



Stanley 1913 Creators Fund 2026 Program Guidelines

About Stanley 1913 Creators Fund

Stanley 1913 Creators Fund offers grants of up to \$50,000 USD to support leaders working at the intersection of humanity, sustainability and possibility. Our grant recipients represent a dynamic group of emerging Creators, Builders and Inventors who reflect the many communities they serve and bring optimism for a better future through their work.

Designed to support a wide variety of causes and challenges such as climate change, food security, housing security, and equity and justice, we are making space to learn from the Creators around the world who understand the nuances of solving these challenges. And we believe defining our global communities' challenges is best left to the leaders who roll up their sleeves every day in their local communities.

Program Eligibility

Stanley 1913 Creators Fund supports the voices, ideas, and advancement of social entrepreneurs and is designed to celebrate these leaders and the nonprofit organizations with which they are affiliated.

Recipients represent a dynamic group of diverse Creators, Builders and Inventors who reflect the many communities they serve. These leaders are deeply engaged in their communities, have designed innovative solutions to an urgent challenge, and bring optimism to their work. They are willing to partner with communities, individuals, and brands to build momentum.

To be eligible, U.S.-based awardees must operate as a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization or partner with a fiscal sponsor that is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations. For organizations based outside the U.S., we require documentation of the legal nonprofit or charitable status recognized in your country.

Organizations that are well-suited for funding must meet the following eligibility criteria.

- Demonstrate alignment with the Stanley 1913 Creators Fund objectives.
- Operate in alignment with Stanley 1913's values and standards, including our commitment to inclusion.
- Be incorporated as a U.S. 501(c)3 nonprofit organization or, for global applicants, hold legal nonprofit or charitable status in your country.
- Have an operating history of less than 10 years.
- Have an annual operating income between \$200,000 USD and \$2,000,000 USD.
- Demonstrate willingness to partner with Stanley 1913 brand and other stakeholders to amplify the story and progress of the awardee's organization.

Applications

Applications are due on Sunday, September 13, 2026, at 11:59pm PST using the designated online portal. Applicants will be asked to provide the following:

- Information on the 501(c)3 organization applying for funding
- Information on the affiliated leader
- Description of the alignment with Stanley 1913 Creators Fund objectives, including:
 - The cause at the center of the applicant's work
 - The qualities, accomplishments, or ideas that exemplify the applicant as an emerging Creator
 - Specific actions that may be pursued as a result of funding from Stanley 1913 Creators Fund

Evaluation

Applications are due by Sunday, September 13, 2026. The application includes an eligibility screening, basic information about the organization's intended work, the innovative solution, and the organization's leadership. These applications will be reviewed based on Stanley 1913 Creators Fund criteria, including, but not limited to the following:

- **Create, Build, Invent.** The leader(s) and organization demonstrate innovation and originality in their approach to systems change.
- **Theory of Change.** The leader(s) and organization demonstrate they have created, defined, tested, and/or raised funding for an impactful solution to an urgent challenge.
- **Leadership and Voice.** The leader(s) and organization demonstrate the use of a compelling voice and narrative to advance ideas, rally support, influence, and lead.
- **Project & Capacity.** The leader(s) and organization demonstrate that funding from this program will enable additional development and/or delivery of the inventive and original solution.
- **Inclusion.** The leader(s) and organization demonstrate that they prioritize inclusion in their operational commitments and in their service delivery.
- **Partnership.** The leader(s) and organization demonstrate a commitment to collaboration with a wide group of stakeholders and recognize the value of partnerships.

Leading applicants may be asked to provide further information and/or join in conversation with Stanley 1913 Creators Fund representatives before a final decision is determined.

FAQs

Why did Stanley 1913 introduce the Stanley 1913 Creators Fund?

Inspired by the inventive founding of our brand, Stanley 1913 Creators Fund provides early-stage award grants to support emerging Creators, Builders, and Inventors who reflect the many communities they serve. By investing in these organizations and amplifying their voices, we accomplish more together.

Are leaders and organizations outside the U.S. eligible for this program?

Yes, organizations and leaders located outside the U.S. are eligible for this program. These leaders must demonstrate that their organization is operating as a legally recognized nonprofit, operate with strong governance based on local standards, and successfully move through our vetting and application processes.

I don't have a 501(c)3 organization. Am I eligible?

In the U.S., we require that funding recipients operate as independent 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations or operate with a qualified fiscal sponsor 501(c)3 organization that is eligible to receive corporate funding.

For organizations based outside the U.S., we require documentation of the legal nonprofit or charitable status recognized in your country. This varies per country, so we ask you to upload the most relevant documents for verification.

What types of applicants are ineligible for Stanley 1913 Creator Fund awards?

- Individuals
- Organizations that are not qualified 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations in the United States or legally recognized nonprofit organizations in their country of origin
- Government agencies and/or political advocacy organizations designed to support political purposes, lobby regulators or elected officials, and/or elect candidates
- Educational entities such as schools and colleges
- Religious institutions such as houses of worship, affiliated organizations, and/or organizations intended to recruit or promote a specific religious faith
- Organizations that violate Stanley 1913's values, standards of business conduct, and/or non-discrimination policy, and/or do not comply with applicable U.S. or international law

How do I apply?

Interested applicants should complete an online application found on:

<https://www.stanley1913.com/pages/stanley-1913-creators-fund>

How will I know my application has been received?

Applicants will receive an email confirmation once their application has been submitted.

When will I hear if my application has been selected?

All applicants will be notified of their status by November 2026. Final decisions and awards will be made in November 2026.

How are recipients selected?

Recipients are reviewed based on eligibility criteria and alignment with program objectives, using the evaluation criteria noted above.

How many recipients will be awarded funding?

This year, we anticipate a minimum of five recipients and a maximum of eight recipients.

If I am not selected this year, can I apply again next year?

Yes! Applicants are welcome to reapply in future grant cycles.

How much are the funding awards?

A maximum of \$50,000 USD will be awarded to each recipient in 2026. Award amounts are at Stanley 1913's sole discretion and may be adjusted based on the number of applicants, size of awardee organizations, and the strength of proposals.

Is multi-year funding available?

In 2026, Stanley 1913 Creators Fund is awarding single-year funding.

What are the expectations that must be met as an award recipient?

Stanley 1913 follows a trust-based model and expects that all awardees will make transparent and responsible use of Stanley 1913 funding to advance their ideas and mission. Awardees are encouraged, but not required, to provide updates on their progress to Stanley 1913.

How can I reach someone at Stanley 1913 about this program?

For additional questions, please email us at stanleycreatorsfund@stanley1913.com. We aim to respond to inquiries about the program within five working days. Due to the anticipated volume of interest, we cannot provide status updates on applications.