

Grants and Scholarships Committee

The Grants and Scholarships program seeks to provide assistance for producers in their effort to create programs that provide a voice for underrepresented populations and concepts and programs that are of benefit to the community.

This fiscal year, Access Tucson provided over \$1,800 in scholarship funds to assist community media producers. This created 26 scholarships for Access Tucson members.

This was funded through the profit from videotape sales. Access Tucson provides tape for purchase as a convenience and the profits go to the Grants & Scholarships fund. Our membership enjoys the convenience and is happy that the profit can go towards helping others realize their visions.

The Process

Full or Half Scholarships are available on a monthly basis to Access Tucson members. An individual is eligible to receive both a full and half scholarship within a year. The Grants & Scholarships Committee agrees upon certain criteria, use the quality of the information in the application and their own judgment and experience in making awards.

Generally, here's what the Grants & Scholarships Committee is looking at:

New

New producers and programming.

Dependable

The producer has a track record and/or certifications, indications that they will be able to complete the project that they are proposing.

Good Standing

The producer is in good standing. No outstanding grants, scholarships, debts or suspensions.

Community Benefit

Proposed production would be beneficial to the community. This is a broad way of saying that the producer has identified an audience and that the committee finds the content valuable, in some way, to community interest.

Complete Application

Applicants unfortunately continue to file requests that are incomplete and present a lack of effort. Those that do so seriously damage their chances of receiving funding.

Digital Production

Priority will be given to those producers utilizing the digital production formats available. Encouraging the use of the best tools creates a better technical quality in programming.

Promotion

The committee now requires some form of promotion for grant funded programs.

Project

Scholarships do not have to be associated with a project. Many scholarship awards are granted to members that wish to volunteer for other producers or for Access Tucson.

So far this year, the Grants & Scholarships Committee has helped make these programs possible:

Judith's Jewels

Baby Boomer Bandstand

A musical dance program promoting senior fitness and socialization, while providing community support of Access Tucson.

Breaking Barriers Teen Project

Diner Waitress: Portrait of an American Icon

Diner Waitresses are working class philosophers, who give their take on everything from smoking to social security.

Basement Metal

Heavy metal guitar playing.

Maya's Story

Joe's Videos

Original music videos.

James Tullar Show

Comedy featuring taped sketches interwoven with in-studio segments.

DangeRoom

Urban culture

Volunteers

Not every production crew member has a program of their own. Numerous individual programs and Access Tucson community service programs have been made possible through volunteers that received their training with the help of a scholarship. These volunteers have paid back this investment with interest, not only fulfilling the required service hours, but continuing to volunteer and make programming possible.