

Question 4: The purpose of this grant request is to fund Venice Art Crawl's (VAC) community art events. The VAC is a volunteer-run committee of the Venice Chamber of Commerce that provide the community with an accessible and engaging platform for artistic expression, cultural enrichment, and community cohesion. The grant will support the committee in implementing art events that bring together diverse artists, performers, and community members to celebrate and showcase various forms of art.

- VAC Art in the Walk Streets 6/20  
Art shows at different locations around the walks streets and Lincoln Blvd. between Venice Blvd. and Palms.
- VAC Art in the Canals 8/15  
Art shows at different locations along the Venice Canals
- Watercolor Wednesdays (July, August, September)  
A free community art activity open to all ages
- Holiday Sign Lighting Poster Art Contest  
An art contest for Venice public elementary schools. All artwork will be displayed at the sign lighting.

Question 5 Through this grant, we aim to:

1. Foster Creativity: Venice Art Crawl events and community activities encourage individuals of all ages and backgrounds to explore and express their creativity through various art forms such as painting, sculpture, music, dance, theater, and poetry. We provide a platform for emerging and established artists to display their talent and inspire others.

2. Promote Cultural Exchange: By featuring a diverse range of artistic styles and traditions, our events promote cultural exchange and understanding among community members. It will serve as a platform for artists from different cultural backgrounds to share their unique perspectives and traditions, fostering a sense of appreciation and respect for cultural diversity.

3. Enhance Community Engagement: The art events will serve as a catalyst for community engagement and social interaction. Venice Art Crawl events bring approximately 1,500 people together, creating opportunities for networking, collaboration, and the formation of new friendships in our neighborhood through up to 40 simultaneous art events at different locations in Venice. The poster art contest engages over 300 elementary school students from a variety of backgrounds. Through the poster art contest submissions we get to see different perspectives of what a Venice Holiday looks like. Over 2,000 attendees to the Venice sign lighting will be able to view the children's art. Our events and neighborhood engagement activities help build a sense of pride and belonging within the community.

4. Accessible and Inclusive: The events are free, and aim to be inclusive and welcoming to all community members. We strive to remove barriers and provide equal opportunities for everyone to participate and enjoy the artistic offerings.

5. Economic Impact: The art events also have a positive economic impact on the community because the events attract visitors and foot traffic to local businesses during non-peak times. Local businesses get patrons, while creating opportunities for artists and performers to showcase their work.

Overall, the grant will enable us to create a vibrant and inclusive community art event that celebrates artistic expression, promotes cultural exchange, and strengthens community.