2022 QUEENS ARTS FUND GUIDELINES: ARTS ACCESS GRANT
APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

Grants Range from: $1,000 - $5,000

WHO CAN APPLY FOR AN ARTS ACCESS GRANT?

- Small-budget Queens community-based organizations with IRS 501c3 nonprofit status.
- Queens community-based organizations that do not have 501c3 nonprofit status or unincorporated artist collectives that partner with a NYC-based 501c3 nonprofit who will act as their fiscal sponsor.

Organizations must designate a “Lead Applicant” representing the organization to complete the Arts Access application. Lead applicants must be at least 18 years of age to be considered eligible.

**FUNDING PRIORITY**

QAF is committed to furthering racial, cultural, and economic equity in its funding practices. Projects created by BIPOC artists, immigrants and first-time grant applicants, and projects created by and for people living in Southeast Queens, Eastern Queens, and South Queens neighborhoods have historically received limited or low-funding in past QAF grant cycles and will be prioritized in the 2022 panel review process.

Priority is given to organizations that have limited access to existing funding sources, whose primary mission is to produce cultural activities that center under-funded communities (see above), and/or preserve cultural traditions or produce contemporary creative expression of cultural ethnicity.

WHO CANNOT APPLY?

- Past recipients of any QAF grant who failed to submit a final report or are otherwise out of compliance with their QCA Cultural Contract.
- Applicants that received an Arts Access Grant consecutively for the past three years.
- Organizations that have applied for direct funding from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs for Fiscal Year 2022.
- Applicants applying for DCLA funds in another county/borough for fiscal year 2022.
- Students, full or part-time, either currently enrolled at the time of application or who will be enrolled in 2022 cannot serve as the “lead applicant”. This includes degree programs and certificate programs.
- NYC public school district, public, private or parochial schools, including public colleges or universities.
- New York City agencies.
- Individual artists or artist collectives applying for a 2022 QAF New Work Grant are not eligible for the 2022 Arts Access Grant.

BASIC ELIGIBILITY FOR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS:

- Have existed for at least one year
- Be a 501(c)3 organization and must provide proof of nonprofit status with a 501(c)3 determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service.
- Have an operating budget of less than $100,000 in at least two of the last three years
- Be located/based in Queens and can provide proof of a Queens address.

**BASIC ELIGIBILITY FOR ORGANIZATIONS WITHOUT NONPROFIT STATUS AND UNINCORPORATED ARTIST COLLECTIVES:**

- Have existed for at least one year.
- Be located/based in Queens and can provide proof of a Queens address for the lead applicant.
- Must apply in partnership with a nonprofit organization acting as a fiscal sponsor. Applicants applying with a fiscal sponsor must submit a letter of commitment that outlines the scope of the fiscal sponsor’s partnership with the applicant.
- Fiscal sponsors do not have to be located in Queens, but must be incorporated within the five boroughs of NYC and have IRS 501c3 nonprofit status.
- Organizations may not be both a fiscal sponsor and a direct applicant to the 2022 QAF Arts Access Grant.

**PROJECT ELIGIBILITY:**

Proposed projects must include a public component that takes place in Queens* within the 2022 calendar year and provides Queens community members with the opportunity to experience dynamic, easily accessible arts and cultural events. Public Components can include, but are not limited to: exhibitions, performances, festivals, screenings, readings, workshops. Projects may be in any artistic discipline.

*Public components may be held in-person, virtually, or combination of both. All presentations and events taking place virtually must include some type of live component and must be targeted towards local Queens audiences or participants. Applicants proposing virtual public components still must be based in Queens.

**PROJECT FUNDING PRIORITY**

Projects that are free or sliding-scale to participate in, whose public events or programs are in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act will be prioritized in the 2022 panel review process. Artist-driven projects that are collaborative between artists and/or organizations are prioritized as well. QAF strongly supports the payment of fair artist compensation and suggests referencing [https://wageforwork.com/](https://wageforwork.com/) to determine fair compensation.

**WHAT THE ARTS ACCESS GRANT CAN FUND:**

- Artists’ Fees and compensation.
- Technical Assistance fees (i.e. videographer, audio editor, translators and interpreters, etc.)
- Planning and preparation expenses for a proposed event.
- Venue rental for the project (general home/studio rent is not eligible).
- Supplies and materials needed to execute the proposed project (individual items may not exceed $1,000).
  - This can include: Art supplies, sheet music, hardware, memory cards, and other consumable equipment.
- Equipment, software, subscriptions, and training related to the creation and promotion of virtual programming (individual items may not exceed $1,000).
  - This can include: cameras, lighting equipment, subscriptions associated with virtual programming, and training to utilize these tools.
• Marketing and publicity costs.

WHAT THE ARTS ACCESS GRANT CANNOT FUND:

• Projects that exclude the general public, including members-only access workshops or programs.
• Recreational, religious, or therapeutic art programs or commercial art or entertainment—this includes clowning, magic, culinary arts, and cosmetology.
• Fellowships, scholarships, residency fees.
• Start-up costs for new collectives/organizations.
• In-school arts education activities and programs exclusively serving a school’s student body.
  • After school activities that are open to the general public are eligible.
• Direct living or general operating expenses (residential or studio rent).
• Equipment costs whose total exceeds $1,000
• Acquisitions.
• Entertainment costs including openings, receptions, catering (food & drink), fundraising.
• Out-of-state travel expenses.
• Programs in which children (under 18) are paid.

***Applicants can only submit ONE application to QAF in the 2022 calendar year.***

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