



Dale Warland Singers Commission Grant

Informational Webinar



As enthusiastic, venturesome members of your choirs, every one of those singers should have that special opportunity of bringing a commission into being, including the risks associated with commissioning.

Likewise every audience, particularly for special occasions, should have the opportunity to enjoy being part of the sometimes-risky adventure that comes with the new.”

Dale Warland

Agenda

- **Welcome & Grant Overview**
- **How to Apply**
- **How Applications Will Be Reviewed**
- **Staff Contacts**
Place questions as they come up in Zoom's Q&A feature.
- **Q&A**



Overview & How to Apply

Core Values & Eligibility Criteria

Dale Warland Singers Commission Grant

This grant provides **\$10,000** to support artistically meaningful and mutually beneficial collaborations with a composer of a new work.

- \$7,500 of the grant award is designated for the composer fee
- \$2,500 may support other project expenses

Core Values

- Artistry in performance and composition
- Supporting choruses and their missions
- Supporting composers and new work

Project Period

May be up to 2 years – The new work must be premiered by the chorus within this period.

Dale Warland Singers Commission Grant

Eligibility

In the 2026 grants cycle, we will be accepting applications from **Professional Choruses and Professional-Core Choirs**.

Defined as fully professional choruses that pay 100% of their singers and choruses with a core of professional singers (25% of singers, or 12 singers, whichever is fewer)

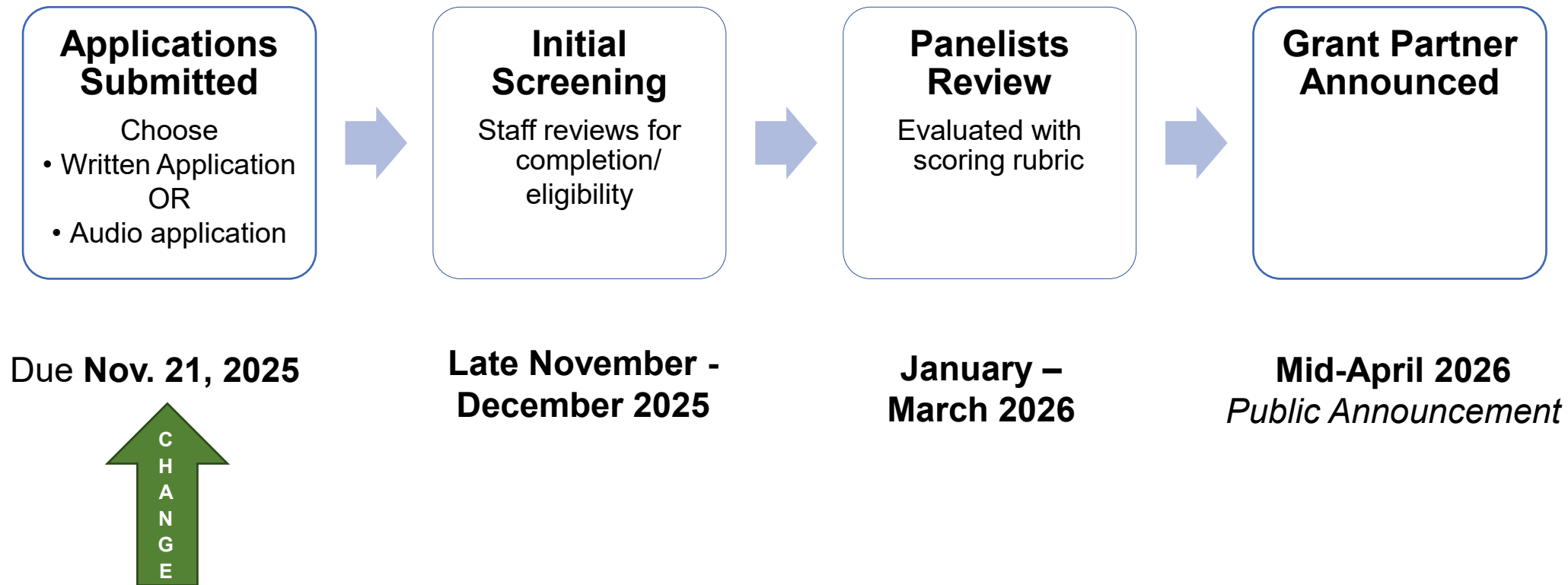
Dale Warland Singers Commission Grant

Other Eligibility Considerations

- Must be fiscally sponsored, a registered Canadian charity, or have 501(c)3 designation in US
- Applicant chorus must have an active Chorus America membership
- **Cannot** be a recent recipient (2016-present)
- Please review ineligible expenses to ensure eligibility

