



OTTAWA JEWISH ARTS & CULTURE GRANT

The Ottawa Jewish Arts & Culture Grant provides up to \$15,000 to support vibrant, creative, and collaborative projects that strengthen Canadian Jewish cultural identity and enrich Jewish life in Ottawa. Recognizing that creativity is a powerful gateway into Jewish identity and a cornerstone of a thriving community, this grant offers one-time funding for collaborative events and programs that focus on arts, cultural expression, and heritage programming.

GOALS OF THE FUND

- Provide opportunities to develop initiatives that highlight the dynamism, resilience, and creativity of Jewish life in Ottawa
- Inspire programming that celebrates the diversity of the Jewish experience – in the past, present, and future
- Promote collaboration across organizations
- Encourage cross-sector partnerships that blend artistic expression, heritage, education, spirituality, and community engagement

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

To be considered, the Primary Applicant must:

- Be a CRA-registered charity and/or a not-for-profit organization incorporated as such under federal or provincial law
- Align with Federation's mission to advance and promote exceptional Jewish life in Ottawa
- Demonstrate a clear ability to build Jewish identity and to increase engagement
- Include an arm's-length collaborative partner (see criteria below "What are the collaboration requirements?")
- Commit to administering required surveys and reporting
- Adhere to Federation's branding, recognition, and promotional guidelines
- Acknowledge that future program costs become the responsibility of the applicant(s) after the funding period

WHAT KINDS OF ACTIVITIES ARE ELIGIBLE FOR GRANT FUNDING?

Funding is available for programs that:

- Use arts, culture, and creative expression to cultivate Jewish identity
- Offer deep dives into Jewish culture, heritage, and traditions
- Introduce new artistic, cultural, or engagement offerings to the community
- Engage multiple age groups or demographics
- Strengthen relationships across organizations through meaningful partnerships

Examples may include but are not limited to:

- Intergenerational arts or storytelling projects
- Music, theatre, dance, or film initiatives that explore Jewish themes
- Heritage or identity workshops blended with creative practice
- Artistic collaborations with local or visiting Jewish artists

WHAT ARE THE COLLABORATION REQUIREMENTS?

Collaboration is a core expectation of this grant, and applications must be submitted jointly by at least two collaborating organizations as follows:

- The Primary Applicant must apply with at least one partner organization.

- Partner organizations must be independent and at arm’s-length from the Primary Applicant (i.e., not legally affiliated with, not under common governance or control, and with no familial relationships between their officers and those of the Primary Applicant).
- Partners must be not-for-profit groups; they do not have to be legally incorporated or CRA-registered charities.
- Applications must include a clear explanation of:
 - Why the partnership is meaningful and how the partners will contribute unique strengths or perspectives
 - How collaboration enhances reach, creativity, or impact

Cross-sector partnerships are strongly encouraged, including Ottawa-based:

- Cultural organizations and grassroots groups
- Synagogues
- Schools and camps
- Social service agencies
- Arts collectives and community artists
- Intercultural partners, including outside of the Jewish community, when appropriate

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Applications will be evaluated on:

- The strength and depth of the Jewish identity-building component
- The creativity and cultural value of the initiative
- Clarity and impact of the collaborative partnership
- Strength and feasibility of the work plan, timeline, budget, and program design
- Clear articulation of how the initiative enriches Jewish life in Ottawa

All artistic disciplines will be considered.

GRANT REQUIREMENTS

- Projects or initiatives are eligible for a one-time grant, up to a maximum of \$15,000, to be used within eight months of receiving the funding agreement.
- Grantees will be required to sign a grant agreement outlining completion deadlines, and reporting requirements.
- Project and publicity materials for your program receiving funding must include the Federation logo and this tagline: This event is powered by the Jewish Federation of Ottawa’s Jewish Arts and Culture Grant.
- Finished projects must initially be presented in the National Capital Region.

WHEN CAN ORGANIZATIONS APPLY?

- Applications for the Ottawa Jewish Arts & Culture Grant are currently being accepted.
- **Applications are due on May 6, 2026.**

HOW TO APPLY?

Apply by completing the online application at <https://jewishottawa.grantplatform.com/>. After logging in with your existing credentials or registering, click on the “Impact Grants and Microgrants” tile and then select “Ottawa Jewish Arts & Culture Grant” from the “Fund” drop-down menu. Be sure to save your progress and submit when complete. For more information, please contact: Dr. Amos Bitzan by emailing abitzan@jewishottawa.com.