



## Passaic County Cultural & Heritage Council at Passaic County Community College

### LOCAL ARTS PROGRAM (LAP) 2024 LAP RE-GRANT GUIDELINES

for Special Projects and General Operating Support  
Grant Period: January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024

Please read the 2024 Guidelines before completing  
the Letter of Intent (LOI) and Application online.

[\(Click here begin Application Process.\)](#)

**Funding requests: \$2,500 to \$15,000**

**Deadlines: Letter of Intent (LOI)—Thursday, June 29, 2023**

**Deadline: LAP Application—Thursday, August 10, 2023**

**Passaic County Cultural & Heritage Council  
Passaic County Community College  
One College Boulevard  
Paterson, NJ 07505  
[www.pccc.edu/cultural-affairs/pcchc](http://www.pccc.edu/cultural-affairs/pcchc)**

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Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.**



## ***Introduction***

The **Passaic County Cultural and Heritage Council (PCCHC) at Passaic County Community College** awards re-grants to organizations that demonstrate a high degree of professionalism in sponsoring or producing activities in performing, visual, literary and folk and traditional arts. Applicant organization will have a responsible administrative staff person(s), and the proposed project will provide innovative programs to be completed within the calendar year. Applications are invited from eligible non-profit or government organizations with a history and/or goal of providing the Passaic County public with high quality arts programs.

The term “**re-grant**” is used to describe funds granted from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts to the PCCHC, which are re-granted to local non-profit or government organizations. It does not mean funding for applicants who received awards in the past, although many PCCHC applicants have received funding in previous years.

## ***Eligible Applicants***

A Passaic County Arts Re-grant applicant must meet the following criteria:

- ◆ Be based in Passaic County;
- ◆ Be incorporated in the State of New Jersey as a non-profit organization by the Internal Revenue Service, Section 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4), be pending the same, or be a project of a local or municipal government entity. (A copy of your IRS determination letter of tax-exempt status, preliminary ruling, or application for tax-exempt status must be included with your application);
- ◆ Comply with Labor Standards under Section 5 (1) of the National Foundation of Arts and Humanities Act of 1965, the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and may not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, or disability;
- ◆ Use the re-grant award for an arts project (dance, media arts, music, theater, visual arts, poetry, etc.) that culminates with a public presentation and takes place in Passaic County between January 1, 2024 and December 31, 2024;
- ◆ Match every dollar with \$.50 of your own (at least half of the match must be in cash, and the remainder of the match can be in-kind).
- ◆ Carry a liability insurance policy and include PCCC as additionally insured.

**Compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 is the law.** Any public program or performance for which funding is requested must be held at a site that is accessible to persons with disabilities. The Arts Grant Evaluation Panel will be looking for both indications of the applicant’s “good faith” efforts to provide both physical and programmatic accessibility and evidence of ADA long-range planning. Applicants must attach their ADA Plan or complete our Accessibility Fact Sheet and, upon acceptance of the award, sign a contract stating that they will comply with the **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)**.

### **ONE-YEAR REQUEST ONLY FOR CY2024 PCCHC LAP RE-GRANT APPLICANTS:**

**First-time or returning applicants, who were not awarded a 3-year cycle re-grant beginning in 2023 may only apply for a one-year re-grant for 2024 and 2025. The 3-year cycle option will be offered again for 2026, funding permitting.**

## ***Types of Re-grants***

Re-grants will be made for **Special Projects** or **General Operating Support**. An organization may apply in only one category in any given grant year.

### **Requests may be made from \$2,500 to \$15,000.**

**Special Project (SP) Re-grants** help support non-profit organizations, including educational, social service and municipal organizations, with the production of arts projects that culminate in a public presentation within Passaic County. Re-grant funds may only be used for expenses related to the project specified in this application, unless a change is approved, in writing, by the PCCHC office.

**General Operating Support (GOS) Re-grants** will be made to **non-profit arts organizations only**. Requests should not exceed twenty percent (20%) of the organization's annual expense budget or \$15,000 (whichever is lower). These are non-restricted, non-project-oriented funds.

### **Eligible Expenses:**

- Technical/Production staff
- Fees for professional services, particularly artists
- Rentals of equipment/space
- Mounting costs for an exhibition
- Supplies/materials directly related to your project
- Graphic design, printing and photography
- Publicity for your program, including ads and printing of promotional materials

### **Ineligible Expenses:**

- ◆ Projects which are primarily 'recreational' in nature
- ◆ Fundraising events
- ◆ Capital improvements
- ◆ Construction or renovation of buildings
- ◆ Equipment purchases
- ◆ Previous program deficits
- ◆ Projects in educational institutions which exclude non-students
- ◆ Foreign travel
- ◆ Scholarships

**Please note:** Religious organizations are encouraged to apply for LAP funding. However, their applications may need to be reviewed by the state and considered on a case by case basis.

