



Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity (URCA) Grants

COLLEGE *of* FINE ARTS

Information for Applicants

The College of Fine Arts Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity (URCA) Grants support student excellence in academic and artistic projects. These grants of up to \$750 are open to all current TCU Fine Arts majors in good academic standing. Preference will be given to graduating seniors and students who have not previously been awarded an URCA grant.

Forms, as well as information regarding Fall and Spring application deadlines can be found on the College of Fine Arts website, at <https://finearts.tcu.edu/resources/undergraduate/>.

Project Eligibility

URCA grants are designed to sponsor the creation and presentation of original works of student research and creative activity. Sponsored activities should result in a demonstrable product (e.g., a performance, exhibition, research project, presentation, etc.).

Each project must also be sponsored by a TCU faculty member, who will guide the student through the project's completion.

Examples of some eligible uses of funds include:

- Purchase of necessary materials for original research projects or for the creation of original artworks
- Rental of spaces (concert, exhibition, etc.)
- Travel and fees associated with the presentation of research or creative activity at peer-reviewed or juried venues (e.g., invited exhibitions, peer-reviewed academic conferences, invited competitions)

Additional Criteria:

- funds **may not** be used to provide stipends or payment for people other than the applicant (musicians, actors, etc.)
- funds **may not** applied retroactively to already completed projects
- URCA grants **may** be combined with other internal and external funding sources, and we encourage students to apply for all available funding
- All projects including human subjects (e.g., surveys, interviews) must adhere to university policies regarding Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval

Required Application Materials

1. Completed application form, including digital or handwritten signatures

2. Project justification (up to two pages, double spaced)

This document should explain why you believe this project is meaningful to your own development and to your field of study, and provide a timeline for the project's completion. If you are undertaking a creative project, please provide an artistic statement and along with project goals. If you will be undertaking a research project, please provide a summary of the project and your plan for completing it.

Please keep in mind that the readers may not be in your area, so make sure your project justification isn't too technical in nature.

3. Follow-Up Document

For those applicants whose proposals are funded, the College requires a report of 500–1000 words describing the results of the project and how the funds were allocated. This document is due to the Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies by the completion of the semester following the award period.

Please complete these materials and return to the Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development (Dr. Lori Diel, l.diel@tcu.edu) before the deadline.

Evaluation Procedures

All submissions will be evaluated by College of Fine Arts faculty members. Proposals will be evaluated on the merits and potential impact of the proposed project, as well as on the quality of the proposal itself.

All questions regarding Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity grants may be directed to Dr. Lori Diel (l.diel@tcu.edu) with questions.



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