Kindle Project Fund
Program Description

The Kindle Project Fund provides grants and gifts to catalysts of change—those who are addressing some of our most pressing problems but who would otherwise fall outside-the-box of traditional philanthropy; the rabble-rousers, the renegades, the risk-takers. We direct our funding and support to people and projects taking meaningful risks and approaching their work with creativity, innovation, resiliency, collaboration, humor, and courage.

We seek out people and projects—often at pivotal times contextually, organizationally, or personally—working towards one or more of the following goals:

- Solutions leading to systemic change
- Creating alternatives to structural collapse
- Transforming conflict
- Challenging outmoded systems and frameworks
- Holding, practicing and integrating the wisdom of traditional knowledge
- Educating outside of mainstream paradigms
- Creating small projects with a big impact
- Fostering generosity

We ignite change at key tipping points by providing no strings attached gifts, general support grants, multi-year commitment grants and awards to individuals. Kindle Project offers dynamic support beyond the money. We collaborate with our grantees and awardees, offering in-house support ranging from media training to creative programmatic brainstorming to storytelling and beyond.

Our funding is relationship-based, which means that we tailor our engagement based on grantees’ true needs and big dreams, and our best offerings.

- We honor and support creative or informal organizational and project structures.
- We fund individuals, independent projects, and informal groups as well as formal 501c3 nonprofit organizations.
- We talk with our grantees over the course of the year, exploring other ways Kindle Project might assist them in carrying out their work.
- We welcome feedback and learn from our grantees, inviting suggestions for how we can do our work better.

Kindle Project Nexus

We are cultural curators, bringing forward those individuals and projects that are out there on the fringes of their fields doing extraordinary work. We share the unique stories of our partners on our Nexus page, through our social media channels and when we’re speaking at conferences, gatherings and workshops. It’s their voices that need to be heard, their work that needs to be supported and their vision that is capable of making the shifts that we so urgently need.
**Kindle Project Fund Area of Focus**
We believe that the spaces brewing at the intersection of crises, approaches, and solutions is often the most fertile and potent grounds for change to occur. It’s for this reason that we don’t limit ourselves to specific areas of focus.

We don’t have an area of focus because we practice our own unique approach of holistic and systemic change grantmaking, cross-pollinating across issue areas, movements and fields.

**Kindle Project’s Recipe for Creative and Holistic Grantmaking**
There is no one route, no set metrics, and no certain formula for a dynamic grantmaking experience. Success looks different for everyone and that’s why we think of how we work in terms of values and relationship goals. The way we give has to match our values and here are the ingredients that make this work:

We believe that experimentation and creativity are core to creating meaningful funding relationships. We operate as a living philanthropic lab willing to get creative and play with dynamic programming.

We know how important it is to be responsive, nimble and flexible when working with the shifting needs of our grantees and the contexts that they work in. That’s why we put a high value on funding methods that can support this. Whenever possible we aim to provide multi-year commitments, general operating support and use flow funds to help reach communities and work that we wouldn't otherwise have access to.

Trusting relationships are at the core of our work and are held in dynamic, equitable and creative ways. We focus on building trust and sharing stories of success and ‘failure’ as a key part of our work.

And lastly, we reframe risk as opportunity. We are free to take risks because of who we are. Our creative structure, our pool of remarkable donors, and our diverse grantee community, reinforces the strength in what can happen when those on the supposed fringes are given support.

**Proposal Submission Process**
Grants are solicited and awarded by invitation only. Due to our limited staff capacity, we are unable to respond to unsolicited grant requests. The application process is structured with our grantee partners on a case-by-case basis.