Things to remember when completing your Advancing Innovation in Aging application:

- Save your application often. The system will time out after 30 minutes of inactivity, and unsaved data will be lost.
- Save by clicking the "Save" button. Resume editing by selecting the Application from your Account page.
- · Consider also saving your application content offline.
- Language Matters. NextFifty Initiative is intentional in the words used when talking about aging and efforts to combat age discrimination. Grant applications should exhibit Age Inclusive Communication. To learn more and Increase participation in this movement, visit Changing the Narrative's website.
- Have someone unfamiliar with your organization/program read your application for clarity, thoroughness, and cohesiveness before you submit, e.g. Does the application make sense to someone unfamiliar with your organization/program?
- Once your application is submitted, it is final, and you will not be able to make changes or additions.
- When **uploading documents**, browse to the file on your computer by clicking "Add Files" to select the desired document, or drag a file into the upload window and click on the "Start Upload" button to attach your document. (Verify that attachments are not password protected). When a document has been successfully uploaded, you will see a green checkmark and can close the Upload files window.
- Late submissions will NOT be accepted regardless of the reason (e.g., computer issues, power outage, Internet connectivity problems, etc.). Plan to fill out and <u>submit</u> before the deadline. In-process applications will be locked on June 21, 2023, at 5:00 PM MDT and incomplete applications will not be considered.

Attachment checklist:

- Upload all of the required and optional attachments before submitting your application. **Applications** without all the required documentation will be considered incomplete.
- IRS determination letter required for all 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(6) organizations
- Non-discrimination Policy
- Current list of Board of Directors/Trustees required for all 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(6) organizations
- Project Budget itemized project budget showing income and expenses
- Most recent Audited Financials, *not older than 12/31/2020* **required** for requests over \$30,000. Organizations that have not completed a recent external audit will be limited to funding requests of \$30,000 or less.
- External Financial Review or Compilation, Nonprofit organizations with an annual operating budget of \$500,000 or less are eligible to request more than \$30,000 with a **required** external Financial Review or Compilation in lieu of an audit.
- Current Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet) Must be dated within 90 days of application
- Current Statement of Activities, (Fiscal year-to-date Profit & Loss Statement) Must be dated within 90 days of application
- Previous Fiscal Year's Statement of Financial Position, full year (Profit & Loss Statement)
- Previous Fiscal Year's Statement of Activities, full year (Balance Sheet)
- Complete Form 990, including Schedule B **required** for all 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(6) organizations.
- Letters of Commitment and/or Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) for named partners, if applicable
- Additional Information you may submit any additional documentation you would like NextFifty Initiative to know about your request or organization
- If using a Fiscal Sponsor, the following documents will be required:
- Fiscal Sponsor's Complete Form 990, including Schedule B
- Fiscal Sponsor's Most Recent Audit (not older than 12/31/2020)
- Fiscal Sponsor Agreement

What happens after the application is submitted?

 Your application is final once it has been submitted, and you will not be able to make any changes or additions.

• After submitting your application, you will receive an email indicating the success of your submission. Save this email as it will contain the application number, a link to your account, and other important information.

- If necessary, someone from NextFifty Initiative may contact you to request additional information.
- Grant award notifications will be made in mid-October

Status

Under Review

▼ Table of Contents

Request Information
Goals
Demographics
Geographical Area Served
Financials
Board Information
Additional Information
Document Uploads

Organization Infrastructure

Organization: Pueblo City-County Library District

Primary Contact: Nick Potter
Primary Signatory: Sherri Baca

Does this grant include a Fiscal

Sponsor?

No

Organization Documents

Please use the green plus signs to upload the following documents. If a green plus sign is missing, it means we already have that document on file and you do not need to upload another copy.

Once a document has been uploaded, it can be found in the Document Uploads section of this application, where you can replace or delete required documents, as needed. You will also have an opportunity to upload additional supporting documentation at the end of this application.

Non-discriminatory Policy: Required for all applications.

Tip: Please click "Save" before continuing to the next section.

If awarded funding, you will be required to sign NextFifty Initiative's grant agreement. Modifications or adjustments to the grant agreement will not be accepted.

By checking the box you are indicating Yes that you have read the grant agreement and your organization is comfortable signing the agreement:

Request Information

Request Title:

Artfully Aging: Where Creativity and Wellness Meet

Limited funds are available for multi-year funding. You are required to speak to a NextFifty Initiative staff member before submitting a multi-year request and/or a request for \$250,000 or more. Email info@next50initative.org or call 303.547.1800 to schedule a call.

Up to three years of funding can be requested. Years are considered at 12-month intervals. For example:

2

One year = 0-12 months Two years = 13-24 months Three years = 25-36 months

How many years of funding are you requesting? Please enter whole

numbers only.

Amount Requested Year 1: \$109,506.06

Amount Requested Year 2: \$39,149.15

Total Amount Requested: \$148,655.21

Please click "Save" to update the Total Amount Requested

Please enter the first and last name of the staff person with whom you spoke about this request. Enter N/A if not applicable.

NextFifty Initiative Staff Member Name: Tiffany Welch Please select the estimated start and end date of your project.

 Project Start Date:
 1/2/2024

 Project End Date:
 12/31/2026

Organization Background and Experience with Older Adults

Tell us a bit about your organization and summarize the organization's experience working with older adults or the organization's interest in beginning to work with older adults.

