intend to use the grant. Include the following:
 - a. A 300-word description of the project. Be very specific about the final product that you will produce and how you will disseminate it. Describe how your project fills a need, a niche, or a gap that has yet to be explored. Projects that appear to benefit only the applicant, such as a request for funds to travel with no workable project in view, will not be considered.
 - b. A timeline for completing the project, including the date of completion
 - c. A budget indicating how the grant money will be used
 - d. Feel free to provide any other information that you think might be relevant for the grant
2. Explain your background and expertise in the topic that you are working on. Why will your finished product be a worthwhile contribution to Irish or Irish-American culture? What specific audience or population will benefit from your project? Why are you the appropriate person to produce this project? Demonstrate your familiarity with your topic.
3. Provide **at least** one letter of recommendation from a person who is familiar with your project and who can confirm your suitability to complete it. **All letters of recommendation should be e-mailed or sent to the Irish Fest office under separate cover. They should *not* be included with your application. Letters of reference are due in our office by the same date as your application.
 - The reference letter(s) should be from someone who is knowledgeable about the subject you are working with and who knows your background/skills in working on this topic.
 - Letters from related persons or letters that do not focus clearly on the applicant's expertise and ability to produce a solid project are not helpful to the committee's assessment of your application. It is your competence to undertake and complete the project that is at issue, so the references must address these matters.**

If you have any questions, please contact the committee at culturalgrant@celticmke.com. Be sure to contact us well before the application deadline.

Thank you for applying for the CelticMKE Cultural Grant, and GOOD LUCK!