**The following may not be funded by the PCCHC re-grant, but may be used as a cash match:**

- percentage of administrative salary used for the project;
- postage/telephone;
- hospitality (*food, refreshments, decorations, etc.*);
- Equipment purchases directly relating to this project.

### **Please note:**

- You may receive New Jersey State Council on the Arts funding for Fiscal Year 2024, **or** funding from the PCCHC for Calendar Year 2024, **but not both**.
- You may receive PCCHC funding for an arts (LAP) **and** a history (CHPP) project, **even if it is for the same project**. (For example, one award can focus on arts presentation, and the other award can fund an historical, educational/lecture component related to the same subject matter.)
- You may only receive funding from **one county**.

## ***Deadlines***

- ◆ Letter of Intent (LOI): **Thursday, June 29, 2023**, 11:45 p.m.
- ◆ Re-grant Application: **Thursday, August 10, 2023**, 11:45 pm.
- ◆ Notification of Re-grant Award is projected for mid-November.
- ◆ **Interim Report**: will be assigned virtually by PCCHC, and re-grantees will notify the PCCHC of their progress or any new developments, such as a venue or schedule change, etc., midway through the calendar year. This report will be reflected as a 'follow-up' via your dashboard.
- ◆ **Final Report**: we encourage submission of the final report **four weeks after the completion of the project**, or sooner, as this will allow us to release your 2<sup>nd</sup> payment. The final deadline for all outstanding reports is **Friday, December 6, 2024**. The final report must show that the project was completed in good form, include all expenses and income of the project, and support materials showing proper funding credit. Failure to complete a final report may result in the forfeit of the second payment and will jeopardize future re-grant funding. (\*You must contact PCCHC to request that we assign your virtual final report.\*)
- ◆ **Extensions**: Organizations with late November or December programming must contact the PCCHC office via email with a written request for an extension on the final report.

## ***Grant Period***

All projects must occur, and funds must be expended, between January 1 – December 31, 2024.

## ***Support Materials***

You will be required to upload no more than 5 examples of Support Materials, which may include:

- ◆ Programs, brochures, fliers, and photographs;
- ◆ Links to publications/published works; and
- ◆ Links to *YouTube*, *Vimeo*, or other online platforms, featuring artwork, performance clips or visual arts exhibition footage.

## ***Matching Requirements***

Re-grants are not intended to underwrite the costs of an entire project. **Your organization is responsible for a total match equal to 50%** or more of the re-grant amount. At least half of the match must be in cash. The remainder of the match can be in-kind. You can also choose to match the entire 50% with cash only. 'In-kind' contributions are documented donations of goods and/or services. Examples include: donated rehearsal or performance space; staff or event volunteer hours; donated food or equipment; and any other goods or services with a documented cash value.

**Projects may be overmatched by cash and/or in-kind expenses (provided that the cash match is at least half of the total match).**

Documentation of all re-grant and matching expenses may be requested at the conclusion of the re-grant cycle. So, keep all records, invoices and receipts but please do not submit unless requested. In-kind donations may be documented by timesheets for volunteer hours and statements of the value of donated goods and services from the providers.

## ***On-Site or Virtual Evaluations***

A site visit may be conducted by the PCCHC, time permitting. **For events funded by a LAP re-grant**, re-grantees must provide the PCCHC with advance notification and two complimentary tickets (or a link to a virtual event). If the event is free, publicity for the funded event(s) still must be shared with the public and PCCHC, prior to the event(s).

## ***Notification and Payment of Awards***

Following the completion of a virtual contract agreement and submission of a signed Exhibit A, a payment of 75% of the award will be made in February 2024. The remaining 25% will be paid upon submission and approval of an acceptable final report completed online.

## ***PCCHC LAP Re-grant Evaluation Panel***

Applications are evaluated by professional peer panelists selected from various disciplines. The LAP Re-grant Evaluation Panel rates all applications then recommends the projects it feels are most worthy of support. Our final awards are made based on New Jersey State Council on the Arts funding, grant panelists' evaluations and ratings, and approval from the PCCHC's Advisory Board. Panelists are required to sign an affidavit, indicating any conflict of interest with applicant organizations. Panelists are also asked to leave the room when those organizations are discussed, and they cannot participate in decision-making concerning funding for those organizations.

PCCHC Advisory Board members, who have an affiliation with an applicant organization, are asked to recuse themselves from voting and/or decisions affecting outcomes for organizations with whom they may be affiliated.