Organization Background and Experience with Older Adults:

Pueblo City-County Library District is a public library district serving the populations of both the city and county of Pueblo, Colorado. PCCLD is comprised of a main library, the Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library, seven community branches, and four satellite libraries. In total, the district serves nearly 170,000 people; service areas include urban, rural, and minority communities. The library district is consistently ranked as one of the best library districts in both Colorado and the United States.

https://www.pueblolibrary.org/awards

The Rawlings Library was recently renovated, this renovation increased the square footage and scope of the maker space within the Rawlings Library. This expansion allows the maker space to continue and expand upon its work. One primary goal within the maker space that we wish to expand upon is the work within serving the over 50 population of Pueblo County. The older adult population is not a foreign population for PCCLD to serve; much work in developing and providing older adult programming and services began in 2018 with a programming grant from the Next 50 Initiative. This grant, entitled "Seniors Make!" gave \$10,000 to implement creative programming to the library's older adult service community including professional instruction, access to high quality materials, traveling kits, and district wide programs. This program was incredibly successful and was granted another \$10,000 in 2019 to expand the scope of the project. During the pandemic, this program was tweaked to include digital classes, take home materials and supplies, outdoor classes, and homebound support.

https://www.next50initiative.org/grants

Part of the library's 2021-2025 strategic plan includes Encouraging Lifelong Learning. https://www.pueblolibrary.org/sites/default/files/pdf/2021_2025Strategic%20Plan.pdf The district understands that older adults are a community group that are traditionally underserved and has made a point of seeking

new and innovative ways to engage with the over 50 population. Multigenerational programming is also an emphasis as many older adults find themselves as caretakers of their younger family members – and vice versa. The library district counts among its partners the Pueblo Area Agency on Aging, the Senior Resource and Development Agency, and Posada, a housing and living needs support organization.

https://county.pueblo.org/human-services-department/pueblo-area-agency-aging-paaa

https://www.srda.org/

https://posadapueblo.org/

https://pueblomakes.com/

To display community support and our interconnectedness within the community, we solicited letters of support from three key community organizations: Pueblo Area Agency on Aging, Posada of Pueblo, and Pueblo Makes. The Pueblo Area Agency on Aging provides a coordinated, comprehensive service delivery system that assists older citizens in maintaining independence, health, and personal well-being. Posada of Pueblo provides housing and supportive services that empower homeless individuals and families in Pueblo County to become self-supporting members of the community; Posada specializes in providing housing and support for seniors and families. Pueblo Makes is an active group of "makers" throughout Pueblo County, the group describes themselves as "a group of forward-thinking innovators and diverse leaders who are inspired to cultivate the maker movement within our community." These three diverse organizations were involved in the planning of this grant request so community voice could be evidenced throughout our planning process.

As with everything that we do at PCCLD, we involve the community and assess community need to direct our strategic initiatives. The library district is in the midst of a ten year plan to renovate all of our facilities throughout the county. This includes creating new makerspaces and creative spaces where we can expand our services to the over 50 community. These new spaces will serve as creative hubs within their communities and will impact our underserved populations that may not be able to travel to the main library. Many of these communities have an extremely high population of seniors, most of whom live under the poverty line.

https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/pueblocitycolorado

Organization's Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)

NextFifty is working to incorporate DEI principles into all aspects of our work. We are committed to creating a more diverse and inclusive organization through internal operations as well as through external partnerships. As such, it is important to understand how the organizations we fund value DEI. Describe how your organization demonstrates your commitment to DEI.

Organization's Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI):

Public libraries, like PCCLD, aim to create welcoming and inclusive spaces, advocate for equitable access to information, foster civic participation and economic opportunity, and ensure literacy and lifelong learning. As a public library, PCCLD values history's past and plays an active role in transforming history and traditional marginalization. We understand that history has not always acknowledged nor valued the work of marginalized populations such as those outside of the traditional power structure; including immigrants, racial groups, those of varying abilities, and those of older ages.

Many Puebloans regard Pueblo, Colorado as a unique place first inhabited by Indigenous peoples and colonized industrially with immigrants of many heritages. The impacts of these heritages persist in their descendents, the knowledge of what once was, the Hispanic majority and the new immigrants that arrive and stay here. Great geographical diversity has grown within Pueblo County -- we have urban, rural and suburban areas of living. As a library district, we work to be responsible in how we differentiate and make similar services to best fit the varying needs of these regions and peoples.

Makerspaces are a fairly new concept to the world of public libraries, and relatively new to Pueblo, Colorado. Our work with ephemera and playing a role within our community in the creation of free spaces for creation is paramount for our aging adult population. According to the 2022 census, 17.9% of the population in Pueblo is 65 years and older. These patrons are searching for exposure to new experiences. Through the Innovation in Aging grant, we are asking for the opportunity to create programming and provide equipment and supplies that can help to create those new experiences while developing a better connected community. With a focus in fiber arts and ceramics, we support the multidisciplinary work of aesthetic and functional projects that has a cultural resonance for the Southwest. Pueblo has a historic and existing interest in fiber arts through cultural crafts like homemade textile work and ceramic production; there are incredible artists and instructors that we

can support through this program. The Maker Space at the Rawlings library can support these older artists through our maker space, its physical space can provide a location for congregation, our programs can provide a forum to share their work and resources and facilitate instruction on a chosen medium or technique. Artfully Aging will be an innovative partnership between community members and the public library via the maker space in the Rawlings Library.

There are ethnic cultural styles and techniques that will be highlighted through the grant funded monthly programs. With these focuses we can expose older adults to: Japanese-style stoneware, New Mexican finger weaving, Indigenous basket weaving, concave mold pottery of Ghana and many other cultural traditions from this region and around the world. We have a unique opportunity to reflect on styles from immigrant groups that have traditionally settled in Pueblo and provide programming around their history and relevance as well as feature the works of new immigrant groups that reside in our community. With a burgeoning central-African, Brazilian and Korean population (to name a few) we can be intentional with integrating or at least welcoming newer (to the region) ethnicities directly to our older adult population.

Project Description

Describe the project in detail. Include project activities and timeline. Describe the specific needs your project will address. What problem is the project trying to solve? Incorporate data specific to the population your project proposes to serve.

Project Description:

The Artfully Aging program supports Next 50's definition of innovation, providing an effort that "[rethinks] how people age, how they feel about aging, and how our society supports aging adults". Our two year project plan aims to invest in the older adult population through a prioritization of project-based opportunities that center around providing opportunities for older adults to participate and be leaders in art and work. Often, society only recognizes active community members when we work and contribute to the larger community; particularly as younger adults.

As part of this effort, we conducted two focus groups to assess need and gain focus before submitting this grant application. During both of our focus group sessions, some of the seniors participating spoke to the feeling of "being lost...", "becoming invisible" and "losing a sense of identity..." when they are out of the workforce. We believe that a focus to provide the Rawlings Library Maker Space, and the wider Pueblo City-County Library District, with fiber arts and ceramics equipment will reignite or invite a sense of identity for this population. Many older adults have either worked directly with fiber arts such as quilting or weaving and ceramics or can recall a memory of a grandmother or other family member working with the materials. That memorial recall and showing them their ability to participate directly in these crafts can be transformational.

