

New York State Council on the Arts

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Music

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Information Outlined Below:

Program Goals

Program Information

Category Information & Questions

- Community Music Schools

For complete instructions on how to apply to NYSCA's FY2017 Grant Program, please [click here](#).

Program Goals

The Music Program fosters the creation, production, and performance of musical events of outstanding professional quality. Music offers support for public performances by established and emerging professional music organizations representing a broad spectrum of musical expression. Music also offers support for services to nonprofit music organizations and artists, community schools of music, and projects exploring new technology in music.

Support is provided for organizations producing chamber music, choral music, early music, jazz, new music, opera and orchestral music.

Applicants producing performances are encouraged to explore new and recent repertoire, unless their mission is specific to a particular period of music. The Music Program encourages innovative programming and adventuresome approaches to performance and presentation.

Funding for national organizations is only provided for specific activities occurring in New York State.

Organizations and/or individuals requesting support for Music Commissions should refer to the Individual Artists guidelines.

The NYSCA grant program strives to make investments of public funds that serve all communities and people that comprise New York State's citizens and visitors. NYSCA strongly supports, values and encourages the sustained and concerted efforts of non-profit art, culture and heritage organizations to be inclusive and have its workforce, artists and programmatic offerings reflect New York State's diversity of people, geography and artistic interests.

Program Information

Types of Support Available:

Applicants may make a total of two requests Council-wide, except in categories exempt from the two-limit request (see below). Applicants wishing to make two requests in the Music project categories in FY16 should first speak to Program staff regarding eligibility for General Operating Support.

General Operating Support is provided for organizations whose primary mission is music. General Operating Support applicants may not apply in the project categories below, and are limited to one additional request Council-wide.

Project Support is provided for applicants in the following categories:

1. Project Support
2. Community Music Schools
3. Services to the Field

Regrants and Partnerships Support is made by invitation from the Council only, and is *exempt* from the Council-wide two-request limit.

Artistic Evaluation:

NYSCA must be able to evaluate an applicant's artistic quality on an ongoing basis. It is the responsibility of all current and prospective applicants to inform staff of events well in advance of the event date. This is required so that staff or advisory panelists may attend and evaluate the events. Email notification of public performances in New York State should be sent to msc@arts.ny.gov

Musical Instrument Loan Support:

Organizations interested in purchasing a musical instrument may apply for a loan from the Musical Instrument Revolving Loan Fund, which provides low interest loans to eligible NYSCA applicants. An announcement of availability of loans, special application procedures, and the deadline for loan requests will be emailed to all NYSCA applicants in the summer of 2016.

Eligibility to Apply for other NYSCA Support and Exemptions from the Two-Request Limit:

Organizations applying for or receiving General Operating Support from NYSCA may also apply for Project Support in one other program. Sponsored applicants and those funded under the following programs are exempt from the two-request limit:

Architecture and Design Program - Independent Projects category

Dance Program – Rehearsal Space and Residencies category

Electronic Media & Film Program – Workspace, Art & Technology category

Facilities Program - All categories

Folk Arts Program - Apprenticeships category

Folk Arts Program - Regional and County Folk Arts Programs category

Individual Artists Program – All categories

Literature Program – Literary Translation category

Regional Economic Development Program – All categories

State and Local Partnership Program - Decentralization category

All Programs - Re-grants and Partnerships category

Evaluative Criteria

Grant requests are evaluated in accordance with agency-wide [criteria](#).

Category Specific Information and Questions

Applicants are required to complete those questions that correspond to the category for which they are applying

Community Music Schools

Funding available in this category supports the core activities of community music schools. Although the school may have a single or multi-disciplinary focus, for the purpose of this category, the school's principal focus should be music instruction. In addition, residencies, performances, and presentations by professional artists should serve the instructional components of the school and provide additional opportunities for the broader community to engage in arts activities.

Definition:

A community music school is an organized and permanent non-degree-granting, nonprofit institution that provides quality arts instruction and participation to all interested persons, regardless of age, race, gender, religion, ethnic origin, financial means or level of ability.

