

**NYSCA GUIDELINES
INFORMATION SESSION**

**Special Arts
Services (SAS)
Program**



**Council on
the Arts
FY2021**



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Program Goals

Special Arts Services (SAS) is devoted to supporting arts activities that ensure access for historically underserved communities, including African American/Caribbean, Latinx, Asian, Native American, LGBTQIA and immigrant communities.

SAS supports programs that engage the arts to address the changing needs of New York's most vulnerable populations, including people in geographically remote areas with limited cultural offerings; disabled communities; impoverished and homeless populations; and court, jail, and prison-involved juveniles and adults.

Program Priorities

- The applicant's primary focus or mission must be in Special Arts Services; or the organization must have significant ongoing activities that address the focus of the NYSCA program in which the organization is seeking support;
- SAS-supported programs must specifically occur within and be tailored to the SAS-focused constituency it seeks to serve.
- Priority is given to organizations that pay fees to artists and curators and those that provide ongoing programming that is not available elsewhere in the specific community.



Key Dates & Deadlines

Guidelines Released January 14, 2020	Application Period Begins January 28, 2020	Deadline: March 12, 2020 4PM	Award(s) Announced By EST December 15, 2020
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Previous Year Statistics

- Awarded \$2.6 million in 140 grants to 132 organizations across 20 counties

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- General Operating Support**
- Project Support**
- Instruction & Training**
- Regrants and Partnerships**
(by invitation only)



Prerequisites

- The SAS program no longer accepts more than one non-exempt request from a single organization.
- Video documentation is a powerful component to your application. Consider this when selecting video samples for the panel to review.
- Take note of request ranges that have been articulated in the guidelines.
- Sponsored requests are accepted in the SAS Project Support and Instruction and Training categories. Funding for sponsored projects will generally not exceed \$10,000. Please review the Sponsored Application Instructions in our SAS Guidelines.
- NYSCA funds a year out, meaning that requests made in 2020 are for qualified expenses that occur Jan-Dec of 2021.

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FAQs

We've been receiving multi-year funding but need to re-apply, is it necessary for me to complete a new application?

Yes, all applicants that have completed their multiyear grants must fully complete and submit a new application. Please note that past funding is no guarantee of future funding.

Do you consider rural New York a historically underserved audience? How can we prove we service an underserved audience?

Use asset-based language to be descriptive of your community, your target audience and how your programming is relevant to that community. Utilize demographic information from local city and state census research to support your case about how your audience meets one or more of our stated target communities.

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FAQs (Cont.)

We plan to apply for a NYSCA regrant from our local arts council. Can we still apply for a Special Arts Services grant from NYSCA?

An applicant must decide to either apply directly to NYSCA OR our Decentralization regrant program in a given year.

Our season runs from June 1st through May 31st; How do we best represent that for NYSCA as we discuss FY2021 programming?

NYSCA funds a year out, meaning that requests made in 2020 are for qualified expenses that occur Jan-Dec of 2021. Be sure to speak to proposed program activity for which funds are sought for that fall between Jan-Dec 2021 regardless of when your organization's fiscal year takes place. In some cases a NYSCA grant may straddle two fiscal years on an organization's books but that is fine as long as funds are spent within the grant's contract period.

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CFA Application Tips

- Prequalification is the first step; make sure your organization is Prequalified - and/or all vault documents are up to date.
- View application resources at www.arts.ny.gov/nysca-grant-opportunities, including our application manual PDF and interactive guide at www.arts.ny.gov/application-guide.
- There are no exceptions to the CFA application deadline once the deadline has passed. It is a time-sensitive application.
- Read the questions carefully and answer them directly. Be succinct. The NYSCA-CFA application questions have word count limits.
- Use the Financial Notes section provided.
- Remember to answer all the CFA application questions and upload all support materials requested. Hard copy submissions are not accepted.

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SAS Program Page:

<https://arts.ny.gov/programs/special-arts-services>

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THANK YOU!