Fiber Arts and Ceramics Focus: In the first year, we will purchase and house large equipment such as a floor loom and ceramics kiln at the Rawlings Makerspace. This Makerspace will be the main hub for large community gatherings and large classes because of the availability of space and first floor accessibility for the aging population.

Traveling Kits: Portable versions of looms and kilns will be stored at the Rawlings Library but will be available for circulation throughout the library district by program staff. These portable versions will be enveloped in "traveling kits", a kit with all supplies required to outfit an embroidery program or a clay construction and firing program, to name a few examples. The ability to share items throughout the district shows our commitment to not just the downtown Pueblo, Colorado area, but the commitment to all of Pueblo County. Through continued outreach to older adults and senior-serving agencies, we believe that every older person can and will have the exposure to this diversified programming.

Equipping Community Branch Libraries: In addition to providing equipment for the Rawlings Library, partial funding will go to equip the maker spaces in two libraries within the library district -- the Patrick A. Lucero and Frank and Marie Barkman library branches. Both libraries are in the plans to be renovated beginning August 2023, all renovations are to be completed by the end of 2025.

Artist and Residence Program: Through Artfully Aging, we will do more than have older adults participate in programming and creation, we plan to have older adults serve as leaders and instructors. Each quarter, we plan to host an artist in residence; as part of this program we plan to display the art of the chosen older artist, showcase their skills in programming, and provide a stipend to the older artist so they may create art and lead programming. Through leading programs or serving as an artist in residence, we feel that Artfully Aging provides an opportunity to honor older adults by providing visibility throughout the library district and our community as a whole.

In early 2024, we anticipate monthly programing to begin and continue through the two year period of this grant program. Programming will have a basis in ceramics and fiber arts work with older adult instructors. To take a step above making and creation, we plan to work with the occupational therapy department within Pueblo Community College; it is our plan to have students develop occupational therapy directed curriculum around fiber arts and ceramics as well as have students play a role in the instruction of the programs offered. Because the aging population is working longer, we find an aspect of innovation in the integration of workforce development to enable seniors a way to supplement their income or to depend on their craft as direct income. Artists in residence will receive workforce development training through the library and Small Business Development Center (https://www.southerncoloradosbdc.org/) to learn strategies to diversify their incomes.

The focus groups conducted truly speak to older adults' sense of displacement as they age. Artfully Aging places older at the center of our maker space programming, allowing peer-to-peer and intergenerational learning. We see the maker space inside of a public library as a safe space for learning, exploring, and creating. Artfully Aging not only creates an innovative space within the Rawlings Library but develops curriculum for future programming based on occupational therapy practices. This program also highlights the work of our older artist community and allows them to share their expertise and knowledge. We aim to help provide older adults with outlets for creative expression while teaching and sharing with peers and younger generations.

TIMELINE

Initial Goals:

- Review and enact purchasing based on a pre-made budget. Compile to-go kits, create inventory list.
- Review community senior services assessed in Next 50 application planning. Contact to establish transportation opportunities for older adults and other outreach opportunities
- Create a training plan for equipment to be purchased for Rawlings Makerspace staff and district-wide
- Meet with managers and Maker-related staff in the district to express plans for purchasing, disbursement
 and implementation of grant over a two year timeline. Have an introductory meeting and schedule series
 of other meetings for trainings, disbursement of equipment/materials and implementation for older adult
 patron use
- Create a program plan for monthly programs focusing on older adults, with a series of instructors such
 as: senior instructors, occupational therapists, art therapists, ceramic and fiber arts-based instructors.
 Ensure cultural and DEI representation in program themes, projects, and/or instructors
- · Schedule fiber arts and ceramic-based programs with instructors
- Develop artist in residence plan. Share applications for first artist in residence to begin in Quarter 1 2024

First Quarter 2024 (January, February, March)

- Schedule and hold two programs for older adults per month beginning in January 2024 (six total programs per quarter).
- Work with artist in residence; collaborate on workforce development plan and how work will be displayed at Rawlings Makerspace (or throughout the district). Work with Museum Services Coordinator to accomplish objectives
- Stock fiber arts tool library at Rawlings Library. Execute collections management and implementation of check outs
- Make to-go-kits available to the district and track usage,
- End of quarter assessment: review of surveys from programs (from older adult participants, program staff), review program attendance, review of DEI representation, debrief quarterly meeting with Makerrelated library staff, review check outs of tool library and traveling kits, exit interview with artist in residence

Second Quarter (April, May, June)

- Hold 2 programs a month; Total programs per quarter:six
- Work with artist in residence; collaborate on workforce development plan and how work will be displayed at Rawlings Makerspace (or throughout the district). Work with Museum Services Coordinator to accomplish objectives

 End of quarter assessment: review of surveys from programs (from older adult participants, program staff), review program attendance, review of DEI representation, debrief quarterly meeting with Makerrelated library staff, review check outs of tool library and kits-to-go, exit interview with artist in residence

Third Quarter (July, August, September)

- · Hold 2 programs a month; Total programs per quarter:six
- Work with artist in residence; collaborate on workforce development plan and how work will be displayed at Rawlings Makerspace (or throughout the district). Work with Museum Services Coordinator to accomplish objectives
- End of quarter assessment: review of surveys from programs (from older adult participants, program staff), review program attendance, review of DEI representation, debrief quarterly meeting with Makerrelated library staff, review check outs of tool library and kits-to-go, exit interview with artist in residence
- Leverage internal programming to compliment grant funding and grant specific programming and equipment/material purchases.

Fourth Quarter 2024 (October, November, December)

- Hold 2 programs a month; Total programs per quarter:six
- · Hold an end of year entrepreneurial tabling event(s) for older adult works
- Work with artist in residence; collaborate on workforce development plan and how work will be displayed at Rawlings Makerspace (or throughout the district). Work with Museum Services Coordinator to accomplish objectives
- End of year assessment to include a larger debrief including prior aspects evaluated above. An end of
 the year meeting with older adults that have participated and others that may have not will be invited to
 the Rawlings Makerspace to share how the programs have been and what they would like to see in the
 next year.

