



# Recovery Fund Grants for Personal Property PHYSICAL LOSS 2020

## GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION HELP TOOL

*Supporting Creativity in Sonoma County*

**Application Deadline:** Sunday, January 3, 2021 11:59pm PT  
**Funding Decisions Announced:** Late January 2021

### Questions?

Email [CreativeSonoma@sonoma-county.org](mailto:CreativeSonoma@sonoma-county.org) or call 707-565-6121  
[www.CreativeSonoma.org/2020-recovery-fund/](http://www.CreativeSonoma.org/2020-recovery-fund/)

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## OVERVIEW

The Creative Sonoma Recovery Fund was originally established to provide relief to Sonoma County creatives who were directly affected by the 2017 Wildfires. The Recovery Fund has been re-opened in response to the wildfires that occurred in Sonoma County in 2020.

In this round, the Fund is open to creative individuals that experienced personal property loss or damages that occurred in residences, home-based studios or workspaces, or to vehicles and other personally-owned equipment as a result of the following events:

- LNU Complex Fires (Walbridge-Meyers)
- Glass Fire

Unrestricted funds are available to Sonoma County residents to mitigate basic human and art-related needs. Funding may be utilized for shelter, medications, art supplies, instruments, rent, mortgage, home-based studio or workspace supplies and equipment, repair and/or relocation costs, and more.

## ELIGIBILITY

In addition to having experienced physical loss of or damage to personal property, applicants must be at least 18 years old, a current Sonoma County resident, able to document a 5-year history of working in the arts or a creative industry, and demonstrate evidence of financial need. While you must be a Sonoma County resident to apply for assistance, your work may have occurred anywhere geographically.

You will be asked to demonstrate the following three criteria:

### **Creative Background**

- 5-year history of working in the arts and/or creative industries (full-time, part-time, self-employed, or contract)
- NOTE: Creative individuals include: actors, architects, artisans, crafts artists, dancers, designers, filmmakers, musicians/vocalists, photographers, teaching artists, visual artists, and writers; and staff of nonprofit arts organizations and creative enterprises. If you work in a creative profession that you do not see listed here, please don't hesitate to contact us.

### **Financial Need**

- Beginning at 300% and below of the Federal poverty level for the household
- NOTE: Even if your household income is above the threshold, please submit an application as grants may be available after funding the individuals who meet the initial thresholds.

### **Scope of Loss**

- Description and documentation of physical loss of, or damage to, personal property as a result of a 2020 wildfire
- NOTE: Personal property is defined as your home and its contents, home-based studio or workspace and its contents, personal vehicles and their contents

**NOT ELIGIBLE:** The following do **NOT** qualify for this funding:

- Hobbyists (those who do not earn at least part-time income through their creative career and/or generate income from their art, craft, or creative services)
- Businesses and organizations that are physically located outside of a personal residence
- Individuals who have experienced economic loss but not physical loss

## GRANT AMOUNTS

A minimum of \$500 per individual.

NOTE: The actual grant amounts may be higher depending on total number of eligible applications received.

## HOW TO APPLY

In addition to reviewing these Guidelines, make sure to thoroughly review the Application Help Tool (pages 4-6 of this document), which lists all application questions and includes instructions and tips on how to answer them. The Application Help Tool also contains a list of documents that are required to upload as part of the application.

Fill out the application online (paper-based, handwritten, or incomplete applications will not be reviewed). Applicants will need to have – or create – an account in Submittable, our online application portal.

- Either click the SUBMIT button on the grant webpage ([www.creativesonoma.org/2019-recovery-fund/](http://www.creativesonoma.org/2019-recovery-fund/)) or go to Creative Sonoma's Submittable account ([creativesonoma.submittable.com/submit](http://creativesonoma.submittable.com/submit)) to begin, work on, and save an application, which will appear in the list of open grants on **December 1, 2020**.
- You may save a draft of your application, but must officially submit it no later than **Sunday, January 3, 2021 at 11:59 pm PT**.
- If you do not have access to the internet, please call 707-565-6121.

## STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Creative Sonoma is committed to providing services and making resources available to every resident of Sonoma county without regard to ethnicity, color, creed, religion, age, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, military status, marital status, political opinion, national origin, familial status, mental and physical disability, or source of income.

## APPLICATION HELP TOOL

This document contains all of the questions found on the online application. All applications must be submitted via the Creative Sonoma Submittable portal (<https://creativesonoma.submittable.com/submit>). Paper-based, handwritten, or incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

### BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This fund is for personal property loss or damages that occurred in residences and home-based studios or workspaces. Businesses and organizations that are physically located outside of a personal residence are not eligible for this funding.

- A. Did you experience physical loss or damage to your personal property (home, home-based studio or workspace, personal vehicles or equipment) during the Sonoma County 2020 LNU Complex (Walbridge-Meyers) or Glass Fires?
- Yes (if you choose this option, you will be invited to proceed with the application)
  - No (if you choose this option, you will be notified that you are not eligible to apply)

### WHO YOU ARE AND HOW TO CONTACT YOU

Items with an asterisk are required. (Please note the items with word limits.)

