



Prospective Fiscal Sponsors for Films

New York State

- [Fractured Atlas](#) - Fund your work using our tools, resources, and know-how. Learn how to cultivate the resources you deserve and take care of your supporters in the process.
- [New York Foundation for the Arts \(NYFA\)](#) - Our fiscal sponsorship program supports artists, cultural workers, and emerging art organizations in developing and realizing creative projects that serve the public. Through fiscal sponsorship, NYFA extends its 501(c)(3) nonprofit status to selected projects, allowing them to raise funds and apply for opportunities that require a fiscal sponsor.
The next no-fee application for NYFA Fiscal Sponsorship will open on October 26 with deadline November 30. Out-of-cycle applications are available on a rolling basis for a fee.
- [New York Women in Film & Television \(NYWIFT\)](#) - This program does not fund film projects. Instead, NYWIFT acts as a nonprofit umbrella organization for filmmakers who are seeking to raise funds and require nonprofit status to do so. Funds raised by project directors is directed to NYWIFT who administers and disburses those funds back to project directors. There is no application fee. NYWIFT takes an administrative fee of 7% for any funds raised through the fiscal sponsorship program.
- [Women Make Movies](#) - As your fiscal sponsor, Women Make Movies acts as a non-profit tax-exempt umbrella organization that accepts and administers contributions made to your project. WMM is legally responsible for the funds received on behalf of fiscally sponsored projects and must ensure that the funds are used for charitable activities, as agreed upon between the donor and recipient, and that the donor reporting requirements are met in a timely fashion. It does not mean that we are your producers, fundraisers, or in any way connected to the content or actual production of your project. All artistic and proprietary rights, title, and interest in and to the completed project will belong to the Project Director and may be copyrighted in the Project Director's name.

Beyond New York State

- [Documentary Educational Resources \(DER\)](#) - We are particularly interested in projects that align with our mission to foster cross-cultural understanding, but will consider a wide range of projects addressing social and cultural issues. We welcome both veteran and new filmmakers to the program, as well as interactive documentaries and radio programs and podcasts. Projects in production as well as in outreach phases are eligible for fiscal sponsorship.
- [Docs in Progress](#) - Docs In Progress supports artists by administering a Fiscal Sponsorship Program. Because Docs is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, qualifying film projects are able to apply and receive funding from foundations and other grant-making institutions as well as accept tax-deductible donations from individual donors. Docs In Progress adheres to strict financial oversight guidelines by monitoring reports and managing funds to ensure that funder requirements are followed by our fiscal sponsorees, the filmmakers.
- [From the Heart Productions](#) - From the Heart Productions Fiscal Sponsorship Program is uniquely designed to help independent filmmakers get their films funded.
Our "boutique" program sets itself apart by offering hands-on personalized attention, support, and film funding advice from our board members and staff.

- [International Documentary Association \(IDA\)](#) – Our fiscally sponsored projects have access to full-time program staff with expertise in fiscal sponsorship. We have the infrastructure to take on documentary projects of any size, and importantly, our policies and procedures are specifically designed to be conducive to filmmakers and responsive to production timelines.

As fiscal sponsors on your project, IDA will not take any ownership of your work, nor will we infringe on your creative control copyright or prevent you from future sales or profit from your project. IDA seeks to be as non-intrusive and supportive as possible in monitoring projects.

Upcoming Grant Opportunities for Filmmakers and the Arts

- [City Lights Short Film Fund](#) – (up to £5000 funding)
City Lights is thrilled to partner with Genera Films to launch the City Lights Short Film Fund — offering filmmakers from anywhere in the world the opportunity to apply for up to £5000 funding towards the production of their short films.

Final Deadline: December 14, 2026

- [Genesee Valley Council on the Arts Community Regrant](#) -
Application Forms Open for Monroe and Livingston County in October

- [LEF Moving Image Fund](#) –

A maximum of (8) grants of \$15,000 each will be awarded to projects in the Production phase during LEF's major grants review.

Production Funding - A maximum of (8) grants of \$15,000 each will be awarded to projects in the Production phase during LEF's major grants review.

Application Forms Open: Early February 2027, Application Deadline: Late March 2027

- [Kickstarter Culture Fund](#) – (Pledge amounts will vary based on the project and level of support needed.)
The Kickstarter Culture Fund is a \$1 million fund supporting independent creators in Arts, Fashion, **Film**, and Music through contributions to their Kickstarter campaigns.
Projects must launch before or on December 31, 2026.

- [Melissa Rucker Finishing Fund](#) – (Up to \$6,000 for feature length, Up to \$2,500 for short) The Melissa Rucker Finishing Fund supports U.S.-based women and non-binary filmmakers (age 40+) completing narrative and documentary projects in both short and feature formats. Funds short- and long-form documentaries and narratives.

Extended Deadline: October 20, 2026

- [Open Call: Impact Partners Documentary Film Fund](#) – (\$30K - \$100K)
Impact Partners is inviting feature documentary filmmakers from around the world to submit projects for development or production financing through its year-round funding programme.
The fund supports compelling feature-length documentaries that explore urgent social issues through powerful cinematic storytelling. Each year, Impact Partners invests in a select number of projects with the potential to spark public conversation and create meaningful social impact.

Rolling Deadline

- [Roy W. Dean Film Grant](#) – (\$3,500 cash prize plus over \$15,000–\$20,000 in donated goods and services) Since 1992, the Roy W. Dean Grant funds independent films that are unique and make a contribution to society that, without its help, might otherwise never get made.

FALL Grant Deadline – October 31st

Where to Check for Upcoming Funding Opportunities

- [Film Independent](#) - Film Independent Grants & Awards allow filmmakers to advance their current projects and help recognize professional accomplishments in independent film. Lists a variety of grants and fellowships.
- [No Film School](#) -
Lists eight organizations offering grants for short films
- [Sundance Collab](#) -
Sundance Institute's digital space to learn from experts and build a global filmmaking community. Find grants, labs, contests and fellowships.

Helpful Books

- [The Art of Film Funding](#) – Carol Lee Dean
- [Shaking the Money Tree](#) - Morrie Warshawski

Other Resources About Grants and Grantwriting

[From Fractured Atlas - Grants 101](#) –