NYSCA Encore Grants, part of Staten Island Arts’ Regrant program, are public funds made available for art and cultural projects that constitute direct services to the residents of Staten Island. This is a competitive process. These grants are not fellowships, subsidies, or entitlements. Projects must be open to the public and take place during the calendar year 2023.

These grants are for nonprofits with a 501(c)3 making art or producing cultural programming on Staten Island. All art and artistic cultural disciplines are considered, including, music, dance, digital/new media, film/video/animation, folk arts, humanities and cultural studies, interdisciplinary events/festivals, literature, public art, theatre, performing and visual arts.

Who is eligible for an Encore Grant? All applicants must be based on Staten Island and be utilizing grant funding for Staten Island-based activities. Applicants may submit more than one application (for different projects) in this category. (Please note: grant amounts will be capped at $10,000, total between the projects.) Grant request range is $750 to $5,000. Encore applicants must have previously received a Staten Island Arts grant to apply in this category.

- Organizations—Must be Staten Island-based (valid Staten Island mailing address) and have proof of current nonprofit status (ex. IRS 501(c)3 letter).
Who or what is not eligible?

- Organizations receiving direct or discretionary funds from the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) in the 2023 fiscal year regardless of their application's status
- Organizations with operating income budgets over $300,000 for two of the last three fiscal years
- Programs that are essentially religious, recreational, rehabilitative, or therapeutic
- Universities, colleges, primary and secondary schools and districts, school affiliates or components, in-school activities or programs/activities that exclusively serve a student audience with no public component
- Programs serving only the applicant organization's members
- Operating expenses of privately-owned facilities (homes and studios)
- Deficit budgets, capital improvements, equipment purchases, fundraising events, scholarships, juror fees, prizes, lobbying expenses, entertainment, reception or food expenses, expenses for health, welfare, or other city/state funded programs/agencies, any non-arts related expenses or administrative costs unrelated to the project
- Applicants who cannot present a valid tax-exempt Federal ID number
- Applicants who are not in good standing with Staten Island Arts including failing to complete previous Staten Island Arts grant projects and/or failure to complete final reporting

*Virtual project exemption:* equipment, software, subscriptions, and training needed to produce a virtual project. Individual items may not exceed $1,000. Examples: cameras, lighting equipment, subscriptions associated with virtual programming, and training to utilize these tools.

How to Apply

We provide our grant applications online and do not accept paper submissions or hardcopy work samples. You will be required to fill out a profile and application using our online grant portal. All first time or lapsed NYSCA Encore applicants are strongly encouraged to attend an application seminar. Please refer to the application seminar schedule (statenislandarts.org/grants). The grants administrator (718-447-3329 x 1003, gmimozo@statenislandarts.org) is available to answer questions about the application, to answer questions about eligibility, or provide other assistance. It is strongly suggested that all applicants discuss their proposals with the grants administrator before submitting applications. The grants administrator is available to review application drafts up to two weeks before the deadline date. Applicants may also visit our website www.statenislandarts.org for online technical assistance. Please note applications must include a work sample to be considered. Applicants apply for Encore directly as a Staten Island-based non-profit.
Selection Process
Consideration of proposals is competitive. Funding decisions are made by a separate panel of experts for each grant category. Panelists are composed of professional artists, scholars, arts administrators, teachers of the arts and humanities, civic and business leaders, and community representatives representing the disciplines eligible for funding. Based on the criteria (see below), the panelists vote on which projects are to be funded and recommend the monetary amount.

Criteria
1. Artistic merit and cultural significance.
2. Clearly stated objectives.
3. Clear and realistic plan for implementation.
4. Appropriate request level and realistic budget for stated proposal.
5. Need and impact on the artistic discipline, geographic area, or local population: projects which address communities or artistic disciplines which are underrepresented or under-resourced will receive foremost consideration.
6. Demonstrated community interest or support for the project.
7. Applicant’s experience and grant history. This includes consideration of qualified staff and artists.
8. Funding priorities: artist fees, venue rental fees, marketing and publicity expenses, direct administrative expenses, supplies and materials.
9. The project should be accessible to any member of the community who wishes to partake in the experience. Venues should comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act standards. Virtual programs should provide captioning, subtitles, or ASL interpretation.

Notification
Applicants will be notified of funding decisions by email through a rolling process taking place during March – April 2022. Grant funding can be awarded to projects taking place prior to notification.

Application Deadline
Applications must be submitted by Tuesday January 31, 2023, 11:59pm. Work samples are required to be digitized and uploaded with the application.

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