

# OREGON HISTORIC THEATER GRANT

## INFORMATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE, OREGON HERITAGE

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The Oregon Historic Theater Grant supports large scale projects to preserve and enhance historic theater buildings in rural communities. It is funded with the new National Park Service (NPS) Historic Revitalization Subgrant Program through a grant awarded to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). The goal of the NPS subgrant program is to support the rehabilitation of historic properties at the National, State, and local level of significance in order to rehabilitate, protect, and foster economic development of rural communities. Oregon's grant focuses on historic theaters because they are critical economic and cultural resources for rural communities. Restore Oregon, the statewide preservation nonprofit, is partnering with the SHPO to assist theater owners with the process.

**FINANCIAL INFORMATION:** \$620,000 in grant funds may be awarded for amounts between \$15,000 - \$100,000. Grantees must match 20% of the award amount (e.g., if the grant request is \$100,000, then the match must be at least \$20,000). Match can be in the form of cash, in-kind donations, and volunteer time. The match requirement may include necessary project "soft" costs for professional services (i.e. architectural or engineering studies directly related to the project/property). Project costs that occur outside of the grant period do not qualify as match. This is a reimbursement grant, so a portion of the work must be completed and a report submitted before the funds are reimbursed to the grantee.

### GRANT TIMELINE:

Application Deadline: April 1, 2020 (11:59 p.m. PST)

Notification: May 4, 2020

Work can begin by July 1, with a signed agreement, and NPS and NEPA review completed and approved

Project Completion and Final Reporting Deadline: August 31, 2022

Project Impact Reports: Annually for five years following completion of the project

### GRANT ELIGIBILITY:

- National Register of Historic Places listing –
  - Properties must be listed in the National Register of Historic Places, either individually or as a "contributing" property in a Historic District, to qualify for funding; or
  - Properties must be eligible for listing and if awarded, complete the listing process before the end of the grant period. SHPO will assist with the National Register listing.
  - Properties not already listed must get a determination of eligibility from SHPO and NPS before applying for the grant. Complete a [Historic Resources Record](#) and submit it as soon as possible to SHPO.
- Private property owners, local governments, state agencies, and nonprofits are eligible to apply. The theater owner does not have to be the applicant; however, the owner must provide a letter in support of the work.
- Proposed projects must be on historic theaters in communities of 30,000 people or less.

- Eligible projects include, but are not limited to: roof and gutter repair, foundation work, structural stabilization, repair of deteriorated historic features (seats, marquees, ticket booths, etc.), repointing, and window repair.
- Remodeling, new additions, or solely cosmetic efforts are not eligible for funding.

**GRANT REQUIREMENTS:**

- All work must meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation of Historic Properties; see <http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/tax/rhb/stand.htm>.
- Owners of historic theaters that benefit from the grant must enter in to a covenant with SHPO. The covenant will be attached to the deed and require that the owner maintain:
  - the historic character of the building,
  - the improvements made through the grant, and
  - communication with SHPO regarding major projects on the building.

The period of the covenant depends on the amount awarded. The covenant details will be released with the grant guidelines when the application opens.

- Commercial or depreciable properties that are taking advantage of the federal investment tax credit cannot include these grant dollars in the expenses for the tax credit.

**CRITERIA:**

- The community's level of need for revitalization and economic development.
- Anticipated results of how the project will enhance community economic development.
- How well the project preserves the theater and enhances its benefit to the community.
- Level of support from the community for the project.
- The capability of the applicant to complete the project.
- Level of local investment based on the strength of the matching share.
- The work plan is well developed and described and the corresponding cost estimates are reasonable and supported.
- Project location in the state.
- Consistency with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation of Historic Properties.

**PRIORITIES:**

- Theaters that are operating or will be operating as theaters.
- Theaters in Certified Local Government communities, or in local or National Register historic districts, or designated local landmarks, or in the boundary of an Oregon Main Street Network organization.
- Areas with the greatest need for economic development.
- Projects with a well-prioritized, clearly explained work plan with an appropriate level of detail and realistic cost estimates.
- Geographic diversity.
- Project readiness, including matching dollar share in-hand.

**ASSISTANCE:** Grant questions and OPRD: Grants Online: Kuri Gill, [kuri.gill@oregon.gov](mailto:kuri.gill@oregon.gov), 503-986-0685.