



Arts for People with Special Needs - 2024: \$1,000 Matching Grant Opportunity!

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2024 AT 5 PM

Overview

In 2024, ArtsWestchester is continuing its mission to increase the accessibility to the arts through the Arts for People with Special Needs - Artist Residency program, a matching funding opportunity that partners human service agencies with professional artists from ArtsWestchester's Teaching Artist Directory. In this partnership, professional artists will provide ongoing, hands-on, art-engaging workshops tailored to clients with special needs. These workshops will take place at the grant-awarded agency.

This opportunity is made possible with support from the Westchester County Board of Legislators.

Guidelines

Who is eligible to apply?

Human service agencies that serve Westchester residents with cognitive, developmental, neurological, physical or psychological impairments. A limited number of agencies that serve low-income individuals or families may be considered for funding.

Please note: residential treatment centers and hospitals, as well as agencies that serve people with mental illness are not eligible for this funding opportunity.

What is the maximum amount awarded?

This is a matching grant. Your organization must confirm they can cover half the cost of the residency (\$1,000). After confirming that your agency can provide \$1,000 in matching funds, ArtsWestchester will award your site \$1,000. The \$2,000 budget includes artist fees (\$1,700) and disposable arts supplies purchased by the artist (\$300). Any extra materials are kept by your site.

What is an artist residency?

An artist residency is a multi-session, art-making program designed to engage participants in a rewarding, creative arts experience. Artist residencies are partnerships between an artist from the Teaching Artist Roster and site staff. Together they establish goals, determine activities, and assess results. In addition to providing participants with deep engagement in an art form, most residencies are designed to improve skills in areas such as team work, communication, or socialization.

Each residency consists of a planning session with the selected artist and site staff, seven consecutive half-day* art-making sessions with your clients and the artist, and one assessment session with the artist and site staff. Generally, artists work with groups of up to 15. A staff member must always be present in the space during the entire residency.

ArtsWestchester oversees a roster of artists of various disciplines: literary, performing, and visual. The artists on the roster have undergone a rigorous review process and are recommended to the Teaching Artist Roster by an external panel of academic and creative professionals.

*One half-day session is equivalent a maximum of 2 hours, including set up and break down

What does ArtsWestchester consider “Special Needs?”

For the purposes of this matching funding opportunity, ArtsWestchester seeks to support human service agencies that serve Westchester residents with cognitive, developmental, neurological, physical, or psychological impairments such as ADD/ADHD, autism, cerebral palsy, deafness, dependence on wheelchair, as well as homeless families and individuals.

What is the deadline?

Your application must be completed and submitted by **Friday, October 25, 2024 at 5:00 PM.**

How does an organization apply?

Use the application available through the Submittable online portal. If you are a first-time applicant, you must register with the site [here](#). We encourage you to draft your responses in a Word or Google doc and paste your completed responses into the portal once you are ready to submit.

What types of activities are eligible for support?

This matching funding opportunity is designed to assist human service agencies in bringing professional artists on-site to conduct on-going art sessions. To be eligible for support, you must partner with an artist from the Teaching Artist Roster. You may view the artists [here](#).

What is the period of support?

All funded activities can begin January 2025 and must end June 30, 2025.

If I receive a Special Needs Grant, what will my responsibilities include?

If you receive a grant, you will be required to comply with the terms of a Cultural Agreement Contract that include:

- Providing ArtsWestchester with written notice of the date(s), time(s) and location(s) of the funded project(s) at least two weeks prior to the event
- Recognizing the support of ArtsWestchester in all published materials, whether print or digital, as described in the contract and publicity agreement (all logos are available at www.artswestchester.org)
- Completing the proposed project by no later than **June 30, 2025, unless discussed and approved by an ArtsWestchester staff member.**
- Submitting a final report accompanied by project documentation
- Paying the teaching artist directly with funds received from ArtsWestchester
- Providing the artist residency to participants at no cost

Who may I contact with questions or for more information?

Jessy Mendez, Directors, Arts in Education at jmendez@artswestchester.org.