

New Jersey Arts and Culture Renewal Fund

Grant Application Overview

SERVING ARTS, CULTURAL, AND HISTORY NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

The New Jersey Arts and Culture Renewal Fund (NJACRF) was established in 2020 to ensure the survival and strength of the state's arts and culture nonprofit sector during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

The fund was created as a public-private partnership, capitalizing on the resources and expertise available through the government, corporate, and private philanthropic sectors. Strategic alignment of these partners ensures a coordinated approach to sector support, and ongoing dialogue with the field and stakeholders.

The New Jersey Arts and Culture Renewal Fund provides financial support to catalyze an equitable statewide recovery and build resilience for New Jersey-based smaller nonprofit arts, arts education, and/or history organizations.

The New Jersey Arts and Culture Renewal Fund (NJARCF) grantmaking will provide grants to eligible nonprofit arts, culture, and history organizations, managing post-pandemic challenges, and/or negatively impacted by non-pandemic challenges. While the grant application is open to all arts, cultural, and historical organizations who meet eligibility requirements, in recognition of long-standing disparities in funding, the fund seeks to create a more equitable sector by prioritizing organizations serving and/or led by Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color (BIPOC) in New Jersey. The Fund seeks to support organizations that are embracing cultural shifts catalyzed by the pandemic. Research has revealed that finding opportunities to work in new ways will address disparities and contribute to a more equitable future for the sector overall.

Grants will support nonprofit organizations whose primary focus is Arts & Culture, Arts Education, and/or History. As the fund develops and the needs and priorities of the sector change, Fund priorities may evolve accordingly.

Priority Criteria:

We anticipate the number of requests will exceed the available funds in each round of grantmaking. We will consider the following aspects of the requests and give priority to:

- Arts, arts education, and/or history organizations working in and/or for underserved communities in south, central, and northern New Jersey.
- Organizations with a demonstrated commitment to equity and serving communities most vulnerable to the impact of various sector disruptions and/or pursuing social justice work through arts, arts education, or history programming.
- Organizations that are BIPOC led and those showing evidence of intentional efforts and tangible progress to diversify their staff and governance.

- Organizations that are reimagining what their work and mission will look like in the future in response to new demands, instead of replicating past programming.
- Organizations that have developed new partnerships or built on existing ones to have greater impact.

Eligibility:

We will accept applications from organizations that meet the following eligibility requirements. The applicant must:

- be incorporated in New Jersey as a 501(c)(3) and serve New Jersey communities
- have primary programming in or more New Jersey counties
- employ at least one year-round, part-time, **paid employee or unpaid year-round part-time person** (dedicated volunteer) working a minimum of 20 hours per week in an administrative or a combined administrative/artistic leadership role (Please note, a part-time primarily artistic employee does not meet this eligibility requirement.)
- have a primary mission focused on arts, arts education, or history
- be in operation for a minimum of two years prior to the application
- have budget expenditures of \$5 Million or less

The following are not eligible for this funding opportunity:

- Organizations without a dedicated staff member or dedicated volunteer to oversee administrative activities.
- Local, state, or federal government agencies.
- Organizations that offer arts or history programming but whose mission is not primarily arts, arts education, or history, such as social services or community development organizations, zoos, science centers, and botanical gardens.
- Stand-alone or one-time festivals, conferences, or other events. Stand-alone publications, films/videos, or websites.
- Religious organizations.
- Groups that are legally, financially, or operationally part of a larger institution, e.g., the art department of a college.
- Colleges, universities, or Pre-K to 12 educational institutions
- Organizations with budget expenditures of over \$5 Million

Grant Parameters:

- Organizations can apply for General Operating Support.
- Award amounts will take into consideration the organization's total operational budget
- Applicants will be required to submit an application and budget via Princeton Area Community Foundation's grant portal at njartsculture.org.
- If awarded a grant, grantees will be required to complete a short report outlining use of funds one year after the grant is awarded.

Review Process:

Applications are evaluated by a panel of artists, community leaders, arts administrators, stakeholders, arts educators, and history professionals.

Decisions will be guided by a panel of artists and arts, arts education, history, and philanthropy experts using an evaluation rubric. The evaluation rubric will be furnished at application time.

Questions?

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