First Quarter 2025 (January, February, March)

- Hold 2 programs a month; Total programs per quarter:six
- Work with artist in residence; collaborate on workforce development plan and how work will be displayed at Rawlings Makerspace (or throughout the district). Work with Museum Services Coordinator to accomplish objectives
- End of quarter assessment: review of surveys from programs (from older adult participants, program staff), review program attendance, review of DEI representation, debrief quarterly meeting with Maker-related library staff, review check outs of tool library and kits-to-qo, exit interview with artist in residence

Second Quarter 2025 (April, May, June)

- Hold 2 programs a month; Total programs per quarter:six
- Work with artist in residence; collaborate on workforce development plan and how work will be displayed at Rawlings Makerspace (or throughout the district). Work with Museum Services Coordinator to accomplish objectives
- End of quarter assessment: review of surveys from programs (from older adult participants, program staff), review program attendance, review of DEI representation, debrief quarterly meeting with Maker-related library staff, review check outs of tool library and kits-to-go, exit interview with artist in residence

Third Quarter 2025 (July, August, September)

- Hold 2 programs a month; Total programs per quarter:six
- Work with artist in residence; collaborate on workforce development plan and how work will be displayed at Rawlings Makerspace (or throughout the district)
- End of quarter assessment: review of surveys from programs (from older adult participants, program staff), review program attendance, review of DEI representation, debrief quarterly meeting with Makerrelated library staff, review check outs of tool library and kits-to-go, exit interview with artist in residence
- Leverage internal budgeting process to develop future programming, sustaining created programming.

Fourth Quarter 2025 (October, November, December)

- Hold 2 programs a month; Total programs per quarter:six
- Hold an end of year entrepreneurial tabling event(s) for older adult works
- Work with artist in residence; collaborate on workforce development plan and how work will be displayed at Rawlings Makerspace (or throughout the district)
- End of year assessment. Final review of the past two years. Develop plans to sustain program for future years.

Innovation

Describe what makes the proposed project innovative. We define innovation as an effort to rethink how people age, how they feel about aging, and how our society supports aging adults. Innovation may show up as something that is new or game-changing. Efforts to deliver an existing basic program or service in a better or different way may also be considered innovative.

Innovation:

Early 2023, the Pueblo City-County Library District opened the fully renovated Robert Hoag Rawlings Public Library. Within this re-imagined facility, PCCLD had the opportunity to expand its maker space. The maker space is a large and flexible space, able to accommodate most any maker activity. Activities of all ages are envisioned to take place in the maker space; however, PCCLD understands that this maker space has a huge opportunity to support older adults. The concept in which we are requesting funding allows us to support older adults through positive experiences with new technologies, transformative learning, and positive aging to address inclusion and equity issues.

To fully understand our community needs, we held two focus groups for older adults and senior-serving agencies within our community. We wanted to be sure that we were not working in a vacuum and that we proposed a program to the Next50 Initiative that contained community voice. Before discussing our fiber arts and ceramics-specific idea, we asked a couple of open ended questions: 1) What types of programming or equipment do you wish to see in the Maker Space, provide a personal answer and an answer that you feel helps meet community needs 2) How can a Maker Space support seniors in our community? The answers we received cemented our thoughts of providing a maker space that specializes in fiber arts and ceramics. Some of the most popular answers to these questions were: intergenerational programming, salvage/reuse crafting, activities to help build community, access to equipment or materials that many cannot afford, cultural programming, and programming that builds mental health or provides support groups.

Most of the feedback we received from our groups can be supported by our fiber arts and ceramics hub Artfully Aging: Where Creativity and Wellness Meet. An older adult focused fiber arts and ceramics program is innovative within a library maker space because it provides the needs voiced by our community, including opportunities for older adults to learn new skills, and engage in social activities. Both of these mediums and activities are well-suited for older adults because they are low-impact and can be done at a leisurely pace. We envision the Maker Space at the Rawlings Library to be a unique experience, offering access to tools and equipment but also hosting a senior artist and resident, art therapy programming, housing a fiber arts library, and creating traveling maker space kits to travel to other libraries throughout Pueblo County. Artfully Aging is an innovative program, meeting the needs of older adults while promoting health, creativity, and social engagement.

Fiber arts and ceramics programs can help older adults by providing them with creative outlets that can improve their health, well-being, and independence. Studies show that participating in creative arts may improve older adults' health, well-being and independence. Artfully Aging is a senior program geared specifically towards supporting older adults at all stages of life, supporting aging service providers, and helping grow career portfolios of local older artists. This program is meant to empower participants to develop their own approach to sharing creative experiences through a community location like the public library.

There are several ways society can support aging. One way is by focusing on work and staying active in a way that is familiar to the population served. Creating familiar work is something the Brookings Institute identifies in their article "Two Solutions to the Challenges of Population Aging," by Milena Nikolova. Nikolova writes that work is a pivotal element of one's well-being and can be an essential part of the aging solution. Building social support into this type of work can play a significant role in overall health as people age. Spending time with one's community, whether that community be friends, family, or something else, can boost one's quality of life, providing mental and physical health benefits.

Within the Artfully Aging project, we propose that fiber arts and ceramics serve as a broker for social experiences that are both stimulating and improve wellbeing. Our community has a rich history and culture where fiber arts and ceramics play an important role. The history of fiber arts in Pueblo, Colorado dates back to ancient times, weaving and fiber arts are old traditions that have been passed down from generation to generation. This program keeps the maker method of fiber arts at the forefront, bringing a modern approach to something that has been in our community for hundreds of years. This innovative approach blends cultural relevance into senior therapy and activities.

A fiber arts program in our community would support aging citizens by promoting two age-old traditions, while educating the general public about the importance of these art forms. The term importance can be taken historically or displayed in a modern art therapy approach as a means to build both the body and mind. The Artfully Aging project can benefit our aging community in many ways. From our work and conversations within our community, we feel that this program can provide a creative outlet, promote cultural heritage and diversity, and encourage social connections and community conversations. At its core, the Artfully Aging program provides an expansive art therapy program as a means to support older adults. This program encourages and provides the space to be creative. Being creative brings with it many benefits, The article "Benefits of Art Therapy for the Elderly," published by multiculturalcaregiving.net states that "Art is a creative process. You are building something from nothing, which helps to stimulate the mind and gives you a sense of wellbeing. In so doing, art becomes an invaluable process and tool for individuals to function and to support society as a whole." The Artfully Aging program is innovative, empowering aging adults through creativity. This project is innovative in a way that is core to the "maker movement," in that it re-purposes centuries-old activities and materials to meet the needs of a modern society.

