



2024 NYSCA *FUTURE CULTURE* CREATIVE PLACEMAKING GRANT GUIDELINES

Staten Island Arts Regrant Program
Deadline: January 31, 2024

NYSCA *Future Culture* Creative Placemaking Grant, part of Staten Island Arts' Regrant programs, are public funds made available for art and cultural projects that constitute direct services to the residents of Staten Island. This is a competitive application process. These grants are not fellowships, subsidies, or entitlements. Projects must be open to the public and take place on Staten Island during the calendar year 2024.

These grants support Staten Island artists creating new work in a community setting that connects places and people using arts and culture on Staten Island's North Shore. An essential element of this funding is **community engagement**. The project must engage a segment of the community through a public program and/or include community involvement in the development and creative process of the project.

This grant program seeks qualified applicants for creative placemaking projects that give a prominent role to local artists and/or communities, enhance livability in the community, and test recommendations established by *Future Culture: Connecting Staten Island's Waterfront*, a joint project by Design Trust for Public Space and Staten Island Arts. All art and artistic cultural disciplines – music, dance, digital/new media, film/video/animation, folk arts, interdisciplinary events/festivals, public art, theatre, performing and visual arts – will be considered.

Projects must connect to **at least ONE** of the recommendations established by *Future Culture: Connecting Staten Island's Waterfront*, a joint initiative created in 2016 by Design Trust for Public Space and Staten Island Arts. The project aims to shape and communicate a vision for culture along Staten Island's rapidly developing North Shore waterfront that:

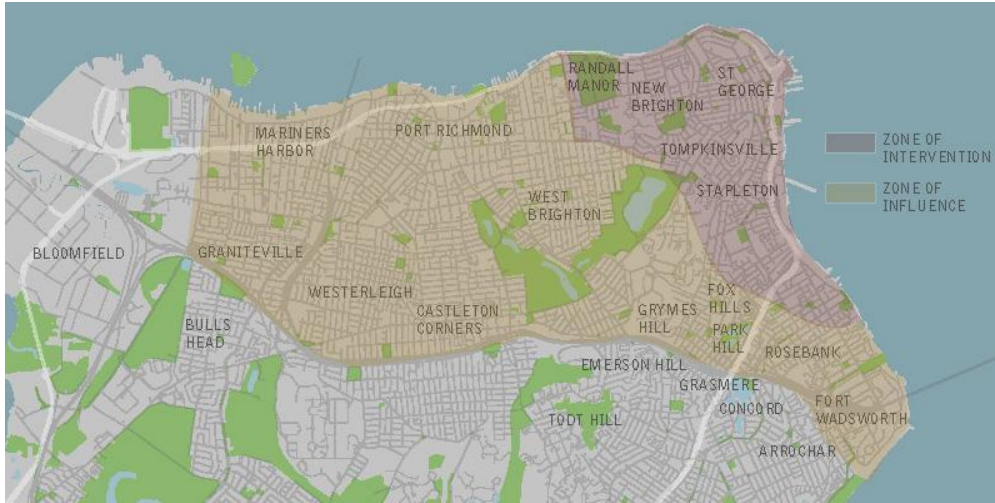
- Supports and promotes unique cultural communities
- Develops art and cultural activities that connect places and people
- Strengthens the relationship between the cultural sector and owners and stewards of property

Through *Future Culture*, Staten Islanders have articulated a vision for how new development can build on the area's rich culture to foster a vibrant and connected waterfront. The resultant Recommendations (published in March 2017) are meant to be utilized by the community as a

resource to encourage public and private stakeholders to devise creative solutions to community challenges. Read the recommendations: <http://bit.ly/FCShortlist>. Staten Island Arts works with many local nonprofits, small businesses, and stewards of property and will work with artists to connect them if possible. Please contact the grants administrator for more information about possible partnerships or project sites.

Ultimately, Staten Island Arts seeks proposals that successfully address one or more of the following recommendations:

- ❖ Promote exploration, particularly beyond the ferry terminal, by providing intuitive **wayfinding** and place-based cultural awareness through activities such as tours, foodways events, art parades and place-based performances
- ❖ Organize unique events of scale and regularity, including but not limited to **festivals, performances, events, and ongoing programming**; also possible is co-sponsorship of festivals, events and performances prioritizing collaboration with immigrant and heritage-based groups to foster familiarity with **heritage traditions**
- ❖ Celebrate the waterfront by preserving/enhancing the experience of **maritime culture through activities such as humanities-based discussions, educational activities for people of all ages, and cultural activities celebrating Staten Island's unique maritime heritage traditions**
- ❖ Celebrate the waterfront by fostering **ecological and community resiliency** through cultural and humanities activities through activities such as **walking tours, shoreline exploration, place-based art installations**
- ❖ Activate underused open space by enhancing existing green spaces through activities including **art installations, interactive artmaking, performances and concerts, and walking tours**
- ❖ Activate underused open space by considering “in-between” spaces that are overlooked or otherwise undefined
- ❖ Program new sites and venues that can offer space for cultural work and activities, i.e. spaces currently under construction or renovation that would benefit from activation through culture on site
- ❖ Improve the public's experience of transportation and public structures utilized during transit by implementing arts and cultural activities that encourage **beautification**, interaction with the environment (such as **art or humanities walks**), gathering at transit sites, and utilization of mass transit
- ❖ Improve the experience of public space by determining and enhancing places for waiting and gathering
- ❖ Promote engaging cultural use of underutilized or overlooked buildings and built spaces



