



Jersey City Arts and Culture Trust Fund 2024-2025 Operating Grant **ELIGIBILITY**

Operating Grants (\$2,500 with a maximum request of \$25,000)

- Organization must be based in Jersey City and serve the residents of Jersey City; with a proven track record of presenting public programs in Jersey City
- Open to 501c3 nonprofits. In some cases, arts and culture-focused LLCs registered in the State of New Jersey may be eligible to apply. Such organizations should contact the Office of Cultural Affairs to determine eligibility
- Proposal must cover fiscal year July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025
- Must have a mission focused on arts and/or culture
- Must have been in existence for full fiscal year
- Must have at least one part time, paid staff member
- May only apply for one category per cycle (General Operating, Program, Arts Education or Artist Fellowship)
- May be used for operating or programmatic costs
- If incorporated, organizations must be in compliance with all pertinent state and federal regulations
- Any applicant considering applying for an Operating Grant for the first time should contact the Office of Cultural Affairs. Email Migdalia Pagan-Milano at mmilano@jcnj.org

Guidelines for Operating budget:

- Organizations must match grants 1:1 (At least 25% must be in cash)
- Administrative salaries for Operating Grants must be limited to 50% MAX of total grant request.
- Arts Trust grants will cover no more than 50% of an organization's total operating budget

FUNDING PRIORITIES

The Fund supports organizations that:

- Expand the impact and inclusiveness of the arts in Jersey City
- Revitalize shared spaces through the arts
- Build community connections through art
- Develop creative and economic opportunities for artists

Applicants must:

- Demonstrate work of artistic value
- Demonstrate the ability to complete proposed programming with measurable goals
- Identify and implement a Direct Public Benefit in their proposal that can be achieved within the grant timeline
- Submit a final report with stated outcomes

About the Direct Public Benefit

Applicants must include a Direct Public Benefit in their application that will provide a free public benefit through their art. Please note: the Direct Public Benefit must be FREE to any resident of Jersey City. The Direct Public Benefit may be unique to each applicant depending on their work and artistic discipline. Applicants are encouraged to be creative in how best their work can engage with and provide free arts opportunities to the residents of Jersey City. For more information about the Direct Public Benefit, please visit jerseycityculture.org

EVALUATION CRITERIA

- Artistic value throughout the organization/individual programs
- A Direct Public Benefit to be delivered within the grant timeline
- Goals that provide significant public benefit and value within Jersey City
- An appropriate organizational/program budget that includes sufficient resources and appropriate compensation to artists
- Clear plan for evaluating outcomes
- A Diversity Equity Access and Inclusion plan is a roadmap for making real and meaningful improvements that address barriers to ensure that all residents can participate in the arts in Jersey City.
- An outlined (ADA) plan making programs accessible to audiences and artist with disabilities. Applicants are encouraged to make programming accessible to as wide an audience as possible to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). To emphasize the importance of this, applicants' ADA plan will account for 20% of their final score

AWARDS

Award sizes will be determined based on:

- Available funds
- The scores provided by the independent Grant Review Panel, based on the criteria outlined above
- The size of the organization's operating budget
- The amount of funds requested