



NEW YORK FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS

ANNUAL REPORT
July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

Please visit our website at www.nyfa.org for more information on all of our programs.

A MESSAGE FROM NYFA'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Image credit: Eduardo Patino

I am very proud to have the distinction of leading NYFA and working with the staff and Board of Directors to further the exemplary mission that it represents: supporting artists and arts organizations—from all backgrounds and disciplines—at critical stages in their creative development.

The pandemic has created exponential challenges that are impacting individuals and institutions at every level in the arts. Like many non-profits, we find ourselves facing the toughest obstacles our organization has encountered in its 50-year history. Despite the losses, this unprecedented year has also presented the arts and cultural sector with an opportunity to consider how it wants to rebuild, with a significant focus in the philanthropic community on individuals who have been long overlooked and underserved in our society. Here at NYFA, we recognize that values of diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility are integral to our mission. Moments like these may come and go, but we will remain committed to doing everything in our power to ensure that immigrants, people of color, LGBTQIA+, individuals with disabilities—and all other members of the creative community—have the tools needed to seize the opportunities offered to them, and to create their own.

I am deeply humbled and inspired by the generosity I've seen from the creative community and its supporters, in helping to replenish the artistic landscape this year; it underscores that by working together, we can rise to challenges ahead and build a stronger and brighter future for the arts.

On behalf of NYFA, thank you for joining us in this important work.

With gratitude,

Michael L. Royce
Executive Director

OUR IMPACT IN NUMBERS

The New York Foundation for the Arts (NYFA) empowers the creative community by providing critical support, resources, and opportunities under four flagship programs: Awards & Grants, Learning, Online Resources, and Fiscal Sponsorship. In the face of unparalleled challenge, NYFA's core programs played a key role in helping to sustain and revitalize the arts in New York, and nationwide.

» Served **850,000+** people, from all disciplines and backgrounds

» Provided **3,600+** individuals with professional development training and support

» Distributed over **\$3.9 million** in funding across 33 States & U.S. Territories

» Helped **60,000+ applicants** apply to jobs & opportunities listed on NYFA Classifieds

COVID-19 EFFORTS

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, NYFA transitioned all programs and services to accessible online formats, and has centered its efforts on ensuring that artists, arts workers, and arts organizations receive the resources they need to persevere. Until the economy and arts sector is fully restored, NYFA will keep devoting all of its services to supporting the arts community in its greatest time of need. Here is what we've accomplished so far:

- » Established **5 new emergency grants**
- » Reviewed **2,128 grant applications**
- » Distributed **\$1,328,677 in emergency grants**
- » Supported **667 artists & arts workers** with emergency funding
- » Provided access to **150+ emergency grants** nationwide
- » Hosted **20+ professional development events** open to the public

Programs and services were available free of charge or at a reduced price from April – June, 2020

Anonymous Was a Woman Emergency Relief Grant

March 30 – April 11, 2020
\$317,500 distributed

Tri-State Relief Fund for Non-Salaried Workers in the Visual Arts

April 28, 2020 – Ongoing
\$892,000 distributed to date

Maurice Sendak Emergency Relief Fund

April 15, 2020 – May 10, 2020
\$119,177 distributed

Keep NYS Creating Project Grant

Being administered in FY21

Hamptons Arts Network Artist Relief Fund

Being administered in FY21

THIS WORK WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE GENEROSITY OF OUR FUNDERS, LIKE **YOU**.

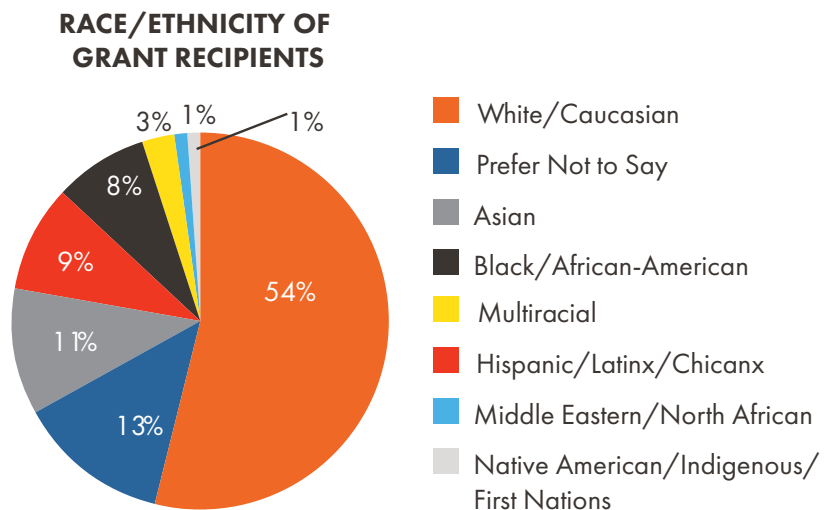
"Thank you for this support and for doing the work to care for the creative community."