Please see the [Future Culture Recommendations full document](#) for additional, larger maps for clarifications of the area.

Who is eligible? All applicants must be Staten Island residents. *Selected artists will receive \$2,500. This grant may **not** be used as additional funding for existing programs (such as arts-in-education or recreational programs) or other NYSCA grant funded programs; however, individuals may apply to both this and other DCLA funded grant programs. Please contact the grants administrator for more information.*

- **Individuals**—Individuals with proof of current Staten Island residency. Must have a valid Social Security number.
- **Collectives** – Artist collectives with at least one active member with proof of current Staten Island residency. Must have a valid Social Security number.

Who is not eligible?

- **Organizations**—501c3 Nonprofits, for profit, and/or LLC status businesses are **not** eligible for this program. We recommend interested nonprofits consider partnering with a local artist and encouraging them to apply on behalf of a project.

Who or what is *not* eligible?

- Organizations or Individuals receiving direct or discretionary funds from the New York State Council on the Arts in the 2024 fiscal year
- 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
- Any type of curriculum-based and instruction-based arts education programs taking place in K-12 classrooms
- Programs or projects serving only the applicant or the collective members or programs/activities that exclusively serve a select audience with no public component.

- 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 are not in good standing with SI Arts including failing to complete previous SI Arts grant projects and/or failure to provide project updates or 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. You will be required to fill out a profile and application using our online grant portal. **All first-time applicants to this program are strongly encouraged to attend an application seminar.** Please refer to the application seminar schedule (statenilandarts.org/grants). The grants administrator (**718-447-3329 x1003, gmimozo@statenilandarts.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**. Please note **applications must include a work sample to be considered**. Applicants apply directly (conduits are not necessary).

What Does Community Engagement Mean?

Engaging a community in the creative process can take many forms. Community can be broadly defined as a group of individuals sharing a common geography, interest, or belief.

Examples of communities:

- » Geographic: town, village, region
- » Racial/Ethnic: Hispanic or Latino, Black or African-American, Italian-American
- » Philosophical (*the study of the nature of...*): arts, business, faith-based
- » Occupational: farmers, historians, gallery-owners
- » Educational: preschoolers, teachers, graduates

You may choose to involve the community directly in your work or indirectly in a presentation or other public program. The key is to think creatively and unconventionally in how you engage the community you are working with. This can be in the form of feedback, response, interaction and/or social practice by or with community members. Some examples of this type of interaction are interviews with a segment of the community, creation of parallel work by a community group, or stories and anecdotes collected from a community group that relate to the concept or content of

the project. Partnerships between individual artists and community-based organizations are encouraged as a means of achieving the goals of this particular grant opportunity. Partnerships between individual artists and owners of private North Shore businesses are also encouraged but community engagement must be a focal activity for the project.

Below are two common ways artists can engage communities in their creative process:

- » Community Involvement: The artist involves community members in the creation of the artwork via workshops and/or presentations about the artistic process, or as performers in the artist-created work.
- » Community Interaction: The artist directly interacts with community members during the creation of the artwork and they participate in the creative process. For example, community members may contribute components of the finished artwork, provide information, input, or materials via interviews, donations, etc.; or may work directly with the artist in the creation.

Selection Process

Only four (4) applicants will be selected and awarded \$2,500 each. Consideration of proposals is competitive. Funding decisions are made by a separate panel of experts for each grant category. Panels are composed of representatives drawn from the disciplines eligible for funding. Panelists are professional artists, scholars, arts administrators, teachers of the arts and humanities, civic and business leaders, and community representatives. Based on the criteria (see below), the panelists vote on which projects are to be funded.

Criteria

1. Artistic merit and cultural significance.
2. Clearly stated objectives - especially in regards to how the selected community is engaged.
3. Clear connection to the *Future Culture* recommendation/s that the project will explore or test.
4. Clear and realistic plan for implementation that highlights the impact on the engaged community.
5. Realistic budget for stated proposal.
6. 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.
7. Applicant's experience and grant history.
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 2024. Grant funding can be awarded to projects taking place prior to notification.

Application Deadline

Applications must be submitted by **Wednesday January 31, 2024, 11:59pm.**

Work samples are required to be digitized and uploaded with the application.

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