

Date

Contact Information

Organization Name: The Creative Club
 Address: 139 E Chestnut Street, Coatesville, PA
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 Website: thecreativeclubinc.com
 Year Incorporated: 2022
 FEIN: 87-4109165

ED/CEO Name: Ben Yocum
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 Board Chair Name: Phillip Ferro
 Board Chair Approval (check here): ☒
 Primary Contact Name: Ben Yocum
 Primary Contact E-mail: ben@ccccreativeclub.com

Organization Information:

Field/s of Interest:

☒	Arts, Culture, Heritage	☐	Education, Library	☐	Environment, Animals
☐	Health	☐	Human Services	☐	Social Justice, Civic Engagement
☐	Religion	If other, please describe:			

Mission: To provide a safe, inclusive environment where young people can explore their creativity, build confidence, and connect with opportunities for growth in the arts and creative industries.

Geographic Area Served (If not all of Chester County, specify primary Chester County regions served):

The Creative Club primarily serves youth ages 8–21 residing in Coatesville and nearby Chester County neighborhoods.

Our programs intentionally prioritize inclusion and accessibility — ensuring that every young person, regardless of background or income, can participate fully and freely.

Describe Population Served & Annual Number of People Served. (Include Chester County # &/or % served.)

Geographic Focus: Coatesville, PA

Target Population: At-risk and underserved youth

Demographic Breakdown (approximate):

- 45% African American
- 25% Hispanic/Latino
- 20% White
- 10% Multiracial or other backgrounds

Socioeconomic Profile:

- 70% qualify for free/reduced lunch programs
- Many from single-parent or low-income households
- Students seeking positive alternatives to violence, substance use, and academic disengagement

Annual Budget \$ 100,000 1 # of Full-Time Equivalent Paid Staff
65 % of budget for program expenses 3 # of Board Volunteers
30 % of budget for administrative expenses 1 # of Active Non-Board Volunteers
5 % of budget for fundraising expenses 10 hrs monthly # of Volunteer Hours

100% = total

Top 3-5 funding sources:

This grant proposal is for: __100% Direct Service Programs & General Operating &/or ____Capacity Building

If Capacity Building Proposal, the focus is:

☐	Contingency Planning	☐	Partnerships, Collaborations	☐	Merger, Closure
☐	Mission, Vision, Strategy	☐	Board Engagement & Leadership	☐	Marketing, Communication
☐	Resource Development	☐	Operations	☐	Technology
☐	If other, please describe:				

Grant Amount Requested from the Community Foundation: \$__10,000_____

Proposal Summary: *(a few sentences, please)*

II. GRANT PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Provide clear, concise information in 1-3 pages. Please be brief.

1. Nonprofit's overall aims, key initiatives, key achievements & distinctiveness

Founded in 2022, The Creative Club operates a 1,500-square-foot studio and Tech HUB/Makerspace located on the first floor of the Midway Arts Building in Coatesville, Pennsylvania.

The Club serves as a community innovation space that blends art, technology, and mentorship for individuals of all ages—especially youth from underserved communities.

Through hands-on workshops, digital media training, photography, art exhibits, and open studio hours, The Creative Club provides opportunities for self-expression, skill-building, and creative entrepreneurship.

TCC Summer Camp

(Summer 2022)

(Summer 2023)

Summer 2024)

(Summer 2025)

Accomplishments:

235 K-5th Virtual Reality summer campers

12 Middle/High School Internship opportunities

15 Field Trips. (Estimated 300 K-12 students)

Assisted **15** different Schools in STEAM Educational Opportunities or School Events.

2200+ Community members Introduction to Virtual Reality.

900+ introduced to 3D Printing

63 Pieces of Bedroom Furniture saved from an Oxford electrical fire in 2023 and redistributed into our community families in need.

32 Angel Tree Families supported with over 300 gifts donated since 2021.

Assisted in Over **50** community events in Coatesville, PA.

200+ creative youth projects completed.