## ***Funding Credit***

All publicity items, including fliers, programs, website postings, press releases, announcements (printed and broadcast), etc., for the project must include the proper credit (exact wording): ***“This program is made possible in part by a grant administered by the Passaic County Cultural & Heritage Council from funds granted by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.”***

Additionally, the template below is a sample of how the credit must be appear at the bottom of all printed materials. The PCCHC will provide re-grantees with credit logos and text once they receive an award notification. **(Please do not alter the appearance or placement of the credit.)**



This program is made possible with funds from the Passaic County Cultural & Heritage Council, a partner of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts



## ***Appeals***

Appeals by applicants will be entertained if an applicant can specifically demonstrate that their application was misinterpreted or misunderstood during the initial evaluation process. The amount of an award will not be grounds for an appeal, and the appeal must be made only on the basis of the information contained in the original application. No new materials may be presented during an appeal. The PCCHC staff will clarify the procedure for any applicant requiring further information. The applicant will have thirty (30) days upon notification to appeal the decision.

## ***2024 Application Process***

- 1. Submit your online Letter of Intent (LOI) by June 29, 2023, 11:45 PM.**  
Your LOI will include basic information about your organization and project. If approved, the PCCHC will contact the applicant via e-mail with an invitation to submit a full application.
- 2. Applications must be submitted virtually by Thursday, August 10, 2023, 11:45 PM.**

**What you will need to prepare for the online application:**

- Organizational Information
- Mission, History & Special Project Description
- Board of Directors, Project Director(s)
- Budget Details, including Expenses & Income
- ADA Compliance Information
- Outreach Statistics & Information (such as populations served)
- Copy of 501(c)3 IRS letter
- Support Materials

***Getting Started***

You will find a link to our online process and requirements on our PCCHC website. Please read the LAP guidelines first then follow our online directions. **[Failure to supply requested information or meet stated criteria may disqualify your application.]**

For assistance, please contact PCCC Director of Cultural Affairs, at **sbalik@pccc.edu** or call **(973) 684-5444**. *(If you need to enlarge a Word or PDF, you can increase the 'View' setting. For translations of the Guidelines, please use Google Translate or similar tool.)*

***Suggestions to Applicants***

1. Make your narrative clear and concise; well-organized narratives receive favorable attention. The information requested in the application helps paint a picture of your organization and the proposed project. This is important because panelists change each year and may be unfamiliar with your organization, or the quality of your work.
2. Review the budget; unrealistic and inflated projections may result in a rejection of your application. You will be required to include an 'Explanation of Expenses'.
3. In your **final report**, statistics will be required, including: Total number of live or virtual audiences (adults and children); indirect beneficiaries; number and diversity of participating artists and audience members, as well as disabled persons and senior citizens.
4. The PCCHC **Arts Re-grant Evaluation Panel** and New Jersey State Council on the Arts are interested in the use of New Jersey and Passaic County artists, opportunities for training and arts education provided by professional artists (workshops, master classes), and the promotion and production of contemporary artwork. Please indicate plans in this regard in your narrative.
5. **Outreach to underserved audiences** and **special constituencies** is another area of high interest and importance. These include culturally diverse communities; persons with disabilities; veterans; senior citizens; gifted and talented; and persons in hospitals, nursing homes and prisons. Be sure to highlight your plans in this regard.

***Evaluation Criteria***

The following criteria are considered by our Re-grant Evaluation Panel to review applications:

1. **Artistic Merit:** does the project seek to **expand the impact of the arts** for the community, rather than simply seek to be 'recreational' or 'entertainment-based'? In particular, when re-grantees present a music series, organizations should be careful to ensure the following:
  - The music series includes jazz, classical or world music, and/or other art forms, such as visual art, poetry or dance, to enhance the presentation's artistic merit;
  - The event or series reaches out to culturally diverse audiences;
  - The music series engages and educates audiences beyond pop music or cover songs.

2. **Professionalism:** are the artists experts in their disciplines or do they receive professional training? Does the project director have the capacity to carry out the project? [Note: resumes/bios for project director(s) and artists **must be included** with the support materials.]
3. Is the **budget** clear and realistic?
4. Judging by the **support materials**, is there evidence of previous undertakings of high-quality arts and cultural projects and presentations?
5. Are efforts to promote **diversity, equity and inclusion** for both audiences and artists, evident in the application; does the re-grantee seek to increase **cultural participation** and **accessibility**?
6. Does the organization have a system in place to **ensure accountability** and **measure success**?
7. Is the **ADA compliance plan** satisfactory or have steps been taken toward ADA compliance?

### **ADA Compliance Guidelines**

Ensuring that programs we support are available to the widest possible audience is a priority of PCCHC and the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.