Awards in this category are generally made on a multi-year basis.

Eligibility Criteria:

In order to be eligible to apply for Community Music Schools, an applicant organization must meet the following minimum criteria:

- It must be a governmental or quasi-governmental entity, a tribal organization, or duly incorporated non-profit organization, either incorporated in NY State or registered to do business in NY State, with its principal place of business located in NY State; and
- Unless it is otherwise exempted from prequalification, the nonprofit must be prequalified to do business with NY State by the time of the NYSCA application submission deadline date. For more information about how to Register and Prequalify in the Grants Gateway, click [here](#)
- Operation for a minimum of two years.
- Owns or operates an accessible cultural facility.
- At least 100 students enrolled over the course of a year.
- Offers year-round instruction and programming.
- Professional artistic staff and faculty.
- Provides sequential curriculum to serve a diverse enrollment.
- Has articulated standards of mastery for beginning, intermediate and advanced students.
- Provides scholarship support for a substantial proportion of the student body.

Sponsored Requests are Not Eligible for Support in this Category

Note: Arts instruction that takes place in prekindergarten-12 classes during school hours is not eligible for support. Applicants that offer such instruction are advised to consult with the Arts Education Program.

Community Music Schools Questions:

Artistic/Programmatic

1. Program Overview

Describe the programs and services planned for the coming year, highlighting new or expanded activities, and noting student eligibility requirements.

2. Changes/Developments

Describe any significant changes or developments in the organization since last reviewed by the Council.

3. Facilities

Briefly describe the organization's facilities.

Managerial/Fiscal

4. Finances

Describe plans, projects and activities for meeting projected expenses, including fundraising initiatives. Note the board's involvement. How would the scope of the project change if the full request for NYSCA funding is not received? Use the Budget Notes section of the Project Budget to indicate income sources and itemize principal expense items, including personnel, outside artists' fees, marketing and remaining operating expenses.

5. Evaluation

Describe the evaluation process and the role of the board and senior staff in ongoing evaluation and assessment of music education activities.

Service to the Public

6. Community Served

Identify the size, cultural/ethnic makeup, and age range of the student body, along with the strategies for achieving or maintaining diversity. Give an overview of how the school deepens an awareness and understanding of the musical arts to the student body and community.

7. Comparable Services

What other public or private organizations provide music education in the surrounding geographic area? If working in partnership with any organizations, describe that relationship.

8. Scholarship Support

What percentage of your student body receives scholarship support (tuition subsidies)? If there is a sliding scale, please describe.

Category Specific Support Materials

Applicants are required to submit those support materials that correspond to the category for which they are applying.

Support Materials must be submitted by uploading each into the Pre-Submission Upload menu in the Grants Gateway Grant Opportunity Portal. Acceptable file types: Adobe Acrobat PDFs, Microsoft Word DOC or DOCX, Microsoft PowerPoint PPT or PPTX. To submit URLs, please create a Word or PDF file with a list of URLs with any notes or description. URLs cannot be password protected and must remain live until December 31, 2016. NYSCA is not responsible for any broken, inactive or password protected links.

In the event that an applicant fails to submit one or more of the following required materials, the application will not be eligible for review. For a more detailed description of how to submit your support materials for this application, please click [here](#) for more information.

Community Music Schools Support Materials:

1. *Most recent brochure with class/course offerings provided.*
 2. *Sample program of performances, concerts and other events at the school.*
 3. *Video examples of a representative class in session and of a resident ensemble (if applicable).* The video sample should present only the examples you would like the panel to see and hear. Panels generally view no more than three minutes of video or audio, so please indicate clearly which portion of a longer sample should be viewed first.
 4. *Schedule of class/course fees.*
 5. *Faculty list, including brief description of credentials.*
 6. *A listing of workshops and classes that occurred during the past year and that are planned for the coming year, indicating actual or projected enrollment.*
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