Anonymous Grant Recipient

AWARDS & GRANTS

In addition to emergency funding, NYFA's Awards & Grants program distributed over **\$2.6 million** to **260 artists** and creatives across the U.S. through both long-standing programs and new initiatives.

NYFA's Awards & Grants are peer reviewed by artists specialized in their disciplines. We make every effort to form panels that are representative of the artistic community, and to create an equitable process that promotes inclusivity and diversity.



NYSCA/NYFA ARTIST FELLOWSHIP, EST. 1985


In partnership with the New York State Council on The Arts (NYSCA) with additional support from the NYC Department of Cultural Affairs, Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation, and Milton & Sally Avery Arts Foundation

In the **35th year** of the program, NYFA awarded **\$588,000** in unrestricted fellowships to support the visions and voices of New York State artists. Fellowships were awarded in the disciplines of Craft/Sculpture, Digital/Electronic Arts, Nonfiction Literature, Poetry, and Printmaking/Drawing/Book Arts. In addition, three finalists were recognized in each category. [A full list of awardees is located on our website.](#)

Themes Across 3,536 Applications:

-  Social Practice & Engagement
-  Recycled Materials
-  Family
-  Environmental Issues/Climate Change
-  Immigration

\$7,000 Individual grants
84 Fellowships
85 Fellows
15 Finalists

A close-up portrait of Kameron Neal, a Black man with short, dark, curly hair and a light beard. He is wearing round, translucent tortoiseshell glasses and a white collared shirt. The background is dark and out of focus.

AWARDS & GRANTS

"This fellowship will allow me to expand the breadth of my work and invest in resources that'll change the course of my practice for years to come. I am honored to be recognized as a NYSCA/ NYFA Artist Fellow at this phase in my career, and look forward to sharing more of my work with the world."

KAMERON NEAL, DIGITAL/ELECTRONIC ARTS '20

Kameron Neal is a queer Black video artist, designer, and performance-maker whose work explores the body and identity. Learn more at kameronneal.com.

AWARDS & GRANTS

NYC WOMEN'S FUND FOR MEDIA, MUSIC AND THEATRE, Est. 2018 | Supported by the City of New York Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment

A total of **\$1.7 million** in finishing funds was distributed to **94 NYC projects**, addressing the underrepresentation of women-identifying artists and perspectives in film, music, television, digital media, and theatre. A full list of awardees is on our website.

THE MURRAY REICH AWARD, Est. 2015 | Supported by Anonymous Donor

The **\$12,000** unrestricted grant honored the artistic excellence of established artist **Jaune Quick-to-See Smith**.

THE RECHARGE FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP FOR NEW SURREALIST ART, Est. 2019 | Supported by the Recharge Foundation

\$5,000 national award for surrealist painters; made to New York State artist **Jan Harrison**.

THE JGS FELLOWSHIP FOR PHOTOGRAPHY, Est. 2020 | Supported by The Joy of Giving Something, Inc.

Five **\$7,000** fellowships awarded to New York State photographers—and/or artists working with photographic techniques—living and working outside of New York City. Inaugural recipients included **Zana Briski, Widline Cadet, Ahndraya Parlato, Joshua Rashaad McFadden, and Jeannette Rodríguez Pineda**.

RAUSCHENBERG EMERGENCY MEDICAL GRANTS, Est. 2020 | Supported by the Robert Rauschenberg Foundation

The nationwide program provides one-time grants of up to **\$5,000** to support artists with unexpected medical, dental, and mental health emergencies. Awards are granted multiple times a year.