Project Impact

Describe how the project is expected to impact older adults and/or the aging community.

Project Impact:

While offering fiber arts and ceramics seems like a small endeavor, the Aging Artfully initiative would allow PCCLD to provide senior-based services in a very impactful way. In addition to programming, we have art therapy components, intergenerational programming, traveling kits to support outlying areas, older adult artist and residence programs, and more. Artfully Aging can strengthen the capacity of libraries serving aging populations by providing opportunities for socialization, creativity, and learning. In Pueblo County, nearly one in five persons is 65 years of age or older; this is the second largest population group in the county. Pueblo is also a majority minority city with 21% of its residents at or below the poverty level. This grant would have a huge impact on older populations, people of color, and people with low socioeconomic means. PCCLD recognizes a need to provide beneficial programming to this growing population to improve the health and well-being of people across the region. With a large senior population, now is a critical time to support programs such as Artfully Aging. This program will allow PCCLD to serve the aging adult population better, creating a support program model that can provide opportunities for artistic expression, social interaction, and enhanced mental and physical health. Providing access to materials and equipment and featuring senior art and artists allow PCCLD to be a forum where older adults can continue to make substantial contributions to our community as creatives.

The Artfully Aging program wishes to build upon maker space principles, specializing in older adult development. Through fiber arts and ceramics, we wish to have an emphasis in creating products and gaining knowledge, facilitating peer-to-peer skill sharing, providing a hands-on and collaborative learning environment. The publication Inspired Living states the benefits of fiber arts for older adults as: increased happiness, emotional regularity, and heightened self esteem. The article "Effects of Tactile Experience During Clay Work Creation in Improving Psychological Well Being" by Antonio Ngak Tung Wong explains that ceramics provides older adults with skill building, tactile gratification, mindfulness activities, stress relief, and emotional expression; as well as a medium for expressing both conscious and unconscious ideas and desires. The programming, services, equipment, and access we can provide through this program will impact older adults at many stages of their lives.

In Pueblo County, nearly one in five persons is 65 years of age or older; this is the second largest population group in the county. Pueblo is also a majority minority city with 21% of its residents at or below the poverty level. This grant is created to support and would have a huge impact on older populations, people of color, and people with low socioeconomic means. Pueblo is a high-need community, it is a community where program funding can have a huge impact. PCCLD recognizes a need to provide beneficial programming to this growing population to improve the health and well-being of people across the region. With a large and growing senior population, now is a critical time to support programs such as Artfully Aging. The impact of this program can be

far reaching, serving Pueblo but creating a model that can be replicated in other communities that face similar struggles and support similar demographics.

Sustainability, Replicability, and/or Scalability

As a part of NextFifty Initiative's desire to advance innovation in the aging field, we hope to support projects that have the potential for sustainability, replicability, and/or scalability. While having a plan for these concepts is not required, applications are strengthened by demonstrating plans for sustainability, replicability, and/or scalability.

Please select which of these concepts your project hopes to incorporate from the list below. If not applicable, please select N/A::

Sustainability, Replicability, Scalability

Please clearly explain how your project plans to accomplish each of the above selection(s). Enter N/A if not applicable:

Sustainability: We envision the Artfully Aging program to be supplemented by the current maker space budget during the two years of proposed funding. Once large equipment is purchased and the program has been operational for the two year period, we will develop plans to absorb programming and material needs into the annual budget for the maker space. In addition to the annual budget dollars that will be used to sustain this program, we will seek additional private and public funding opportunities. These funds allow us to get Artfully Agining started and established, we will gain great data (both qualitative and quantitative) that we can use to attract potential donors to the project to insure its sustainability.

Replicability: One component of this proposal is to work with Pueblo Community College's Occupational Therapy Department, having their students develop curriculum and lead programming. The curriculum and programming developed will be shared as a key outcome of this program. Pueblo's demographics are not solely unique to our community; this program can be replicated to reflect cultural heritage in other communities. Senior programs like Artfully Aging can strengthen the capacity of libraries, specifically, by serving aging populations and providing opportunities for socialization, creativity, and learning. The unique piece of Artfully Aging is that we use community/culturally relevant mediums to help participants to feel comfortable making and being creative. The methodology of this program can be applied to other potential programs for replicability.

Scalability: The scalability of this program is baked into the traveling kit portion of our grant. While we do request funds for larger pieces of equipment like a pottery wheel and a large kiln, these pieces are located in our main library to facilitate larger groups and programming. Two scalable pieces of our grant are the maker equipment we propose to add in our Barkman and Lucero branch libraries and our traveling kits. A great attribute of the chosen mediums of ceramics and fiber arts is that they are scalable and can be sized-down in terms of size and scale. For instance, we could hold a large quilters group at the main library while holding an embroidery group at a branch library or other community location. Our developed curriculum and programming can be delivered in a large or small fashion.

Shared Learnings

Describe how your organization plans to share information gleaned from the project with other partners beyond NextFifty Initiative. If this isn't a planned activity for your project, enter N/A.

Shared Learnings:

Public libraries as an industry sharing information and have a great network in which to support one another; because when public libraries are successful, commnities and societies are successful as well. Public libraries have a history of supporting older adults by eliminating barriers; providing access to materials that may not be affordable, providing homebound individuals book services, or other free access opportunities. In order to meet the needs of today's older adults, libraries need to develop innovative practices to serve, support, and meet the needs of our community's older population.

If awarded, PCCLD will present to other libraries on this initiative, explaining what we learned from this program. Nothing that we create will be proprietary, we will share curriculum and programming with other

libraries. This program is invisioned as a way to help us serve the aging adult population better, we want to create a model that others can follow to provide opportunities for artistic expression, social interaction, and enhanced mental and physical health for other older adult serving institutions.

In addition to sharing the process of developing this program, we will also share findings with older adult serving agencies in our community. In working with and providing a forum for older adults, we will learn much about this population. Hearing from our community and understanding their needs will be great garnered information that we can share with other community based organizations.

