About

Teaching Artist grants support sequential, arts education projects that take place in-school, after school, or in community centers. Emphasis is placed on the depth and quality of the creative process through which participants learn through or about the arts. Projects must focus on the exploration of art and the artistic process. Inter-curricular collaboration for in-school projects is encouraged but not required. These grants are made possible with public, Decentralization (DEC) 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 and/or Cultural and Programmatic Merit
- Learning Outcomes & Evaluation
- Student Benefit & Accessibility
- Managerial & Fiscal Competence

Programmatic quality is valued over participant quantity.

Grant Amount

Grants range from $500 to $5,000.

Applicant Eligibility

The following applicants residing in Chemung, Steuben, Schuyler, or Tioga county are eligible to apply for this grant program:

- Individuals, unincorporated groups, or nonprofits
- PTA with nonprofit status independent of the public school

School partners must be Public or Charter schools certified by BOCES. School partners and Community Centers must be located in the county where the applicant resides and provide a letter of commitment for the project. Non-applicant, hired artists may be from outside the applicant’s county.

See addendum for more details on applicant eligibility.

Funding Eligibility

Applicants may submit up to three (3) funding requests in any combination of Community Arts, Teaching Artist, and Individual Artist grants totaling no more than $5,000.
Funding can support planning and preparation of proposed projects and expenses related to delivering projects virtually.

There is no required match and applicants may apply for a 100% of the proposed project’s total cost.

See addendum for more details on funding eligibility.

**Project Eligibility**

Projects can be In-School Projects taking place during the School Day or After-School Projects taking place at a School or Community Center. Projects can only support K-12 aged students. Projects do not have to be accessible to the general public and can be delivered in-person or virtually in order to meet New York State COVID-19 social distance protocols.

Project must provide sequential, skills-based study that incorporates one or more art forms, that is hands-on and participatory, and that involve at least 3 contact sessions between the same teaching artist(s) and the same group of students. Contact sessions may be in-person or virtual.

Projects must involve in-depth, age, and skill appropriate learning opportunities. Projects must provide stated learning goals, methodologies, and outcomes, and a means for evaluation.

Examples of previously funded projects include dance, storytelling, history, photography, and more.

See addendum for more details on project eligibility.

**Application Process and Deadline**

The application deadline is 11:59pm on Friday, October 23, 2020. Applications are submitted online through our online application system at [https://earts.submittable.com/submit](https://earts.submittable.com/submit).

The completed application consists of the following:

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

Applications should be thorough, clear, and concise manner. Suggested information to include in the narrative questions is found in the online application.

**Application Assistance**

All applicants are required to discuss their projects with the Grants Manager before submitting their applications. This can be done via Zoom or over the phone. A sign up list can be found on our website.

The Grants Manager will also conduct a series of grant information sessions via Zoom. These sessions will focus a particular topic, such as budget creation. Applicants are strongly
encouraged to attend one or more of these sessions. The schedule can be found on our website. There will be no in-person sessions.

It’s highly recommended that applicants take the opportunity to submit an application draft via email at least 1 week before the deadline. Application drafts will be reviewed for clarity and with an eye towards the evaluative criteria, not for copyediting and rewriting. Please note the recommendations of the Grants Manager may not align with the grant panelists. 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. The Grants Manager will not review submitted applications for completeness.

Contact the Grants Manager at chris@eARTS.org or 607-962-1332 x205 for more assistance.

**Review Process**

A grant 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 will be furnished historical records, however 2020 COVID-19 related project results will have no bearing on 2021 requests. Panel recommendations are presented to The ARTS Council’s Board of Directors for review of all funding decisions.

Support of an organization 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 and/or joint funding 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 previous 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**

Public School Teaching Artist 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](http://www.eARTS.org).
Addendum: Detailed Eligibility Information

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

**Applicant**

- Applied directly to NYSCA for 2021 funding, regardless of funding status
- Is a public school district, an affiliate or component, or a four-year public university or college
- Is a New York State agency or department
- Failed to submit final reports for completed, DEC funded grant applications.
- If an applicant does not discuss their project with the Grants Manager in advance of submission
- Does not submit an application and required documents through the online application system.
- Partners with a school that is private or parochial, not recognized by BOCES, receives direct funding from NYSCA, or is located outside the county where the applicant resides.

**Project Proposal**

- Takes place outside the county where the applicant resides
- Specifically targets home-school participants
-Appear to take the role of certified teacher
- Occurs outside the school day or on a school break if applying for an In-School Project
- Is a standalone, single occurrence activity
- Proposes non-arts activities and/or the acquisition of artwork
- Selects students taken from regular classes or are self-selected for participation
- Proposes paying children or students 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 and also lack an artistic component
- Proposes activities and programs that cannot be completed between January 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022
- 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, sip and paint)

**Funding Request**

- Is less than $500 or greater than $5,000
- Supports expenses 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