First Two Cycles:
» **\$301,053** awarded
» **74** Recipients
» **Across 19** States

"I'm relieved and thrilled, and I'll never forget this...from the bottom of my heart I appreciate the generosity of the NYFA GRANTS; normally money isn't given to folks who look like me (African American/Black). This is leveling the playing field...of course, I have more testing needed and I'll have more bills. However, for now, the burden has lifted, and I can concentrate on healing."

Adrienne La Faye, REMG Recipient

A portrait of Celeste Yim, a woman with short, dark, wavy hair, looking slightly to the right. She is wearing a black V-neck top. Her hands are clasped in front of her, wearing a dark pinstriped sleeve. The background is a solid grey.

AWARDS & GRANTS

"I am so grateful to NYFA and the Canadian Women's Club of New York for the support of my work in the United States, and I am especially moved that this award envisions the crossing of national borders as a valuable artistic act. I will be using the award to develop new theatre and film scripts in New York City, and to eat a few more vegetables."

CANADIAN WOMEN ARTISTS AWARD, Est. 2017

Supported by the Canadian Women's Club of New York

The annual **\$5,000** unrestricted award was made to Canadian-born and NYC-based playwright/ screenwriter, and comedian, **Celeste Yim**.

CURATORIAL AFFAIRS

2020 marked the close of the traveling exhibition, ***Artists as Innovators: Celebrating Three Decades of New York State Council on the Arts/New York Foundation for the Arts Fellowships***. The exhibition concluded at the Paul W. Zuccaire Gallery at Stony Brook University, from Oct. 26, 2019 - Feb. 20, 2020.



Image: *Artists as Innovators* installation at SUNY Stony Brook, 2019;
Photo Credit: Nick Koridis

3-year
Exhibition
1,260 mi.
Travelled
6 NYS
Campuses
48 Artworks
Presented
21 NYSCA/NYFA
Fellows Exhibited
18 Public Programs
Hosted
10,000 Individuals
Reached

ARTISTS SUPPORTING ARTISTS: A NYFA BENEFIT SHOW

In support of our 2020 programs, NYFA hosted the online exhibition, *Artists Supporting Artists: A NYFA Benefit Show* from March through April, 2020. The exhibition included works from over 50 artists—including many NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellows—who generously donated their talents to help NYFA continue to provide the creative community with its vital services. The virtual event drew wide support from donors and collectors, helping to advance our work in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thank you to all of the artists who donated their work to support our mission.

FISCAL SPONSORSHIP

Fiscal Sponsorship allowed **480 artist projects and emerging organizations** across the nation to operate under NYFA's 501(c)(3) status, helping to increase their funding opportunities and develop their projects. Fiscally Sponsored artists reached national and international audiences through film screenings, performances, exhibitions, educational programs, and other events. [Visit our website to see the full directory of Fiscally Sponsored artists & organizations.](#)

Fiscal Sponsorship hosted **15 public workshops and special events**, both in-person and online, which served **943 artists**.

60 New Projects & Organizations
59 Total Emerging Organizations
421 Total Artist Projects
\$3.6 Raised in FY20



Image: Hrag Vartanian speaks at the 2019 Art World Conference, 2019;
Photo Credit: Alexa Hoyer

ART WORLD CONFERENCE, DEXTER WIMBERLY

The conference provides ongoing actionable and inclusive workshops and events, both in-person and online, to help diverse groups of artists, freelancers, and arts professionals learn tangible skills, receive resources, and foster community in order to build sustainable careers.

"We are elated and honored to have NYFA as our Fiscal Sponsor. We believe it is a critical part of our growth as an organization and our future success. We look forward to learning more from NYFA's resources and to expanding our reach to a broader, national audience."

NYFA LEARNING

NYFA Learning served **2,832 artists and arts professionals** through both in-person and online professional development programs and workshops.

Signature programs included the nationwide **Immigrant Artist Mentoring Program (IAP)**, serving literary, performing, multidisciplinary, and visual immigrant artists with mentoring support and career training; the **Emerging Leaders Program**, empowering mid-level arts administrators; the **Doctor's Hours Program**, providing artists with one-on-one consultations with industry professionals; the **Artist as Entrepreneur Program**, a business training intensive teaching artists tools for sustainability; **Online Learning**, an online professional development webinar series; **NYFA Coaching**, providing artists with access to career advice from NYFA's expert Staff; and the **Work Sample Review Program**, helping artists and students strengthen their application submissions.