This includes access for persons with disabilities. Accommodations listed below should be carefully considered when planning your projects and choosing the site for your programs. If you operate from your own facility, and do not presently conform to these guidelines, please indicate how you will meet them in your long-range ADA plan. If you have not completed an ADA Plan, tools to guide you through the process are available at <https://njtheatrealliance.org/cultural-access-network/>.

#### **Examples of physical accessibility include:**

- ◆ Accessible parking spaces identified with signs and near door entrances.
- ◆ Curb-cuts from the sidewalk to the street.
- ◆ Entrance ramps to the building for wheelchairs (if there are stairs).
- ◆ Door openings wide enough for wheelchairs (36" wide).
- ◆ Accessible seating for patrons in wheelchairs.
- ◆ Elevators provided and identified if performance is not on ground level.
- ◆ Accessible restrooms (36" wide door opening out, stall with handrails, five feet of clear space for wheelchairs to turn).
- ◆ Readable signs printed in large print directing persons to the program and restrooms.
- ◆ Accessible water fountains and reception desk (mounted low for wheelchairs).

**Below are examples of programmatic accommodations that can be made available on request, if not routinely provided.** For example, you can simply note on publicity materials: "Large print materials, FM listening systems and Braille transcriptions are available on request. Please contact (xxx) xxx-xxxx for availability by [date of two weeks prior to event]."

- ◆ **Large Print** programs, publications or labels (**minimum 18-point font size**).  
**Tip:** These publications can easily be made on a copy machine or by adjusting font size and printing the publication in at least 18-point font from your computer.
- ◆ **Assistive Listening Devices:**  
**Tip:** These devices are available for loan, free of charge, from the libraries listed on the last page.
- ◆ **Telecommunications Device (TTY)** to receive calls from patrons who are deaf or hard of hearing (for organizations with their own sites).  
**Tip:** In October 2001, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) implemented 7-1-1 for access to Telecommunications Relay Services. Anyone in the United States can dial 711 to be connected to a relay operator who will place either a voice call or a TTY call for the caller. This will enable staff and visitors to place and receive calls to and from persons or organizations who utilize TTY phones.
- ◆ **Audio Description** (audio guides of publications, exhibitions, artwork, performance, etc.).  
**Tip:** This can be done simply with a tape recorder or iPhone. You can also offer guided docent tours of exhibitions.

- ◆ **Disability Access Symbols** to promote and publicize accessibility of your programs to people with various disabilities.  
**Tip:** Publicize your program's accessibility utilizing access symbols on your promotional materials. Symbols can be downloaded at: <http://www.pccc.edu/cultural-affairs/pcchc/ada>
- ◆ **Accessible Website**  
**Tip:** To learn more, visit <http://www.w3.org/WAI/>
- ◆ **Tactile Exhibits** allowing persons with visual impairments to touch objects.
- ◆ **Sign language Interpretation** or **Open Captioning**. While these services are expensive, consider offering them at select performances.  
**Tip:** You can secure interpreters through the Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing's free Interpreter Referral Service at **(800) 792-8339** V/TTY. They will refer an interpreter appropriate to your needs and location. Visit <https://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dds/home/index.html> for more information. For open captioning, visit [www.c2net.org](http://www.c2net.org). This non-profit company offers open captioning for live performances.
- ◆ **Braille Publications**  
**Tip:** The website <http://www.aadb.org/> lists companies that transcribe Braille from print or disk, ranging from \$0.25 - \$0.50 per page. PCCHC utilizes the services of Braille Enterprises: <http://www.brailleenterprises.com/>.

The **Cultural Access Network** can provide guidance and information on the regulations of the Americans with Disabilities Act and the tools to preparing an ADA Plan. For information, please visit <https://njtheatrealliance.org/cultural-access-network-project>.

### ***Assistive Listening and Audio Description Devices Program***

The New Jersey Theatre Alliance has multi-channel FM Equipment available for loan that can be used for assistive listening and audio-description events.

Through the NJ Division of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, libraries participate in the Assistive Listening Loan Program and lend personal FM systems, Wide Area FM systems, conference microphones, and related equipment. The most convenient library locations are:

Montclair Public Library  
50 South Fullerton Avenue  
Montclair, NJ 07042  
(973) 744-0500

Morris County Library  
30 East Hanover Avenue  
Whippany, NJ 07981  
(973) 285-6930

Piscataway Public Library  
500 Hoes Lane  
Piscataway, NJ 08854  
(732) 463-1633

Teaneck Public Library  
840 Teaneck Road  
Teaneck, NJ 0766  
(201) 837-4171

New Jersey State Library Talking Book & Braille Center  
2300 Stuyvesant Avenue  
Trenton, NJ 08625  
(800) 792-8322