Please click "Save" before continuing to the next section.

Goals

NextFifty Initiative recently developed a funding and investment strategy that serves as the mission-driven plan to guide, execute, and evaluate our programs. Through our grantmaking opportunities, NextFifty seeks to support organizations whose goals align with ours. Our hope is that by aligning efforts in this way we can demonstrate progress toward achieving those goals together.

Listed below are NextFifty's organizational goals, please select only those goal(s) that most align with **this project's goals** and explain how the requested funding from NextFifty will help you make progress toward the selected goal(s) during the grant period.

Goal Alignment

Goal Alignment: Select the NextFifty Initiative goal(s) that most closely aligns with the project for which you seek funding. Select all that apply:

Improve the lives of older adults., Strengthen the capacity of organizations operating in the aging space., Reduce ageism.

Goals Narrative

Please describe how your project's goals for this grant request align with the selected goal(s) above. Please also detail individual activities and/or objectives associated with each NextFifty goal you've selected. For multi-year requests provide unique activities/objectives for each year.

Goals Narrative:

We truly wanted to gain community voice before fully developing our grant proposal for the NextFifty Initiative. These groups helped us to understand how we could develop an innovative program that aligned with most of NextFifty's goals. The Artfully Aging project aligns well with the goals of: strengthen the capacity of organizations operating in the aging space, improve the lives of older adults, and reduce ageism The information gained from these forums allow us to create a proposal that is informed, strategic, and rich in qualitative data and insights.

1. Strengthening the capacity of organizations operating in the aging space: Public libraries like PCCLD can inherently support aging adults by providing engaging programs and services. Libraries can eliminate barriers to access by providing access to information, delivering programming that supports lifelong learning, and serving as a guidepost of community. Libraries also have the ability to provide access and instruction to tools that can enhance the lives of older adults. Maker spaces in libraries are designed to be inclusive and accessible to all people. This initiative would allow PCCLD to provide the senior-based program Artfully Aging while creating intergenerational programming. Senior programs like Artfully Aging can strengthen the capacity of libraries serving aging populations by providing opportunities for socialization, creativity, and learning. In Pueblo County, nearly one in five persons is 65 years of age or older; this is the second largest population group in the county. Pueblo is also a majority minority city with 21% of its residents at or below the poverty level. This grant would have a huge impact on older populations, people of color, and people with low socioeconomic means. PCCLD recognizes a need to provide beneficial programming to this growing population to improve the health and well-being of people across the region. With a large senior population, now is a critical time to support programs such as Artfully Aging. This program will allow PCCLD to serve the aging adult population better,

creating a support program model that can provide opportunities for artistic expression, social interaction, and enhanced mental and physical health. Providing access to materials and equipment and featuring senior art and artists allow PCCLD to be a forum where older adults can continue to make substantial contributions to our community as creatives.

- 2. Improve lives of older adults: Historically, public libraries have supported older adults by eliminating barriers; providing access to materials that may not be affordable, providing homebound individuals book services, or other free access opportunities. In order to meet the needs of today's older adults, libraries like PCCLD need to develop innovative practices to serve, support, and meet the needs of our community's older population. Older adults constitute a significant and growing segment of library users and we (specifically) can do better to develop programs and services that are geared specifically toward older adults. The Artfully Aging program wishes to build upon maker space principles, specializing in older adult development. Through fiber arts and ceramics, we wish to have an emphasis in creating products and gaining knowledge, facilitating peer-to-peer skill sharing, providing a hands-on and collaborative learning environment. The publication Inspired Living states the benefits of fiber arts for older adults as: increased happiness, emotional regularity, and heightened self esteem. The article "Effects of Tactile Experience During Clay Work Creation in Improving Psychological Well Being" by Antonio Ngak Tung Wong explains that ceramics provides older adults with skill building, tactile gratification, mindfulness activities, stress relief, and emotional expression; as well as a medium for expressing both conscious and unconscious ideas and desires. The programming, services, equipment, and access we can provide through this program will impact older adults at many stages of their lives.
- 3. **Reduce Ageism:** In conducting our focus groups, the number one topic that repeatedly arose was the desire to have intergenerational programming. The older adults in our group wanted to teach those younger than them as well as learn from those who were born generations after them. The desire to cross generations is at the core of maker space philosophy, creating space for all people, regardless of age. While Artfully Aging is primarily an older adult program, it places older adults at the center of the making, allowing people of the same or older or younger ages to learn together in a peer-to-peer fashion. This type of space can help to break down stereotypes and promote intergenerational bonding. Makerspaces can also provide opportunities for older adults to learn new skills and technologies, which can help them stay engaged and active in their communities. The article "Interventions to Reduce Ageism Against Older Adults: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis" states that within their research they found that interactions with aging adults "significantly reduced ageism outcomes related to attitudes, knowledge, and comfort toward older adults. Interventions that combined elements of both education and intergenerational contact had the largest effect on people's attitudes toward older adults." Maker Spaces, especially those located in public libraries, are prime for these intergenerational opportunities, providing education, materials access, and intergenerational contact.

Additionally, through the Artfully Aging program, we wish to make this maker space a platform for older adults to share their skill, knowledge, and expertise with the community at large. Through our senior artist and resident program, we plan to show senior art, provide senior led programming, and feature an artist as an authoritative and experienced professional artists. Our community has amazing older artists, these individuals will be given a platform to showcase their artwork and skills, and pass their knowledge to future generations. The National Library of Medicine explains that ageism can be reduced by intergenerational contact, education, and training. PCCLD aims to create a program that focuses on intergenerational contact and education in a creative fashion by dissolving stereotypes and equipping individuals with knowledge, experiences, and skills that help to form a more well-rounded perspective on aging and older adults.

Measurement & Evaluation

Please describe how your organization will measure progress toward your selected goals including how you will evaluate each activity and/or objective.

Measurement and Evaluation:

The maker space within the Rawlings Library will develop an assessment plan to ensure that the connection to older adults is prioritized throughout the two-year time period of grant funding. We understand that we do not want to create this program without community voice so from the beginning of ideation, we began collaborate with community members and senior serving partners. We held focus groups to assess need and gain buy-in on this program's initiatives. To measure the on-going effectiveness of this program, we want to continue hearing senior voices through their experiences with the Artfully Aging program. In addition to periodic listening sessions, qualitative surveys will be produced and handed out at the end of each monthly program. These surveys will have a rating system as well as a comments section. These surveys will allow us to measure how participant's felt about the program in a numeric value as well as comments to share thoughts and opinions.

