

Newark Art Space Initiative Summary

Mission

The Newark Art Space Initiative was created to implement a new leasing program that will provide three to five affordable city-owned properties per year to qualified applicants: arts organizations, artist collectives, non-profit organizations, and community development corporations. Qualified applicants must support collaborative neighborhood revitalization through community engagement by organizing and facilitating arts education and arts and cultural programming that is accessible and open to the public.

Who can apply?

The arts space initiative will be open to art organizations, artist collectives with non-profit or LLC status, and community-based non-profit organizations committed to programming geared towards the arts, culture and education. Individual artists are not eligible to apply but they can partner with other organizations or collectives. The lead applicant must have non-profit or LLC status for at least one year. Applicants can also partner with developers and contractors of their choice to rehab select properties. Qualified applicants would be responsible for maintenance, operations and insurance of the space.

What is the goal?

The goal of the program is to create a neighborhood development program for artists and organizations that supports creative business development strategies and the sustainability of Newark-based arts organizations by providing affordable space and ownership opportunities. The City of Newark will announce an RFP for art organizations interested in working collaboratively to develop arts education and mentorship programs, visual art exhibitions, arts and cultural programming, performance space, artist studio space, artist co-ops, and other arts initiatives that creatively revitalize Newark's neighborhoods, enhancing the quality of life for Newark residents and the arts community. Select properties will be available for lease for \$1 per year and available for purchase at the first year market rate after five years, pending approval by the Municipal Council.

When will the RFP be announced and made available to the public?

Fall 2020

How will applicants be supported?

City of Newark Arts and Cultural Affairs Director, fayemi shakur, will work collaboratively with various agencies to identify resources, grants and technical assistance programs that will help applicants develop competitive proposals and support their long-term success and sustainability.

Creative Catalyst Fund Summary

Mission

The Creative Catalyst Fund was developed to support small to midsize art organizations, and individual artists to encourage sustainability, investment and equitable and diverse funding of Newark-based arts groups and creative hubs. Our mission includes raising awareness about the economic impact and value that artists and arts organizations contribute to the City of Newark in ways that enhance overall quality of life and neighborhood revitalization. \$500,000 to \$1 million dollars will be made available annually through public and private contributions that include the City of Newark, philanthropic foundations, corporate partners, and private donors.

Who can apply?

The Creative Catalyst Fund is open to small to midsize arts-focused organizations with an annual budget less than \$2 million, artist collectives with non-profit or LLC status, and community-based organizations committed to arts-focused programming. The Percent for the Arts Fund is a matching grant initiative that will provide funding support for arts-based organizations with active community support. Applicants must provide a copy of the organization's award letter as proof of the funds to be matched. Individual artists will be able to apply for a City of Newark Artist Fellowship Award and funds to supplement costs for artist studio space.

How can funds be used?

Funding support can be used to develop arts education and mentorship programs, public art programs, visual art exhibitions, arts and cultural programming, artist residencies, professional development programs, and general operating and capital funds for small to midsize arts organizations. Individual artists can apply for support for studio space rental costs with proof of lease agreement. Individual artist fellowship funds can be used for materials and the completion of special projects and exhibitions.

When will the Creative Catalyst Fund application be announced and made available to the public?

Application opened May 1, 2020. Deadline to apply June 1, 2020.

Outcome

The City of Newark provided \$750,000 and The Community Foundation of New Jersey provided \$50,000 towards the initiative. 120 individual artists and arts groups received awards ranging from \$1,000 to \$20,000. Grantees will submit a final report by December 31, 2020 to demonstrate how the funds were used.