About

The Individual Artist Grant supports the creation of new work by an individual artist that reflects local community life or culture. The goal of this grant is to support the creative work of individual artists in all disciplines while encouraging interaction between artists and community members. The project must engage and involve the community in the creative process through some sort of feedback, response, interaction, and/or social practice. These grants are made possible with public, Decentralization funds from the New York State Council on the ARTS (NYSCA), a state agency, and administered locally by The ARTS Council of the Southern Finger Lakes (The ARTS Council).

Grant Criteria

Grants are awarded via a merit-based review process based upon the following criteria:

- Artistic or Cultural Merit
- Feasibility
- Community Involvement
- Strength of Artistic Work Sample
- Marketing and Local Outreach
- Accurate & Practical Budget

Applicant Eligibility

Individual artist residing in Chemung, Schuyler, Steuben, or Tioga county are eligible for this program. Artists under 18 years of age and/or enrolled in a higher education degree program are not eligible to apply.

See addendum for more details on applicant eligibility.

Project Eligibility

Projects may include site-specific works, installations, exhibits, and any other events or activities that are accessible to the general public and occurring during the 2018 calendar year. Visual, literary, media, musical, multi-dimensional, and performing artists are all encouraged to apply.

The project must involve a segment of the community through some form of feedback, response, interaction and/or social practice. Some examples of this type of interaction are interviews with a segment of the community, creation of parallel work by a community group, or stories and anecdotes collected from a community group that relate to the concept or content of the project.

See addendum for more details on project eligibility.
Grant Amount

Grants are for $2,500. Up to four grants may be awarded. Partial awards are not given.

Funding Eligibility

Funding can pay your artist stipend, consumable materials and supplies, mileage, site preparation, and any other expenses directly related to the planning, creation, and completion of the project outlined in the grant request.

Applications requesting more or less than $2,500 will not be considered. Applicants may only submit one application to the Individual Artist Grant. However, if eligibility requirements are met, applicants can still apply for up to $2,500 from either the Community Arts or Teaching Artist grant programs.

See addendum for more details on funding eligibility.

Application Process and Deadline

The application deadline is 11:59pm on Friday, October 23, 2017. Applications are submitted online through our online application system at https://earts.submittable.com/submit.

The completed application consists of the following:

- Applicant Information
- Project Information & Narrative
- Budget Information, Narrative, & Form
- Letter of Partnership (if applicable)
- Artist(s) Resume, Bio, or CV (typed in narrative form or attached)
- Artistic Work Samples
- Marketing Materials

Application Narratives

There are two narratives with this application – a project narrative and a budget narrative.

Make each narrative thorough, clear, and concise. Budget narratives and budget forms must match. The following is suggested information to include in your narratives:

- Detailed Project Summary - Who, What, When, Where, Why
- Goals and what you hope to achieve
- The project's feasibility, accessibility, management, and evaluation
- The involvement of the community in this project
- How you will market this project
- Detailed funding request reflecting everything in the budget
- How your project will be adapted with partial funding

Application Seminars and Assistance

- New applicants are required participate in an in-person or online webinar. Returning applicants are strongly encouraged to participate in an in-person or online webinar as grant components and
requirements may change from year to year. The schedule is available on our website. Assistance is also available in-person, by email, or by phone prior to the deadline.

- It’s highly recommended that applicants take the opportunity to submit an application draft via email at least 1 week before the deadline. Please note the Grants Manager will not have time to look at last minute drafts.
- At the request of an applicant, the Grants Manager can make requested changes to an applicant’s submitted application up until the deadline. After the deadline, no changes can be made and the Grants Manager will not review applications for completeness.
- Contact the Grants Manager at grants@eARTS.org or 607-962-1332 x205 for more assistance.

Review Process

A review panel consisting of artists and other community members evaluates each application and recommends funding amounts. When considering proposals from previously funded applicants, upon request reviewers can be furnished historical records. Panel recommendations are presented to The ARTS Council’s Board of Directors for review and approval of all funding decisions.

Support of an artist in the past does not imply or guarantee that an applicant’s project will be funded. Applications are reviewed each year in the context of the evaluation criteria and available funding and evaluated competitively against other requests. There is also no guarantee an applicant will receive equivalent funding as an applicant with a similar request and project.

The ARTS Council’s staff does not make funding decisions. Although the Grants Manager facilitates the panel meetings, he does not state opinions or make recommendations to the panel. Any recommendations or assistance made to an applicant in no way constitutes a guarantee of funding and may not reflect the panel’s opinions.

Award Notification & Distribution of Funds

Funding is subject to the availability of funds from the New York State Council on the Arts. All applicants will receive award notification and feedback via email by the end of December. Successful applicants will receive their funds once a signed acceptance agreement is returned. Email is preferred.

About The ARTS Council

The ARTS Council of the Southern Finger Lakes (The ARTS Council) is a regional arts services organization located in the Southern Tier of New York State serving artists of all disciplines, organizations, and the public in Chemung, Schuyler, Steuben, and Tioga counties and beyond. Further information is available at www.eARTS.org.
Addendum: Detailed Eligibility Information

Please consult with Grants Manager to determine if your application meets all the eligibility requirements. The following will make your application ineligible and not considered for funding:

**Applicant**

- Applied directly to NYSCA in 2018, regardless of funding status
- Failed to submit final reports for past funding
- Exclusively serves a student audience (in-school, curriculum based) with no public component
- Is an unincorporated group, nonprofit, or unit of local government
- If a new applicant does not attend a required application seminar or webinar
- Does not submit an application and required documents through the online application system.

**Project Proposal**

- Takes place outside the county where the applicant resides
- Specifically targets home-school participants
- Proposes non-arts activities
- Proposes the acquisition of artwork
- Proposes paying children or students (primary, secondary, higher education) as professional artists
- Proposes paying cash prizes or awards
- Proposes paying administrative costs unrelated to proposed project
- Proposes projects that are intended as recreational, rehabilitative or therapeutic
- Proposes activities and programs that cannot be completed between January 1 and December 31, 2018
- Proposes projects that are not accessible to the general public
- Proposes, as the primary benefit, the financial gain of an individual or organization
- Proposes support of commercial arts, martial arts, journalism and entertainment (such as balloons, clowns, bubble presentations and/or magicians)

**Funding Request**

- Is not $2,500
- Supports operating, deficit, capital, start-up, capital, or contingency funds not related to this project
- Finances fellowships and/or scholarships
- Project income exceeds project expenses
- Subsidizes entertainment costs (e.g. theater parties, gallery/museum openings, receptions)
- Supports fundraising activities
- Underwrites major equipment purchases