



BRONX COUNCIL
ON THE ARTS

2024

Arts on the Block

Guidelines

Deadline: Monday, May 27, 2024 at 11:59 PM

For Bronx-based
**Block Associations &
Nonprofit Arts and Community Organizations**



**Council on
the Arts**

This program is made possible with funds from the Statewide Community Re grants Program, a regrant program of the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Office of the Governor and the New York State Legislature and administered by the Bronx Council on the Arts.

Bronx Council on the Arts

Arts on the Block

The Bronx Council on the Arts (BCA) **Arts on the Block** (ATB) grant program is a grassroots initiative designed to contribute to the cultural life of the borough through the support of small, local organizations and block associations. **Arts on the Block** is designed to fund artist activities that take place at local block parties or single-block festivals to increase attendance and contribute to the cultural life of a neighborhood.

Funded projects must take place in The Bronx between June 1, 2024 and December 31, 2024 and be open and accessible to the public. Priority will be given to first-time applicant organizations that could become future grantees for other arts programs.

Basic Eligibility Criteria for Arts on the Block Grants

- Organizational applicants must:
 - Provide proof of nonprofit status;
 - Operate in The Bronx and have a Bronx address;
 - Be at least one-year old; and
 - Have an active board of directors.
- Block, tenant, or resident associations must:
 - Be based in The Bronx with a Bronx address and
 - Be at least one-year old.

Applicants are not eligible for BCA grants if:

- They received a BCA grant in a previous year but failed to submit a Final Report or
- **They applied for direct funding from NYSCA in the same fiscal year.**

Funding cannot be provided for:

- General operating expenses or operating expenses of privately owned facilities, such as homes and studios;
- Activities that are not open to the general public or are intended only for an organization's membership;
- Arts-in-Education programs/residencies that take place in a school during the school day and have no public component;
- Cash prizes, juried shows, scholarships, fellowships, student stipends, regranting programs, or any other monetary award;
- Travel expenses outside NYC;
- Major equipment purchases, property or mortgage payments, or capital improvements such as building construction or renovation;
- Major expenditures for the establishment of a new organization;
- Administrative costs unrelated to the proposed project; or
- Entertainment costs, such as theater parties, gallery and museum openings, receptions, or fundraisers.

Application Requirements

All applications must be submitted using BCA's application portal [Submittable.com](https://brnxcouncilonthearts.submittable.com), accessible at <https://brnxcouncilonthearts.submittable.com/submit>.

For Organizations:

- Proof of nonprofit status:
 - Internal Revenue Service 501(c)(3) Letter of Determination;
 - Charter from the Board of Regents under Section 216 of the NY State Education Law;
 - Current NY State Bureau of Charities (Office of the Attorney General) filing receipt; or
 - Certificate of Incorporation under S. 402 of the NY State Not-For-Profit Law.
- Current and projected fiscal year budget and most recently completed financial statement:
 - Audited financial statement;
 - Treasurer's report; or
 - IRS Form 990.
- List of current Board of Directors

For Block, Tenant, or Resident Associations:

- Proof of Bronx residency for the member of the association who is submitting the application:
 - NYS Driver's License;
 - NYS or NYC ID;
 - Voter registration card;
 - Mortgage, rent receipt, or current lease agreement;
 - Current utility bill (e.g., electricity, cable, gas, etc.);
 - Credit card or bank statement (first page only. SSN and financial information may be blacked out); or
 - NYS or Federal tax return.
- Letter of Verification from local Community Board to verify association status.

For All Applicants:

- Description of the overall event, including date and location;
- Name(s) of hired artist(s);
- Description of planned activities;
- Complete Event Budget, including the amount for artist fees;
- Description of community benefit; and
- Estimated attendance.

Optional Supporting Documents:

- Previous work samples for the artist and
- Permit for block party or single-block festival.

Review Criteria

For fair and impartial adjudication, **Arts on the Block** funding decisions are made by panelists who represent the diversity of The Bronx in ethnicity, gender, age, neighborhood, and artistic mediums and styles. The peer review panel will recommend potential grantees on the following criteria:

- Overall quality and clarity of application narrative and budget;
- Demonstrated audience and community benefit of the project;
- Clear examples of the ability to successfully complete the project;
- Non-duplication of similar existing programming; and
- Quality of proposed artist and artistic programming, including the artist's proficiency, knowledge, and intense practice.

Grantee Responsibilities

BCA grantees are recipients of public funding and are subject to the following responsibilities:

- Sign a funding agreement (contract) with BCA, stipulating the amount of the award and the details of the block party or single-block festival;
- Include the appropriate credit language and BCA logo on all promotional materials for the funded activities. Exact wording will be provided in the contract;
- Provide BCA with copies of project-related publicity and promotional materials at least three weeks in advance of the funded event and provide two complimentary tickets, if applicable;
- File a Final Report by January 31, 2025;
- Revise the project description and budget after funding, if applicable; and
- **In the event of rain**, an agreement to engage the proposed artist in another community event that is free and open to the public by December 31, 2024.

Appeals

The appeals process is intended for situations in which the applicant believes a serious administrative error was made that denied them a fair hearing of their proposal. Applicants may only initiate an appeal if they have discussed panel notes with BCA Grants staff and subsequently have reason to believe that one of the following occurred at the panel:

- Non-presentation of pertinent information that was included in the application.
- Misrepresentation of pertinent information.
- Improper procedure.

An applicant not awarded funding by the Grants panel who wishes to appeal must initiate a formal appeal, in writing, to the Grants Manager within 10 business days after the date of the denial letter. Organizations that receive funding at less than the requested amount are not eligible to appeal.

Info Session

BCA will offer an **Info Session** on May 6, 2024 at 12:00 PM.

First-time applicants are required to attend. Visit <https://www.bronxarts.org/grants> to RSVP.

Questions?

Contact:

- Brian Hyunsuk Lee, Grants Manager at
 - brian@bronxarts.org or
 - 718-931-9500 ext. 33.
- Kareema Hussein, Programs Director at
 - kareema@bronxarts.org or
 - 718-931-9500 ext. 22.

2024 Arts on the Block Grant Timeline

April 2024

- Arts on the Block application portal opens Monday, April 29, 2024.

May

- Arts on the Block Info Session held Monday, May 6, 2024 at 12:00 PM.
- Arts on the Block application deadline is May 27, 2024.
- BCA Grants staff prepare applications for panel meetings.

June

- Panels convene and funding decisions are made.
- Notifications regarding funding decisions are sent via email around June 17, 2024.
- Funds are distributed around June 28, 2024