Dear Friends,

As we reflect on the extraordinary progress we have made since the New Jersey Arts and Culture Renewal Fund (NJACRF) was established at the height of the pandemic, we are grateful for the growing community that fiercely believes in—and supports—our mission. The New Jersey Arts and Culture Renewal Fund (NJACRF) was created to catalyze an equitable statewide recovery for smaller arts, arts education, cultural, and historical organizations in New Jersey during and after the pandemic.

In 2022, $2.8 Million was awarded, with an average grant size of $23,800. Because of the dedication and passion of our supporters, we have been able to award a total of $6.7 Million in grants to 192 smaller and medium-sized organizations in New Jersey since 2020. The arts and culture sector is on its way to returning to its pre-pandemic vibrancy. While the urgent crisis of the pandemic is receding, funding disparities in the arts and culture sector are not. We are more committed than ever to our equity-centered principles, and to prioritizing BIPOC-led and BIPOC-serving organizations, many of which were disproportionately affected by the pandemic and historically underfunded.

As we look ahead, we will explore ways in which we can build healthy communities, be a resource to our grantees, and better serve the field.

The New Jersey Arts and Culture Renewal Fund is meeting a critical need. Together, we are helping to infuse communities with hope and contribute to individual and community wellbeing through the revival of the arts and culture sector in the state. Your partnership is vital to our work and greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Lynne Toye, Executive Director
New Jersey Arts and Culture Renewal Fund

Jeremy Grunin, Co-Chair,
New Jersey Arts and Culture Renewal Fund

Sharnita C. Johnson, Co-Chair,
New Jersey Arts and Culture Renewal Fund
“When I learned that I would be receiving a grant from The New Jersey Arts and Culture Renewal Fund, I actually shed a few tears. For the first time since the start of the pandemic I felt validated as an artist. I suffered so much during the pandemic, from the passing of loved ones to enduring extreme financial hardship. However, what I lost more than anything else was the opportunity to be creative. Receiving this grant has given me something that I have not had in a long time, HOPE.”
– Helena Lewis, Poet and Performer

“Validation from our community is extremely important to artists who are often forced to navigate through an industry that tends to marginalize our artistic contributions. As an elder, indigenous, female, urban artist, my most gratifying accomplishment is the love and appreciation I receive from young people especially younger fellow artists. To be included and receive an award shared by other extremely talented artists inspires me to continue my best work. So, Thank You Art in the Atrium! Your encouragement and continued support for local artists is greatly appreciated!”
– Yvonne Onque, Artist

“Very grateful to have received this grant from NJ Arts and Cultural Renewal Fund - through Riverview Jazz - as it has helped me immensely. With the help of that grant I was able to better share my artwork with the community in which I live and thrive! Can’t thank you enough.”
– Davis Whitfield, Musician

“Thanks to the New Jersey Arts and Culture Renewal Fund, Keys 2 Success has greatly expanded its capacity by unlocking the potential of Newark students and launching them from students to leaders. This grant has had a powerful impact, enabling students to enrich their own lives and build a brighter future for their community by sharing their passion for the arts and culture with the next generation.”
– Jee-Hoon Krска, Ph.D., Founder and Executive Director, Keys 2 Success
“MudGirls Studios was a life-line for women who were isolated during the pandemic. Because of funding from the New Jersey Arts and Culture Renewal Fund, MudGirls was able to keep at-risk women employed and engaged while all other social service agencies were shuttered. MudGirls was a source of connection to the world, a light in the darkness.”

– Dorrie Papademetriou, Director, Designer and Founder, MudGirls Studios

“Riverview Jazz is so grateful to the New Jersey Arts and Culture Renewal Fund for giving us the opportunity to help jazz musicians in need. These past couple of years have hit the performing arts community particularly hard, especially jazz musicians who make their living playing live. This grant has presented an amazing opportunity to allow us to help out our fellow musicians, and for that we are truly thankful.”

– Bryan Beninghove, Executive Director, Riverview Jazz

“Thanks to support from the New Jersey Arts and Culture Renewal Fund, Vanguard Theater Company was among the first to reopen its youth programs and provide a sense of normalcy. Theater provides an outlet for self-expression unlike any other. Since the pandemic, our program content has expanded to address the socio-emotional and mental health needs of the young people we serve.”

– Janeece Freeman Clark, Founding Artistic Director, Vanguard Theater Company

“Support from the New Jersey Arts and Culture Renewal Fund was crucial, allowing Nimbus to emerge from the pandemic poised to increase the availability and impact of the arts on our community.”

