NYSCA Support for Artists

NYSCA FY2023 Webinar Week

Hosted by: Program Director, Arian Blanco

Program Officer, Orin Chait

Welcome!

- All FY2023 **guidelines** and **application manual** can be found on the FY2023 Opportunities Page on the NYSCA website: https://arts.ny.gov/FY2023FundingOpportunities

- Our FY2023 Support for Artists Guidelines PDF can be found here: http://www.nysca.org/downloads/guidelines/FY2023/FY2023_Guidelines_Artist_Support.pdf

NYSCA FY2023 Funding Overview

- We are immensely grateful to Governor Hochul and our State Legislature for a record $140 million investment in the arts

- Five NYSCA opportunities are currently open

- Capital Projects funding opportunity will open in Fall 2022

Funding Overview

The New York State Council on the Arts is committed to providing opportunities for artists, at all stages in their careers, to continue to develop and present their work.

NYSCA Support for Artists seeks to:

- Enhance the vibrant and diverse artistic voices of New York State-based art makers.

- Invest in projects that represent significant growth in the artistic development of individual artists.

- Strengthen the relationships between individual artists and the artistic goals and mission of the sponsoring or commissioning organization, as applicable.

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Prequalification

- Any organization serving as a fiscal sponsor must be Prequalified in the New York State Grants Gateway online portal at the application deadline to be eligible for funding.

- **Nonprofit organizations applying to NYSCA even if only serving as a fiscal sponsor must be prequalified to do business with New York State agencies before they can compete for State grants.** The process allows nonprofits to address questions and concerns prior to entering a competitive bid process.

- All sponsoring organizations must be Prequalified in the New York State Grants Gateway online portal at the application deadline to be eligible for funding from NYSCA. *Please note: This is a separate portal from the application portal.*

- Don't wait – start this process now!

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Prequalification

- **New Applicants:** Please begin the Prequalification process as soon as possible.

- **Returning Applicants:** Please be sure to check their vault status. *Hundreds of vaults are expiring in the next few months, please review your status today*.

- **Individual Artists:** Do no need to prequalify in Grants Gateway.

- If you have additional questions on the Prequalification requirement, please contact us at help@arts.ny.gov or visit our website for more information.

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Key Dates

- Guidelines posted: **May 9, 2022**

- Application portal opens: **May 24, 2022**

- Application portal closes: **July 12, 2022, at 4PM**

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NYSCA Support for Artists Overview

For FY2023 artists may apply for a creative grant to NYSCA from the following artistic areas:

- Choreography Commissions
- Composer Compositions
- Film, Media, and New Technology
- Folk and Traditional Arts
- Interdisciplinary
- Literature
- Theater Commissions
- Visual Arts

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NYSCA Support for Artists Overview

Awards will be $10,000

- While no matching amount is required, if the applicant proposes work that will require more resources than this grant can offer, the applicant should explain how they will be able to complete the work.

- Applicant Artist must be 18 or older and a New York State resident as of the application deadline.

- We fund a year out. Meaning applications made this year are for creative activities occurring next year.

- For questions, please contact Program Staff. View contact information here: https://arts.ny.gov/contact

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Sponsoring Organization Responsibilities

- As NYSCA cannot make grants directly to individuals, each applicant must be sponsored by an eligible New York State nonprofit organization.

- Grants are awarded to the sponsoring organization, which then directs the funds to the artist. Eligible fiscal sponsors are non-profit organizations incorporated or registered to do business in New York State.

- Such organizations must be fully Prequalified in the Grants Gateway.

- Sponsoring organizations may serve as fiscal agents and limit their role to receiving, disbursing, and reporting on grants. The sponsoring organization may alternatively provide additional fiscal, administrative and production services to the artists they sponsor.

- **Sponsoring organizations other than service organizations may request support for only one creative grant in each area of support per year.**

Sponsored Artist Responsibilities

- Recognizing that when choosing a sponsor, it is best practice that the artist understands the role of the sponsoring organization.

- Working with the sponsoring organization regarding the submission of the application.

- Supplying the Sponsoring Organization with a completed application narrative and any relevant support materials including proof of residency.

- Keeping themselves apprised of all NYSCA deadlines.

- Providing proper NYSCA credit upon receiving a grant.

- Offering public access during the grant period. This might be a performance of the work/work-in-progress, a presentation, an online component, or other publicly accessible element.

Note: *Artistic control of, and proprietary rights to, any supported project rest exclusively with the artist.*

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Registration Questions

- Are filled out by sponsoring organization in the online application portal.

- These questions pertain to information about the sponsoring organization.

- See pages 7-8 of Support for Artists guidelines for full lists of questions

Sponsored Request Questions

- Are filled out by sponsoring organization in the online application portal.
- These questions pertain to information about the sponsored artist and project:
- Sponsoring organization will verify lead artist named in application is a current NYS resident.
- Verify that sponsored artist is not a staff or board member of sponsoring organization
- Verify lead artist named in application did NOT apply last year for Support for Artists Opportunity.
- Basic contact information for the sponsored artist: (legal name, address, email, phone).
- Project Title: Provide Name of proposed project (up to 100 characters).
- Project Description: Provide a brief description of proposed project. (up to 250 characters).
- Funded projects will be awarded $10,000. A sponsoring organization is eligible to take an administrative fee of up to $500 for a funded project. List amount of fee charged: (if no fee, put 0)
- Select artistic area from dropdown box.
- See page 8 of Support for Artists guidelines for full lists of questions.

