

New York State Council on the Arts

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Music

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Information Outlined Below:

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Program Information

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- Project Support

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

Project Support:

This category offers support to professional music organizations producing and performing concerts either in their home county or elsewhere in New York State. Support in this category is usually awarded on a multi-year basis.

Applicants producing performances are encouraged to explore new and recent repertoire, unless their mission is specific to a particular period of music.

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

Expenses requested for choral groups may include fees for conductors, music directors, accompanists, professional soloists and professional instrumentalists. Funding for choral groups will not exceed \$5000.

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

Eligibility Criteria:

In order to be eligible to apply for Project Support, 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](#)
- Produce one season or festival (multiple performances on consecutive days) of at least three performances in each of the past two years, and project a season or festival of at least three public concerts annually during the grant period.
- For opera companies, annually produce at least two fully staged operas, with orchestra, or one fully staged opera with orchestra plus a minimum of one concert (group vocal) recital accompanied by an instrumental ensemble.
- Applicants must demonstrate a consistent policy of fair payment to musicians. Applicants may refer to the applicable guidelines for payment equal to or exceeding the minimum local scale of the American Federation of Musicians

For Sponsored Requests, Please see [Application Instructions for Sponsored Organizations and Activities](#)

Project Support Questions:

Artistic/Programmatic

1. Background

Describe the organization and indicate its artistic mission, including the genres of music performed and scope of activities.

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2. Program Overview

Describe the program(s) planned for the proposed year. How will they help the organization realize its artistic and cultural vision? Specifically, identify the concert venues, dates, and intended programming for upcoming performances. Only indicate programming occurring in New York State.

3. Challenges and Developments

Describe recent significant changes or developments in the season's programs. If the project was previously supported by the Music Program, note any changes that occurred over the last season. Indicate planned changes in programs and repertoire including the performance of works of composers not previously presented.

Managerial/Fiscal

4. Artist Fees

What are the fees paid to musicians, guest artists, and any related concert personnel for rehearsals and performances?

5. Project Personnel

Who is responsible for selection of your organization's repertoire and guest artists? Please provide a brief summary of their background.

6. Finances

Describe plans for meeting project expenses, including new fundraising activities. 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 to itemize principal expense items, including personnel, outside artists' fees, marketing, and remaining operating expenses. The project budget must only include activities occurring in New York State.

7. Organizational Development

Describe the role of the board and staff in the development and ongoing assessment of programs and services. Summarize any long-range plan the organization may have.

Service to the Public

8. Audience/Marketing

Describe the organization's marketing plan, including efforts aimed at reaching new audiences.

9. Education and Interpretation

Describe how the content and theme of your concert or festival program will be interpreted for the audience, such as through lecture/demonstrations, lectures, program booklets, talk backs and activities for families and children.

10. Community Context

Are there other organizations providing similar musical performances in the surrounding community? Describe any partnerships or collaborations with community and cultural organizations.

Support Materials

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.

Project Support/Support Materials:

- 1. Recordings, in audio or video, of one or more recent (i.e. within the last year or two) performances which should include a variety of works. Opera companies are required to submit at least one video recording. Be sure to indicate the composer, title, and timing of each work performed, and the date of the performance. 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.*
 - 2. Relevant printed material (e.g. seasonal brochure, flyer, press kit), and one or two concert programs. We do not use reviews from newspapers or other media coverage in our deliberations, although you are welcome to send one copy of such coverage or any other printed materials for internal review.*
 - 3. A listing of events that occurred in New York State during the past year, and that are planned for the coming year, including artists, venues and actual or projected attendance.*
 - 4. Website, Facebook, Twitter, Youtube, and other references.*
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