– Samuel Pott, Artistic Director, Nimbus Arts Center
$6,763,867 in Grants Awarded since 2020

Over 400 Individual Artists, Teaching Artist, and History Worker mini-grants awarded

1 Intermediary Grantee Convening

192 Organizations Awarded Grants

21 All 21 Counties of NJ Awarded Grants

$23,800 Average Grant Size

30% of Grantees are Arts Education Organizations
Through our work, we intend to address gaps in our cultural landscape and draw inspiration, wisdom and understanding from the many organizations that make up the rich and vibrant fabric of the New Jersey arts and culture sector.

OUR IMPACT

For the first two years of its existence, the New Jersey Arts and Culture Renewal Fund has focused on core grantmaking activities to address pandemic relief and address inequities in the sector. In recognition of long-standing disparities in funding, the New Jersey Arts and Culture Renewal Fund is creating a more equitable sector by prioritizing organizations serving and/or led by Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color (BIPOC) in New Jersey. This practice is intentional and has resulted in supporting organizations currently and historically affected by systemic injustice.
Embracing diverse narratives is also addressed in our work such that we amplify the voices, stories, communities, achievements, and history of people that have historically been omitted or underrepresented in New Jersey Arts and Culture narratives. To that end, the New Jersey Arts and Culture Renewal Fund seeks to address the incomplete storytelling that has marginalized the creative, historical, and intellectual contributions of Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color (BIPOC) in New Jersey across all artistic disciplines and within the History community. We seek to uplift organizations that highlight the creative work of BIPOC individuals, support places of historical significance to BIPOC communities and preserve and tell the histories of BIPOC people and communities in the state.

Through our work, we intend to address gaps in our cultural landscape and draw inspiration, wisdom and understanding from the many organizations that make up the rich and vibrant fabric of the New Jersey arts and culture sector.

“The grant we received from the New Jersey Arts and Culture Renewal Fund was transformative. It really helped us to stabilize our operations and offset dramatic losses after the shut down. Most of all, the rich community we have developed during our thirty-year history was grateful to return to our in-person exhibitions and programs.”

- Simone Craig, Executive Director, Art in the Atrium

Over 40% of Phase 4 Grantees identify as BIPOC-led
GRANTEES
SINCE 2020

ATLANTIC COUNTY
Atlantic City Arts Foundation
Atlantic City Ballet
Bay Atlantic Symphony
Eagle Theatre
Inlet Public Private Association Inc, dba Absecon Lighthouse
South Jersey Cultural Alliance
MudGirls Studios

BERGEN COUNTY
Adelphi Chamber Orchestra
Arts Horizons
CavanKerry Press
Center for Modern Dance Education
Epitome of Soul
MarbleJam Kids Inc.
Nai-Ni Chen Dance Company, Inc.
The Art School at Old Church

BURLINGTON COUNTY
Alice Paul Institute
ArtPride New Jersey
Moorestown Theater Company
Perkins Center for the Arts
Roebling Museum
West Jersey Music Academy
Whitesbog Preservation Trust

CAPE MAY COUNTY
Cape May Stage
Greater Cape May Historical Society
Historic Cold Spring Village Foundation
Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts

CUMBERLAND COUNTY
Bayshore Center at Bivalve
Levoy Theatre Preservation Society
Millville Development Corporation
Millville Army Airfield Museum
Riverfront Renaissance Center for the Arts
Wheaton Arts and Cultural Center

ESSEX COUNTY
Apex Orchestra
Arts Ed Newark
Arts for Kids
ArtPower
Barat Foundation
Friends of Yogi
Gallery Aferro
GlassRoots
Ivy Hill Valisburg Center for Arts Culture and Community Activism
Jazz House Kids
Keys 2 Success
Lincoln Park Coast Cultural District
Luna Stage
Lydia Johnson Dance
Montclair Art Museum
Montclair Film Festival
Montclair History Center
Music Beyond Measure
Newark Arts
Newark Boys Chorus School
Newark Performing Arts Corporation
Newark Print Shop
Newark Public Radio
Newark School of the Arts
New Jersey Historical Society
Project for Empty Space
Pushcart Players
Sharron Miller's Academy for the Performing Arts
South Orange Performing Arts Center
Studio Montclair Gallery
Talking Eyes Media
The New Jersey Play Lab
Trilogy: An Opera Company
University of Orange
ValleyArts
Vanguard Theater Company

GLOUCESTER COUNTY
Gloucester County Historical Society

HUDSON COUNTY
Ariel Rivka Dance
Art House Productions
Educational Arts Team
Hoboken Historical Museum
Hudson Theatre Works
Jersey City Arts Council
Jersey City Theater Center
Kennedy Dancers
Mile Square Theatre
Nimbus Dance
RiverviewJazz.org
Speranza Theatre Company
Surati for Performing Arts
The Grace Theatre Workshop
Thomas A. Edison Media Arts Consortium
Union City Music Project
Victory Hall Inc.