We wish to take a qualitative and quantitative approach to measuring the satisfaction and impact of this program.

The surveys will be created by Rawlings maker space staff and shared to staff throughout the district so that consistency is evaluated over time. Traveling kits that are used by staff will include printed surveys for distribution and instructions on sending them back to Rawlings for evaluation. Regular and on-going evaluation will be conducted by the maker space librarian.

It will be important to incorporate older adults not just as participants of fiber arts and ceramics programs but as instructors and leaders. Outreach will be conducted to solicit instructors aged 50 and up to facilitate textile and ceramics-based monthly programming. We will make and share applications to maintain a total of eight senior-artists in residence over a two year period. Each quarter, one artist in residence will be featured, given a stipend and expected to fulfill a community service component to teach one or more programs during their tenure. Innovatively, we will collaborate on a or several workforce strategies with the artist in residence to add an entrepreneurial plan to make their passion a means of income. Based on research, as adults are living longer, retirement age is heightened and older adults are expected to work longer than they may have anticipated. Those with retirement benefits are already living on fixed incomes and with the myriad of rising costs. As they age, adults with health issues themselves may be expected to support a spouse or family as caregivers. With these various needs, there is value in thinking strategically with our older adult population about how to diversify their means of income through their passions. With resources through the library and our adult services department and community partners, we can develop a plan with seniors to make money in ways they may have never considered that will enable them a greater sense of independence and strengthen a passion. An exit interview will be completed to evaluate the experience of the artist in residence as well.

We want to hear how we can improve the programs over time and not make assumptions. In addition to our program surveys, we invite users of equipment, borrowers using the fiber arts library, or program attendees to share comments about the programs and services at any point. At the end of the year, participants of senior programs, senior instructors and artists in residence will be invited to a year-in-review event to look back at the work accomplished. We will treat this review as a listening and ideation session, refining program ideas for year two of the Aging Artfully program. Near the end of year two of the program, we will again convene this group to develop plans and ideas to maintain the programming and work conducted as part of the Aging Artfully program.

Other ways to assess the program will include tracking the number of programs held and attendance of those programs. PCCLD routinely captures, tracks, and analyzes key data/performances indices to evaluate and report use of the public library. Tracking of materials checkouts and program attendance are routine data tracking measures within our current practice. We will also evaluate diversity, equity and inclusion particularly through the types of programming and the execution of programs to uphold a positive reflection of the history of Pueblo, Colorado and the peoples who have contributed to Southwestern ethnic traditions of textile and pottery amongst other artworks. Furthermore, we will track the use of the fiber arts tool library through data collected by check-outs as well as tracking the use of the kits-to-go utilized throughout the district by library staff.

https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S2212828X22000706

Tip: Please click "Save" before continuing to the next section.

Demographics

NextFifty Initiative seeks to better understand the populations served with our funding. In order to do so, we'd like to gather basic socio-demographic information about the older adults and caregivers that you plan to serve with your project. We also understand that collecting this information is easier for some organizations than it is for others and so if you do not collect this data currently and/or cannot estimate percentages, please enter 0's where appropriate and utilize the narrative space to explain your connection to these communities, regardless of what the data may show.

Applications are strengthened by a specific focus on one or more of the marginalized populations listed below.

Number of people age 50+ served by Project in year 1:

Number of people age 50+ served by Project in year 2:

Based on the number of older adults you anticipate serving through this project (reported above), please enter the percentage of older adults that you anticipate will be represented in each category below for this project only (please do not include demographic information about the total population served by your organization). If you do not know or do not serve or plan to serve a particular demographic enter 0.

Race/Ethnicity

Enter the percentage number. Enter "0" if you do not serve or do not know.

Percent of older adults served who are non-Hispanic Black or African

American:

Percent of older adults served who are

Asian:

Percent of older adults served who are 3%

American Indian or Alaskan Native:

Percent of older adults served who are 0%

Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander:

0 /0

2%

1%

Percent of older adults served who are

50%

Latino or Hispanic:

44%

Percent of older adults served who are non-Hispanic White or Caucasian:

Low-income

Enter the percentage number. Enter "0" if you do not serve or do not know.

Percent of older adults served who are 21%

low-income:

Immigrant/Refugee

Enter the percentage number. Enter "0" if you do not serve or do not know.

Percent of older adults served who are 0%

Immigrants or Refugees:

Sexual Orientation

Enter the percentage number. Enter "0" if you do not serve or do not know.

Percent of older adults served who are 0% Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender,

and/or Queer-identifying:

Disability Status

Enter the percentage number. Enter "0" if you do not serve or do not know.

Percent of older adults served experiencing a physical, cognitive,

and/or behavioral disability:

Geographic Area

Enter the percentage number. Enter "0" if you do not serve or do not know.

Percentage of older adults served living 0%

in a frontier area:

Percentage of older adults served living 0%

in a rural area:

Percentage of older adults served living 0%

in an urban area:

Population Served Narrative

Based on the information entered above, or in lieu of that information:

- 1. Please describe the population that you aim to reach with your project.
- 2. Describe how your organization builds trust and connection or aims to build trust and connection with the stated population(s), especially for populations you are looking to reach for the first time.

Population Served Narrative:

This initiative would allow PCCLD to provide the senior-based program Artfully Aging while creating intergenerational programming. Senior crafting programs like Artfully Aging can strengthen the capacity of libraries serving aging populations by providing opportunities for socialization, creativity, and learning. In Pueblo County, nearly one in five persons is 65 years of age or older; this is the second largest population group in the county. Pueblo is also a majority minority city with 21% of its residents at or below the poverty level. This grant is created to support and would have a huge impact on older populations, people of color, and people with low socioeconomic means. Pueblo is a high-need community, it is a community where program funding can have a huge impact. PCCLD recognizes a need to provide beneficial programming to this growing population to improve the health and well-being of people across the region. With a large and growing senior population, now is a critical time to support programs such as Artfully Aging. This program will allow PCCLD to serve the aging adult population better, creating a support program model that can provide opportunities for artistic expression, social interaction, and enhanced mental and physical health. Providing access to materials and equipment and featuring senior art and artists allow PCCLD to be a forum where older adults can continue to make substantial contributions to our community as creatives.