1. Applicant LAST Name\*
2. Applicant FIRST Name\*
3. Email Address\*
4. Current Physical Home Address: Street, City, State, Zip (must be a Sonoma County address)\*
5. Sonoma County Supervisorial District in which the Applicant currently resides (based on your physical home address, in number 4).\* (Choose one item from the drop-down menu)
  - District listing, by physical address, can be found at: [www.sonomacounty.ca.gov/Board-of-Supervisors/Services/Supervisorial-District-Lookup/](http://www.sonomacounty.ca.gov/Board-of-Supervisors/Services/Supervisorial-District-Lookup/).
6. Mailing Address, if different from Physical Home Address\*
  - If your Mailing Address is the same as your Physical Home Address, write in "same as above."
7. Daytime Phone Number\*

### FINANCIAL NEED

Your level of financial need (as compared to 300% of the state poverty level) will be determined based on what you provide in numbers 8-10.

8. How many people are in your household (as claimed for tax purposes)?\*
  - Count yourself, your spouse if legally married, and your tax dependents (children age 18 or below, children who are full-time students age 23 or below, and/or qualifying relatives that live with you and for whom you provide more than 50% of their support).
  - If you live with family but they do not claim you as a dependent, count only yourself and those you claim on your taxes.
9. List your current total household annual GROSS income (as claimed for tax purposes).\*
  - Include pre-tax income of all qualifying members of the household (as defined above in #8), ages 15 years and older.
  - If you live with family but they do not claim you as a dependent, list only your income and that of anyone you claim on your taxes.

10. INCOME DOCUMENTATION UPLOAD: Upload a minimum of one (1) and a maximum of three (3) documents. (PDF, DOC, DOCX, JPG, GIF, or PNG)\*
  - Documentation may include your most recently filed tax return (preferred item), pay stubs, disability claims, unemployment claims, or other documentation that supports your gross income as stated in number 9.
  - If you lost your physical tax return(s) due to the flood or fire, you may request a copy of your tax return transcript via <https://www.irs.gov/individuals/tax-return-transcript-types-and-ways-to-order-them>.

## CREATIVE CAREER

The duration of your creative career (5 or more years required) will be verified based on what you provide in numbers 11-17.

11. Under which category does your PRIMARY creative discipline best fit?\*

  - Design Arts
  - Literary Arts
  - Media Arts
  - Multi-Discipline Arts
  - Performing Arts
  - Visual Arts

  - If your discipline does not fit under any of these categories, you are not eligible for this funding. (Example: "Culinary Arts" is not eligible.)

12. If you have a website for your creative work, enter it here.
13. If you have active social media presence(s) for your creative work, enter the link(s) and/or @ handle here. (*Word Limit: 20*)
14. If you have a Profile on CreativeSonoma.org's Creatives at Work, enter it here.
15. State how many years you have been employed (including self-employed) in the arts/creative sector, and provide a brief description of your arts-related work history.\* (*Word Limit: 250*)
  - This grant program requires a verified creative career of at least 5 years (those who earn at least part-time income through their creative career and/or generate income from their art, craft, or creative services).
  - Hobbyists (no creative employment or income from art or creative products) are not eligible.
16. CREATIVE CAREER DOCUMENTATION UPLOAD: Upload a minimum of one (1) and a maximum of three (3) documents.\*
  - Documentation may include your creative work resume (preferred item), your bio from your electronic press kit or portfolio, news articles, contracts/letters of agreement, or other items that illustrate 5 years or more in a creative career.
  - NOTE: If you have a resume that includes your creative career, prioritize its upload here. If your resume does not include any of your creative work, please do NOT include it.
17. (OPTIONAL BUT ENCOURAGED) CREATIVE WORK SAMPLES: Upload up to three (3) samples of your creative work. (PDF, JPG, GIF, PNG, MP3, M4A, WMA, WAV, AIFF, MP4, AVI, MOV, MPG, WMV, M4V, PSD, EPS, or AI)\*
  - Items may include images, publications, audio files, video, or design samples of your work.

## PHYSICAL LOSS

The level of your physical loss will be verified based on what you provide in numbers 18-21.

18. Your physical loss of personal property occurred due to which event?\*(Choose one item from the drop-down menu)
19. Enter the full address (street address, city, and zip code) where you experienced physical loss or damage to your personal property as a result of the Sonoma County 2020 LNU Complex (Walbridge-Meyers) or Glass Fires.\* (Word Limit: 15)
20. Describe the physical loss of--or damage to--personal property that you experienced, including whether it affected your home, home-based studio or workspace, vehicle(s), or all of them, as a result of the 2020 wildfires.\* (Word Limit: 250)
21. PHYSICAL LOSS DOCUMENTATION UPLOAD: Upload a minimum of two (2) and a maximum of three (3) documents that demonstrate proof of physical loss or damage to your personal property. (PDF, DOC, DOCX, JPG, GIF, or PNG)\*
  - Documentation may include insurance claims, photographs or video of property damage, news articles in which you are named or interviewed as result of the 2019 flood or fire, building permits, or other definitive items.

### Submission (must check to accept “Terms of Use” in Submittable)

The submitter of this application declares that the information included herein is true and that they are a current full-time resident of Sonoma County.