HUNTERDON COUNTY
ACME Screening Room
Hunterdon Art Museum
Roxey Ballet Company
## GRANTEES SINCE 2020

### MERCER COUNTY
- Art Against Racism A NJ Nonprofit
- Arts Council of Princeton
- Artworks Trenton Inc.
- Capital Singers of Trenton
- Conservatory of Music and Performing Arts Society
- Historic Morven
- Historical Society of Princeton
- Hopewell Valley Arts Council
- James R Halsey Foundation of the Arts
- New Jersey Capital Philharmonic
- Old Barracks Association
- Passage Theatre Company
- People & Stories/Gente y Cuentos
- Preservation New Jersey
- Princeton Ballet Society
- Storytelling Arts
- Stretto Youth Chamber Orchestra
- The Princeton Festival
- Trent House Association
- Trenton Children’s Chorus
- Trenton Circus Squad
- Trenton Museum Society
- Trenton Music Makers
- West Windsor Arts Center
- Westrick Music Academy
- Young Audiences New Jersey & Eastern Pennsylvania

### MONMOUTH COUNTY
- Algonquin Arts Theatre
- Allaire Village
- Asbury Park Arts Council
- Asbury Park Music Foundation
- Axelrod Performing Arts Center
- Holiday Express
- Holmdel Theatre Company
- Jazz Arts Project
- Middletown Township Cultural & Arts Council
- Monmouth Arts
- Monmouth County Historical Association
- Monmouth Museum
- New Jersey Repertory Company
- New Jersey Theatre Alliance
- Ocean Grove Historic Preservation Society
- Phoenix Productions
- Rockit Live Foundation
- The Garden State Film Festival
- Twin Lights Historical Society

### MORRIS COUNTY
- Art in the Atrium
- ARTS By The People
- Macculloch Hall Historical Museum
- Morris Arts
- Museum of Early Trades & Crafts
- New Jersey Ballet Company
- New Jersey Theatre Alliance
- Stickley Museum at Craftsman Farms
- The Growing Stage Theatre for Young Audiences
- The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey

### OCEAN COUNTY
- Barnegat Bay Decoy & Baymen’s Museum
- Brick Children’s Community Theatre
- Exit 82 Theatre Company
- John F Peto Studio Museum
- Surflight Theatre

### PASSAIC COUNTY
- Botto House American Labor Museum
- Hamilton Partnership for Paterson
- Inner City Ensemble

### SALEM COUNTY
- Appel Farm Arts & Music Center

### SOMERSET COUNTY
- All Children’s Art Center of NJ
- Arts Ed NJ
- Frontline Arts
- League of Historical Societies of NJ
- The Center for Contemporary Art

### SUSSEX COUNTY
- Peters Valley School of Craft
- Save Ellis Island

### UNION COUNTY
- Carolyn Dorfman Dance
- Continuo Arts Foundation
- Dreamcatcher Repertory Theatre
- duCret Center of Art
- Elizabeth Youth Theater Ensemble
- Institute of Music for Children
- Merchants and Drovers Tavern Museum
- Music For all Seasons
- New Jersey Dance Theatre Ensemble
- NJ Festival Orchestra
- People Helping People
- The Theater Project
- Visual Arts Center of New Jersey
- Wharton Institute for the Performing Arts

### WARREN COUNTY
- Blairstown Live-Arts
THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING GENEROUS DONORS WHOSE SUPPORT ALLOWS US TO ADDRESS THE EVOLVING CHALLENGES FACING NEW JERSEY’S CULTURAL SECTOR.

**FOUNDING DONORS**
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- Turrell Fund
- Union Foundation
- Victoria Foundation
- Wallace Foundation

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Lynne Toye

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To learn more about the New Jersey Arts and Culture Renewal Fund, including ways you can help and become involved, please contact us.

www.njartsculture.org

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