



2026 NYSCA Creative Intervention GRANT GUIDELINES Staten Island Arts Regrant Program Deadline: June 30, 2026

NYSCA Creative Intervention Grants, 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. Proposals must be open to the public and take place on Staten Island. Two (2) applicants will be selected and awarded \$5,000 each.

What do we mean by *intervention*?:

- Goal: To create a positive change, modify destructive behavior, or stop an undesirable trend.
- Nature: It can be proactive (preventative) or reactive (addressing an ongoing issue).
- Origin: The term is derived from the Latin *intervenire*, meaning "to come between".
(source: Merriam Webster)

These grants support Staten Island artists creating new work designed around envisioning new possibilities with their communities. Priority will be given to projects that bring awareness to matters affecting their neighborhoods, direct interventions to addressing those matters or helping their communities/community members. Final outcomes can emphasize the creative *process* over a final *product*.

This grant program seeks qualified applicants focused on using the arts to:

- Facilitate Emotional Expression: provide a creative outlet for emotions that are hard to verbalize.
- Foster Community Connection: Reduce isolation by fostering a sense of belonging in a group.
- Reduce Stress: Engage the mind and body in a creative activity.
- Build Confidence: Encourage exploration of personal creative expression in a community setting.

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.

Who is eligible? All applicants must be Staten Island residents. *Selected artists will receive \$5,000. 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 or Individual Tax Identification number.

Who or what is *not* eligible?

- 501c3 Organizations or Individuals applying to or receiving direct or discretionary funds from the New York State Council on the Arts in the 2026 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, not open to the general public.
- 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 failure 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 required to view an application information session.** Please refer to our website (statenilandarts.org/grants) to access the information session..

The grants administrator Gena Mimoso is available to answer questions about the application, to answer questions about eligibility, or provide other assistance. You can reach them at **(718) 218-4338, gmimoso@statenilandarts.org**. It is strongly suggested that **all applicants** discuss their proposals with Gena before submitting applications. They are 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 (fiscal 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 or indirectly in the creation of a new piece of work. 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. Below are three 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.
- » Community Presentation/Performance: The artist and community members collectively create a presentation or performance to be shared with the public.

Selection Process

Only two (2) applicants will be selected and awarded \$5,000 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 evaluate each submitted proposal.

Criteria

1. Artistic merit and cultural significance.
2. Clearly stated objectives - especially in regards to how the selected community is engaged.
3. Clear and realistic plan for implementation that highlights the impact on the engaged community.
4. 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.
5. Applicant's experience and grant history.
6. 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 by the end of August.

Application Deadline

Applications must be submitted by **June 30, 2026, 11:59pm.**

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

Funded by the New York State Council on the Arts, a state agency Statewide Community Regrant Program with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature; administered by Staten Island Arts.