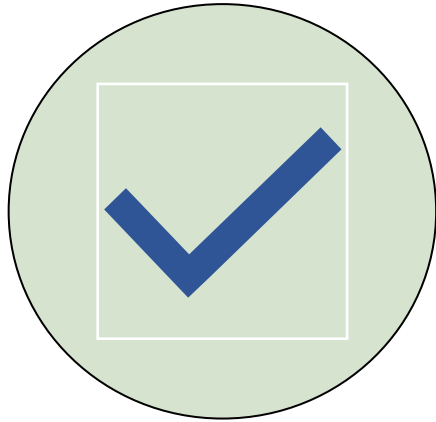
Dale Warland Singers Commission Grant

Timeline

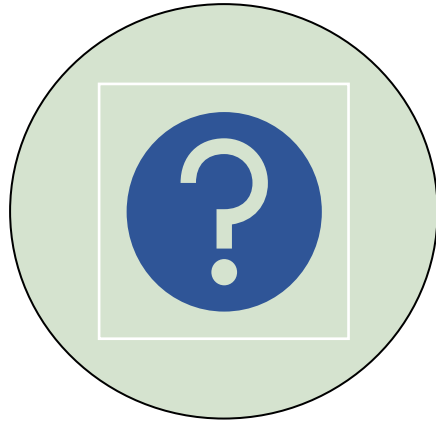


Dale Warland Singers Commission Grant

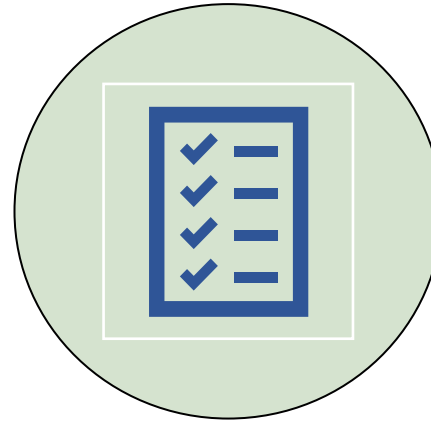
Application Requirements



**Eligibility Quiz &
Applicant Information**



4 Narrative Questions



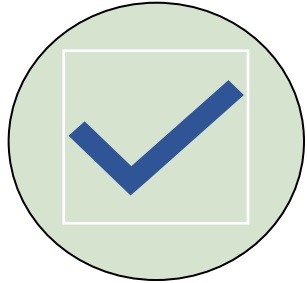
**Attachments &
Assurances Checklist**



Work Samples

Dale Warland Singers Commission Grant

Application Requirements



**Eligibility Quiz &
Applicant Information**

- Starts with an **Eligibility Quiz** – must pass this to continue to application
- Contact information
- Mission statement



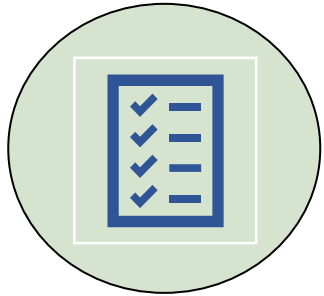
**4 Narrative
Questions**

- Questions are tied to the scoring rubric:
 - About your Chorus
 - About the Composer
 - About the Commission – Artistic Mission & Vision
 - About the Commission – Community Impact
- No word or character limits, recommend 2-4 paragraphs for each question.
- Cut and pasting from other applications is encouraged



Dale Warland Singers Commission Grant

Application Requirements



Attachments &
Assurances Checklist

Attachments

- **Documentation of registered Canadian charity or US IRS 501c3 letter**
 - For applicant or fiscal sponsor
- **Fiscally Sponsored Projects Only** Documentation of your fiscal sponsorship agreement
- **Project Budget**, a template is available as convenience
- **Letter of Commitment from the Composer**

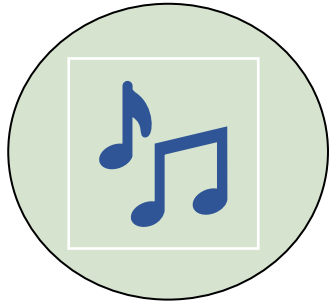
← **CHANGE**

Assurance Checklist

- Checklist in lieu of a long list of attachments (board list, Form 990, etc.)
- Questions related to governance, finances, and internal processes.
- Check and/or provide clarifying information as needed

Dale Warland Singers Commission Grant

Application Requirements



Work Samples

- **Required**
 - 1 representative score from the composer
 - 1 representative recording/video of chorus
 - Track listing (template available)
- **Optional**
 - An optional additional score
 - An optional additional recording/video of chorus

Dale Warland Singers Commission Grant

Application Resources and Tools

We encourage you to visit www.chorusamerica.org/grants and make use of the following as you prepare your application:

- Scoring Rubric
- Application Toolkit
- Project Budget and Track Listing templates



How Will Applications Be Reviewed?

Grants for Organizations

Application Review

How Decisions Are Made

- Please heavily reference the **Scoring Rubric** to gain an understanding of what the panel is looking for in each application.
- Note the increased weighting of **Work Samples**
- Scoring Rubric directly ties back to the commission narrative questions, project budget, and work samples submitted.

Application Review

Who Will Review Applications?

- Then a panel of up to 5 individuals from across the US & Canada score your application (referencing the scoring rubric).
- All panelists must disclose conflicts of interest, sign a confidentiality agreement, and participate in a training on implicit bias.

Application Review

Who Can Serve as a Panelist?

- Chorus America is assembling a group of up to 5 panelists for this year's commission grant opportunity.
- All panelists bring an understanding of commissioning and composing and understanding of nonprofit arts management and funding.
- A preference will be given for individuals who have a demonstrated commitment to the principles of access, diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Panelist demographic information to be shared and published on our website.



Staff Contacts & Questions

Grants for Organizations

Contact Staff



Vale Southard, Membership & Grants Manager

On Leave till Early November

vale@chorusamerica.org

Ask me about:

- Accessing the online application portal
- Submitting your application



Kim Theodore Sidey, Director of Grants

kim@chorusamerica.org

Ask me about:

- Eligibility
- Your project/program and general application guidance
- Scoring rubrics and application review
- Panelist feedback