To display community support and our interconnectedness within the community, we solicited letters of support from three key community organizations: Pueblo Area Agency on Aging, Posada of Pueblo, and Pueblo Makes. The Pueblo Area Agency on Aging provides a coordinated, comprehensive service delivery system that assists older citizens in maintaining independence, health, and personal well-being. Posada of Pueblo provides housing and supportive services that empower homeless individuals and families in Pueblo County to become self-supporting members of the community; Posada specializes in providing housing and support for seniors and families. Pueblo Makes is an active group of "makers" throughout Pueblo County, the group describes themselves as "a group of forward-thinking innovators and diverse leaders who are inspired to cultivate the maker movement within our community." These three diverse organizations were involved in the planning of this grant request so community voice could be evidenced throughout our planning process.

As with everything that we do at PCCLD, we involve the community and assess community need to direct our strategic initiatives. Inclusion, transparency, and information sharing is what helps PCCLD build connections and trust. Even in planning this grant proposal, we wanted to dissplay community support and our interconnectedness within the community, receiving letters of support from three key community organizations: Pueblo Area Agency on Aging, Posada of Pueblo, and Pueblo Makes. We also held focus groups to involve area seniors and senior serving organizations. We started our inclusion and transparency from the very beginning, building connections, trust, and open lines of communication.

Tip: Please click "Save" before continuing to the next section.

Geographical Area Served

Geographical Area Served: Click on the green plus sign below to open the multi-select tool. Type in the state or county your project serves and click the checkbox to select that area. For multiple selections, search for each area name separately and check the box. Once every state and/or county has been selected, click the "Add Area(s)" button on the bottom right and use the sliders to adjust the percentages.

For Colorado-based projects, please select the county(ies) served. If your project serves the entire state of Colorado, please select "Colorado-Statewide."

For projects based outside of Colorado, please select the state(s) that are served by your project.

Geographical Area Served Multi-Select Tool

Colorado (5%)

Colorado / Pueblo (95%)

Tip: Please click "Save" before continuing to the next section.

Funding Considerations

Project Funding Details: Describe other planned or committed funding for the proposed <u>project</u>. Demonstrated funding for the project from other sources will strengthen your application.

To do this, click on the green plus sign below to open the additional funding tool. Type in the Project Funding Source Name, Amount, and then select the status of the additional funding (Approved, Declined, Applied/Pending, or Planned). Once complete, click "Save" on the bottom right of the tool to add to your application. If you have multiple sources, repeat this process for each individual source.

Project Funding Source Name	Amount	Status
Department Supplies Budget	\$10,500.00	Approved
Total Amount	\$10,500.00	

Financials

Organization's Annual Budget: \$13,001,202.00

Request Budget: Upload an itemized project budget with income source(s) showing how requested funds will be spent.

Budget Narrative:

The Artfully Aging program budget can be broken into five sections our budgeting document reflects these funding sections

(https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/13iSLAhKENxUWoumtk0PV0chcu7hPVN_ORe4KMDLoVp4/edit?usp=sharing). These funding areas include: Fiber arts, ceramics,

Fiber Arts: (\$27,687.97) Within this budget, we request funding for fiber arts equipment, supplies, and storage. Within this budget, we are also requesting funding to develop and provide a fiber arts library to provide items for check-out (i.e. embroidery hoop, needles, thread, etc.)

Ceramics: (\$50,830.90) Our ceramics items include equipment, supplies, and storage. These items will allow us to have proper equipment and enough materials to provide ceramics based programming.

Barkman Library Community Maker Space: (\$11,417.50) These funds provide equipment and materials specifically for the Artfully Aging program at one of our branch libraries. We envision smaller versions of what is available at our main library. This provides a smaller scale program within our community and allows for increased access throughout our community.

Lucero Library Community Maker Space: (\$15,731.65) These funds provide equipment and materials specifically for the Artfully Aging program at one of our branch libraries. We envision smaller versions of what is available at our main library. This provides a smaller scale program within our community and allows for increased access throughout our community.

Traveling Maker Space: (\$18,987.19) Traveling kits allow us to package a program and take it to rural groups, community centers, and outreach events. Specific traveling programs are envisioned to allow us to provide our programming outside of the walls of an individual library.

Senior Artist and Residence Program: (\$24,000) Each quarter, one artist in residence will be featured, given a stipend, and expected to fulfill a community service component to teach one or more programs during their

Total: \$148,655.21

Within our proposed budget, we are primarily asking for equipment and supplies and a budget to provide a stipend for our senior artist and residence program. We did not include any employment because the PCCLD maker space librarian will be an in-kind contribution by PCCLD to the Artfully Aging project.

Please submit the most recent Complete Form 990, including Schedule B. Required for all 501(c)(3), 501(c) (4), and 501(c)(6) organizations.

Previous Fiscal Year's Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet)

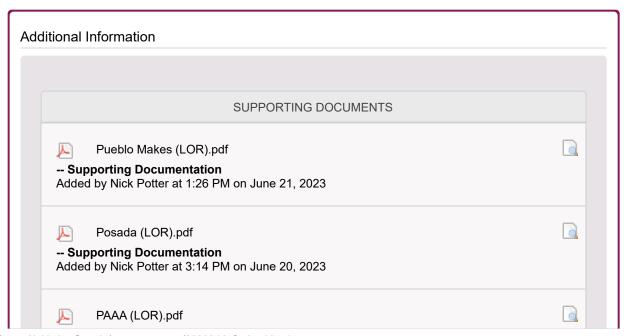
Previous Fiscal Year's Statement of Activities (Profit & Loss Statement)

Board Information

Please upload a Current List of Board Members and their affiliations **Required** for all 501(c)(3),501(c)(4) and 501(c)(6) organizations.

Tip: Please click "Save" before moving on to the next section.

Tip: Please click "Save" before continuing to the next section.



-- Supporting Documentation Added by Nick Potter at 3:09 PM on June 20, 2023