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Narrative Application Questions

On a self-produced document, each applicant is to speak to the following points as it relates to their proposed project (up to 10,000 characters):

- Include the project title.

- Describe the project for which you are seeking support, including the work to be done in 2023.

- Provide a statement written by the lead artist describing their distinctive vision, stylistic and thematic qualities to be expressed in the proposed work. Include specific context about how proposed project builds on similar work in your field.

- List and describe each work sample's relationship to proposal: Describe each work sample and the relationship between the work sample and the proposed project, noting any stylistic or technical elements that are directly related to proposed project. If proposed project represents a new direction or departure from your past work as demonstrated in the work sample, this should also be discussed.

- Highlight how the individual or team possess relevant experience to creatively lead this project.

- Define the project's intended audience and detail any aspect of the project which will be made accessible to that audience in 2023, as applicable.

- Articulate any novel approaches to public engagement with regards to the creative process or public presentation of proposed project.

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Application Support Materials

- Every artistic area has a specific set of support material requirements.

- Support materials including your narrative question response are to be provided as a single multipage PDF that your fiscal sponsor will upload into the online platform.

- Please review the specific support materials that pertain to your specific request. These are listed under each artistic area's summary on pages 10-15 of the Support for Artists guidelines.

- Some support Materials are required while others are optional, please be sure to provide all required support materials.

- When providing video materials please note that you are to create a "links page" listing the links that Panel and staff will use to access this type of support materials. Actual video files are not uploaded into the application portal. Please be sure to provide these links without a password and ensure that they remain active and available for review through the end of this year.

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How is my Application Evaluated?

NYSCA Artist Support grants will be assessed under one all-encompassing criterion: Creativity. Panelists will consider the application questions and supporting materials to determine a single rating (5-0) for the application. **Any application scoring 2 and below will not be eligible for support.**

Creativity (5-0)
-Clear artistic vision.
-Relevance to the artistic development of the artist.
-Significance, distinctiveness, and innovative qualities of the project.
-Creative contributions to the discipline.
-Viability of the project's prospects for completion.
-Relationship and suitability of the project to the artistic goals and mission of the sponsoring or commissioning organization, if applicable.
-Proposals that include novel approaches to public engagement with regards to the creative process or public presentation are encouraged.

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Category Score	Scoring Guide
5	Meets or exceeds all benchmarks.
4	Meets most benchmarks.
3	Meets some benchmarks.
2	Meets few benchmarks.
1	Does not meet any benchmarks.
0	Question left unanswered, activities not arts/culture, response provides insufficient detail to understand programming.

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How is my Application Evaluated?

- Advisory panels play a key role in NYSCA's grant evaluation process. NYSCA selects a diverse group of professionals from across the state to fulfill the advisory panelist role.

- Each panelist evaluates and numerically rates each request against the criteria in the Funding Opportunity Guidelines. These ratings are then aggregated to one average score for each request. These ratings inform the funding recommendations made by NYSCA staff. The panels meet, with Program staff present, and have an opportunity to discuss applications.

- **Panelist nominations are now being accepted:** https://arts.ny.gov/panelists

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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q: How do I register as an artist in order to apply?

A: You do not. All individual artists must apply using a qualified NY State based nonprofit organization as their fiscal sponsor. Artists do not interact with our grantmaking platforms, their fiscal sponsor submits the application on the artist's behalf.

Q: As an Artist how can I find a fiscal sponsor?

A: NYSCA does not pair artists with fiscal sponsors. However, anyone can look through our past NYSCA funded list to see organizations that have successfully served as fiscal sponsors in previous years: http://www.nysca.org/grant_app/org_search.cfm

Q: I have a multi-year grant with NYSCA or plan to apply for organizational support, can I still serve as a fiscal sponsor for an artist?

A: Yes. Serving as a fiscal sponsor in no way precludes the sponsoring organization from applying to other NYSCA opportunities they qualify for.

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Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q: I am on the board or on staff of a nonprofit organization, can this organization serve as my fiscal sponsor?

A: No. Given that sponsoring organization acts as the custodian of the grant, it can constitute a conflict of interest should the grantee be currently on the Board or an Artistic/Administrative Staff.

Q: I applied last year under the Support for Artists opportunity can I apply this year to The Support for Artist Opportunity?

A: No, as the sit out rule still applies to both lead artist and project, whether funding was received or not.

We encourage artists to review the following resources:

1. Local Statewide Community Regrant Partners: https://arts.ny.gov/nysca-regrants-and-partnerships
2. NYFA: https://www.nyfa.org/awards-grants/
3. NY Media Arts Map: http://www.nymediaartsmap.org/funding_opportunities
4. Wave Farm: https://wavefarm.org/grants/about
5. ART/NY: https://www.art-newyork.org/funding
6. LitNYS: https://www.littap.org/
7. NY Folklore: https://nyfolklore.org/
8. Architectural League: https://archleague.org/

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Who Should I Contact with Questions?

- For technical questions on submitting online applications or prequalification, contact help@arts.ny.gov

- For opportunity-related questions, please contact Program Staff, view contact information here: https://arts.ny.gov/contact.

- Submit questions at least two weeks before the application deadline. Please note that we do not review written draft application materials.

Next up for NYSCA

- Webinar Week continues May 16 – May 19!
  - **Please note: all webinars are recorded and posted on the NYSCA website**
- Office Hours will begin soon! Please continue to check our website!

- You can reach NYSCA staff beyond office hour sessions

- Don't wait – Prequalify! Confirm you are Prequalified.

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Thank You for Joining Us!

We will now move into a live Q+A session