Image: Immigrant Artist Mentoring Program 2020 Mentors and Mentees

PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS:

57%
New York State
42%
Nationwide
29
States
51
Countries
183+
Immigrant Artists



NYFA LEARNING

"The Immigrant Artist Mentoring Program went above and beyond my expectations. It is a unique safe environment to develop relationships with other immigrant talented artists who are willing to share their time, life experience, resources and connections. NYFA offered a great deal of support and encouragement which helped with advancing my art practice and professional development."

KATYA AKUMA, TEXTILES, INTERDISCIPLINARY (RUSSIA), IAP ALUMNA '20

Katya Akuma is an interdisciplinary artist who focuses on using ubiquitous, overlooked, cultural-rich materials to explore questions of identity and belonging, drawing upon her personal experience as an immigrant who has lived and worked in several countries.

ONLINE RESOURCES

NYFA's Online Resources provide artists and arts professionals nationwide with information on tools, services, and opportunities through multiple platforms: **Classifieds**, the largest national online opportunities board in the arts and culture industry; **NYFACurrent Blog**, which hosts program announcements, professional development resources, and industry highlights; **Emergency Resources Directory**, a centralized source of emergency information for artists throughout the U.S; **The Business of Art Directory**, offering a wealth of information and guidance on matters important to artists' careers; and the **IAP Resource Directory**, an introduction to the resources available to immigrant artists in New York as a part of NYFA's Immigrant Artist Program. Support for immigrant artists is also provided through the **IAP Newsletter**, which reaches **8,285 subscribers**.

@LennyBernstein (Tweet)



"Many performing Artists are being hit hard during this time of crisis. This wonderful nation-wide emergency grants list from @nyfacurrent is a great resource for artists and anyone able to help with financial contributions!"

835,113 visitors to our website

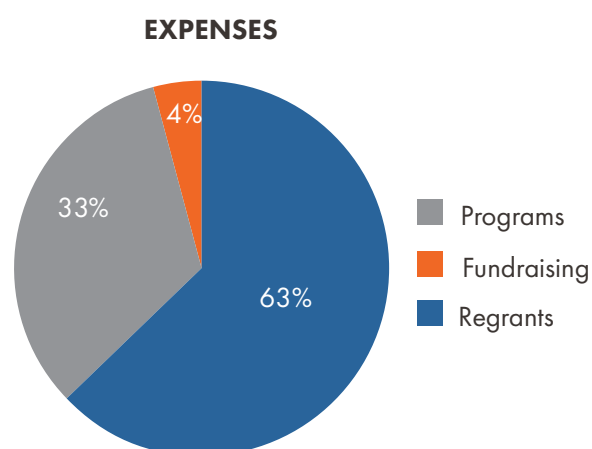
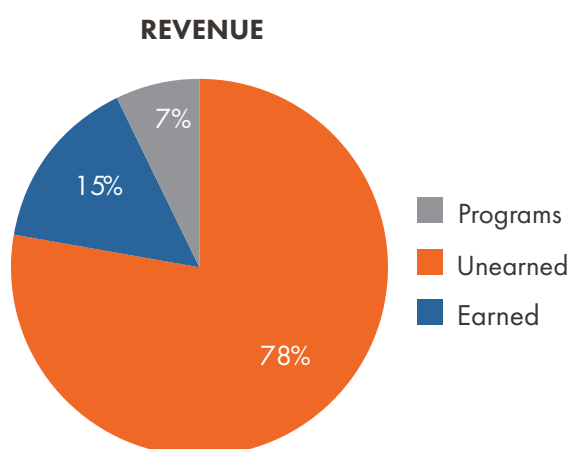
6,645 listings on NYFA Classifieds

11 postings per month on NYFA Blog

186,496 followers on social media

40,082 subscribers to the NYFA Newsletter

FINANCIAL INFORMATION



NYFA's financial statements are available on our website.

