



FINAL (07.07.2020)

## **CARES Funding Appropriated for Cultural, Botanical, and Zoological Organizations**

Financial relief is soon to be available for Utah's cultural organizations impacted by COVID-19 restrictions.

The Cultural Assistance Grant Program "Create in Utah," approved by the Legislature during their June 18 special session, provides \$9 million in grants to organizations with annual budgets of more than \$5 million. The funding, which comes from the federal CARES Act, is targeted for programs that boost tourism and help local economies recover.

Applications for the Cultural Assistance Grant program will open by Aug. 5, at the latest. Information will be available at [artsandmuseums.utah.gov](https://artsandmuseums.utah.gov).

Cultural organizations currently receiving general operating support grants from the Division of Arts & Museums may receive additional funds. Shifting larger organizations to the federal grants will open up more opportunities for all of Utah's cultural organizations to secure the funding that is even more important during the ongoing pandemic.

"This is a win-win for all of Utah's theaters, museums, art galleries, and other cultural organizations," said Vicki Bourns, the director of the Division of Arts & Museums. "Many organizations are suffering because of the business closures and canceled events. This funding will provide the needed support."

Additional opportunities for grant funding for cultural organizations may also be available through the COVID-19 Impacted Businesses Grant Program or other CARES Act grants available through state or local agencies.