The Creative Club Active Programs:

Open STEAM

Tech Tuesday

VR Summer Camp

Senior VR Club

VR Esports League

Future Innovators (After School)

Could. Can. Conquer. (Home School)

Filmmaking 101 (12 Weeks)

Financial Literacy Podcasting

STEM Saturdays

Intro to Drones (12 Weeks)

2. Funding request

- **What specific needs & issues are being addressed, via what programs and services?**
- **Why is it important to fund this now?**
- **How will results & impact be demonstrated?**

Purpose of the Operating Grant

This \$10,000 operating grant will help sustain and strengthen The Creative Club's essential operations and programming in 2025–2026.

Funds will be used to:

- Maintain the Coatesville studio space, including rent, utilities, and insurance;
- Upgrade creative and digital equipment to support workshops in digital art, photography, and multimedia production;
- Support staff and administrative functions necessary for program coordination and community outreach; and
- Enhance marketing and engagement efforts to reach more residents across Chester County.

This investment ensures that The Creative Club remains a vibrant, accessible hub for creative learning and innovation.

Community Need

Coatesville continues to face socioeconomic challenges that limit access to safe, affordable, and enriching afterschool and community spaces. Many residents—particularly youth—lack exposure to creative technology, mentorship, and programs that encourage self-expression and skill development.

The Creative Club responds directly to this need by offering a safe, supportive environment where participants can explore art, storytelling, and digital media as tools for empowerment, healing, and workforce readiness.

Our programs not only foster creativity but also help participants build confidence, develop career-aligned skills, and connect to positive community networks.

- **Additionally, for capacity building grant proposals:**
 - **How will this capacity building initiative impact your nonprofit?**
 - **How will this impact be demonstrated?**
 - **Include a description of the expected activities; timeline & costs to implement the initiative. If external consulting services are required, include the anticipated costs & expertise of the consultants to be hired. Include external consultant proposal/s if applicable.**

Anticipated Outcomes and Community Benefit

Through sustained operations, The Creative Club will:

- Provide over 150 participants annually with access to creative workshops, studio sessions, and exhibitions;
- Strengthen community cohesion by hosting public art showcases and events that celebrate local talent;
- Enhance digital literacy, collaboration, and leadership skills among youth and young adults; and
- Cultivate partnerships with local schools, nonprofits, and artists to expand program impact.

This grant will ensure that Chester County residents continue to benefit from innovative, inclusive programming that uplifts individuals and strengthens community identity.

Evaluation & Impact Measurement

Success will be measured through:

- Attendance tracking and participation demographics;
- Participant surveys measuring confidence, creativity, and sense of belonging;
- Workshop evaluations and qualitative feedback from families and partners; and
- Public engagement through exhibitions and social media analytics.

An annual impact report will summarize outcomes, lessons learned, and community stories to demonstrate the ongoing value of CCCF's investment.

Program Description

The Creative Club in Coatesville provides year-round creative arts programming, including:

- Visual Arts Workshops: Painting, drawing, sculpture, and photography
- Digital Media & Design Labs: Digital art, music production, and video storytelling
- Writing & Performance Sessions: Poetry, spoken word, and creative writing
- Community Exhibitions: Annual showcases where youth present their work publicly
- Mentorship Opportunities: Local artists and creative professionals guiding youth development

This grant will allow us to expand our reach, enhance our facilities, and offer more opportunities for youth to create, collaborate, and share their voices.

Program Budget Breakdown

Program Supplies & Materials - \$4,000
Technology & Equipment - \$2,500
Instructor & Mentor Stipends - \$4,000
Youth Scholarships / Access Fund - \$2,000
Community Exhibitions & Events - \$1,500
Administrative Support - \$1,000
Total - \$15,000

Outcomes and Evaluation

The Creative Club measures success through participation data, feedback surveys, and ongoing mentorship outcomes.

Goals and Outcomes:

1. Expand Participation - Enroll 150 youth annually (60% return rate)
2. Build Creative Skills - 90% show improvement in one creative discipline
3. Boost Confidence & Engagement - 80% report increased confidence and teamwork
4. Strengthen Career Readiness - 20 youth pursue creative education or internships
5. Deepen Community Involvement - Host 2–3 public exhibitions annual