PROGRAM PARTNERS

To help us in our mission, we cultivate partnerships with an array of arts and cultural organizations from across the country. Together, we are working to ensure that artists and arts leaders receive the support they need to thrive.

- » Affordable Art Fair
- » The Alliance for Media Arts + Culture
- » American Negro Theatre at The Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture
- » ARTnews
- » The Arts Council of the Southern Finger Lakes
- » Art Students League of New York
- » ArtsWestchester
- » Assembly Room
- » Boston University
- » BRIC
- » Brooklyn Arts Council
- » Brooklyn Public Library
- » Broome County Arts Council
- » Bronx Council on the Arts
- » The Caribbean Cultural Center African Diaspora Institute
- » Candid
- » Center for Art Law
- » Center for Traditional Music & Dance
- » Chashama
- » Chugh, LLP
- » CNY Arts
- » CODAworx
- » CUNY School of Professional Studies
- » Dance/NYC
- » East End Arts
- » Exploring the Metropolis
- » Eyebeam
- » Flower City Arts Center
- » Flushing Town Hall
- » Flux Factory
- » Gagosian Gallery
- » Gibney
- » The Gifford Foundation
- » Golden Artist Colors
- » Guild Hall
- » Hamptons Arts Network
- » HeartShare Human Services of New York
- » Huntington Arts Council
- » Jamaica Center for Arts & Learning
- » Joe's Pub
- » John H. Mulroy Civic Center
- » Lake Placid Center for the Arts
- » Neighborhood Arts Network
- » New York Live Arts
- » New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA)
- » New Jersey Theatre Alliance
- » Northern Manhattan Arts Alliance (NoMAA)
- » Nuyorcan Poets Cafe
- » Paul W. Zuccaire Gallery, SUNY Stony Brook
- » Penny W. Stamps School of Art & Design
- » Poetry Society of America
- » Pratt Institute
- » Pregones/Puerto Rican Traveling Theater
- » Pro Bono Steering Committee of New York State Bar Association's Entertainment, Arts and Sports Law Section (EASL)
- » Red Bull Arts New York
- » Rhode Island School of Design (RISD)
- » Rockefeller Arts Center, SUNY Fredonia
- » Samuel Dorsky Museum, SUNY New Paltz
- » Saratoga Arts
- » School of Visual Arts (SVA)
- » Sculpture Space Inc.
- » Seed & Spark
- » Staten Island Arts
- » Sugar Hill Children's Museum of Art & Storytelling
- » Taiwanese American Arts Council
- » Toronto Arts Foundation
- » SUNY Albany
- » SUNY Potsdam
- » Washington University St. Louis
- » Wave Hill
- » Word Up
- » Urban Glass

OUR SUPPORTERS

NYFA deeply appreciates the numerous individuals, public agencies, foundations, and corporations that generously supported our programs. It is thanks to our funders and donors that NYFA will endure the current challenges, and it is through our combined efforts that the arts will grow anew in the future. (Donations of \$500 and higher, including support of NYFA's annual benefit.)

- » American Express
- » Anonymous Was A Woman
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- » Sonja Berggren
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- » Judith K. Brodsky
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- » Arlene Bujese
- » Castle Family Foundation
- » Sophie Chahinian
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- » Alexandra Chasin
- » Martin & Michele Cohen
- » Con Edison
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- » Andrea Daniels-Berger
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- » Dedalus Foundation
- » The Charles Delmar Foundation
- » Deutsche Bank Americas Foundation
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ABOUT NYFA

The New York Foundation for the Arts (NYFA) empowers the creative community by providing critical support, resources, and opportunities under four flagship programs: **Awards & Grants**, **Learning**, **Online Resources**, and **Fiscal Sponsorship**.

Pursuing values of diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility is critical to NYFA's mission of serving creative individuals from all backgrounds and disciplines. Our programs are tailored to the needs of our constituents, and are created with the intention of fostering a vibrant and diverse arts landscape. We work diligently to elevate and incorporate the voices and works of artists and arts professionals from a wide variety of backgrounds, with a focus on serving under-resourced and historically underrepresented communities. To help us in our mission, we cultivate partnerships with an array of arts and cultural organizations from across the country. Together, we are working to ensure that artists and arts leaders receive the support they need to thrive.



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