



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Amy Aronoff, Senior Communications Officer

New York Foundation for the Arts

aaronoff@nyfa.org

APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR NEW STATEWIDE PROGRAM TO STRENGTHEN SMALL NONPROFIT ARTS ORGANIZATIONS

New York, NY – Applications are now open for a new statewide program to strengthen small arts organizations from the [New York Council of Nonprofits, Inc.](#) (NYCON) and [New York Foundation for the Arts](#) (NYFA), with funding support from the [New York State Council on the Arts](#) (NYSCA). Small arts nonprofits provide key resources in their communities, yet often struggle to survive and grow. The new [NYSCA Stabilization Program for Small Arts Organizations](#) will serve eligible nonprofits through a combination of tailored advisory services and financial support.

Applicants for the new NYSCA program must be based outside of New York City and may have an annual operating budget of up to \$1 million. Rural and BIPOC-led community-based organizations are strongly encouraged to apply. The first round of applications must be received by Nov. 16 of this year, and a second-round application deadline will be Feb. 1, 2024. [Click here for more information.](#)

The no-cost program for the participants will initially help arts and culture organizations assess their standing and capacity in areas including operations, finances, planning, and leadership. Based upon their assessments, the participating organizations will work with a program

administrator to determine and undertake a series of targeted learning and consulting activities that will better prepare the arts groups for longer-term viability.

At the conclusion of the program, each arts group may also be awarded a grant of up to \$10,000 to help them purchase equipment and/or further services that reinforce their newly increased capacities.

Current, former, and non-NYSCA funded organizations are eligible to apply. Both NYFA and NYCON are themselves nonprofits, and bring to this program decades of experience in advising and supporting arts organizations. Each organization will work with applicants and participants from different parts of the state:

- NYCON: Central, Western, Southern Tier, and Finger Lakes regions
- NYFA: Capital, Long Island, Mid-Hudson, Mohawk, and North Country regions

"We now know the arts are outpacing manufacturing, retail, healthcare and construction for creating jobs in upstate communities," said Katherine Nicholls, Chair of the New York State Council on the Arts. "This training and funding for arts groups will help them flourish as they continue to provide economic security and community health all across the State. We are proud to support NYCON and NYFA in this essential work."

NYCON CEO Megan Allen noted, "NYCON has been fortunate to work with NYSCA to support arts organizations across the state since 2006, and we are excited to partner on this new initiative. The stabilization programming will allow us to provide additional arts organizations with robust services and access to all NYCON experts. We look forward to helping these organizations grow and thrive into the future."

"We're proud to partner with NYSCA and NYCON on this much-needed program," said Michael Royce, CEO, New York Foundation for the Arts (NYFA). "We look forward to giving organizations the tools and support they need to be more sustainable long-term, because their work and the services they provide ultimately benefits many and provides a vibrancy to the New York State communities of which they are a part," he added.

The new NYSCA Stabilization Program for Small Arts Organizations is administered by NYCON and NYFA in partnership with the New York State Council on the Arts, and is made possible with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature.

For more information visit, nycon.org/stabilization or nyfa.org/stabilization.

Round 1 Application Deadline: Thursday, November 16, 2023, 5:00 PM ET

Round 2 Application Deadline: Thursday, February 1, 2023, 5:00 PM ET

Eligibility Definitions:

- BIPOC is an acronym for Black, Indigenous, and People of color.
- Community-Based arts and culture nonprofit organizations represent community needs and work to help them. CBOs may be associated with a particular area of concern or segment of the community.
- Rural communities are defined as having populations of less than 30,000 and not being part of an urban or suburban cluster.
- **NYCON Program Regions and Counties:** Central, Western, Southern Tier, and Finger Lakes regions (including Cayuga, Cortland, Madison, Onondaga, Oswego, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Orleans, Ontario, Seneca, Wayne, Wyoming, Yates, Broome, Chemung, Chenango, Delaware, Otsego, Schuyler, Steuben, Tioga, Tompkins, Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, and Niagara counties).
- **NYFA Program Regions and Counties:** Capital, Mid-Hudson, Mohawk, and North Country regions, as well as Long Island (including Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Warren, Washington, Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster, Westchester, Nassau, Suffolk, Fulton, Hamilton, Herkimer, Montgomery, Oneida, Schoharie, Clinton, Essex, Franklin, Jefferson, Lewis, and St. Lawrence counties).

###

About the New York State Council on the Arts

The mission of the New York State Council on the Arts is to foster and advance the full breadth of New York State's arts, culture, and creativity for all. To support the ongoing recovery of the arts across New York State, the Council on the Arts will award \$127 million in FY 2024. The Council on the Arts further advances New York's creative culture by convening leaders in the field and providing organizational and professional development opportunities and informational resources. Created by Governor Nelson Rockefeller in 1960 and continued with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature, the Council is an agency that is part of the Executive Branch. For more information on NYSCA, please visit www.arts.ny.gov,

and follow NYSCA's [Facebook](#) page, Twitter [@NYSCArts](#) and Instagram [@NYSCouncilontheArts](#)

###

About the New York Council of Nonprofits, Inc. (NYCON)

NYCON is a statewide association of nonprofits, working to develop and promote an effective and vibrant charitable nonprofit community throughout New York State. NYCON strengthens organizational capacity, acts as an advocate and unifying voice, helps to inform philanthropic giving, and conducts research and planning to demonstrate relevance and impact. Combined, these efforts help to improve the quality of life in communities by strengthening the effectiveness, efficiencies, and viability of charitable nonprofits. To learn more about NYCON, visit www.nycon.org.

###

About New York Foundation of the Arts (NYFA)

[The New York Foundation for the Arts \(NYFA\)](#) was established in 1971 to empower artists at critical stages in their creative lives. Today, the nonprofit organization's programs and services are far-reaching and are rooted in a wealth of physical and online resources. Each year, NYFA awards more than \$4 million in cash grants to individual visual, performing, and literary artists throughout the United States. NYFA's Fiscal Sponsorship program, one of the oldest and most reputable in the country, helps national artists and arts organizations raise and manage an average of \$4 million annually. NYFA's Learning programs, including its Artist as Entrepreneur and Immigrant Artist Mentoring Program, provide thousands of artists, creatives, and arts administrators with professional development training and support. NYFA's website, NYFA.org, is used by more than 1 million people and features more than 20,000 opportunities and resources available to artists in all disciplines.

###