Washington Square Park Conservancy Arts Grants 2024
Grant Guidelines and Application Instructions

The Washington Square Park Conservancy (WSPC) Community Arts Grants program financially assists community organizations in carrying out arts programming activities in Washington Square Park. The WSPC Arts Grant program is now in its ninth year. Past awards have ranged from $500-$2,000 per program. Grant funds will be distributed beginning June of 2024.

Qualifying Events Must:

- Take place in Washington Square Park, NYC, during the 2024 calendar year.
- Have applied for a [Special Event Permit](#) from NYC Parks (pending approval is acceptable).
- Be free and open to the public.
- Offer quality music, theater, literature, film or other arts programming.

Who Can Apply:

- Local community-based organizations or individuals that provide arts programming.
- Applicants must have 501c3 non-profit status *or* a 501c3 fiscal sponsor.
- Past grantees and first-time applicants are welcome to apply.

Program Criteria:

- **Quality of project**: clear, well-conceived, with an authentic relationship to the park and/or its vibrant history, its culture today, and appeals to its diverse constituency, and shows a commitment to diversity, inclusion, as well as creative and impactful placemaking within a public space.
- **Community Impact**: event has community support and will bring meaningful, quality arts programming to Washington Square Park.
- **Feasibility**: applying organization has a proven track record of presenting this and/or other events; clear realistic budget for your event including explanation of any additional funding streams. Project adheres to Parks permitting requirements, as well as rules and regulations set in place by the New York City Parks Department.

WSPC encourages both community-based events with a history in Washington Square Park, as well as organizations looking to host new programs that encourage diversity in arts practices to the Park to apply.

Examples of what this grant may fund:

- Funds to pay musicians.
- Funds to pay actors for a theatrical performance.
- Funds to pay administrative or technical event workers.
- Funds for supplies/costumes.
- Equipment rentals for performance/event.
- Funds to market performance/event.
- Funds to create online resources.

Funds may not be used for:

- Events that promote a commercial product.
- Artist/musician travel/accomodations in-out of New York City.
- Capital funds (ie, instrument/equipment purchase).
- Fundraising.
- Administrative costs not related to the project such as catering.

HOW TO APPLY

Please use [this form](#) to provide general applicant information as well as income/expense and project budget. You will also use this form to submit a program narrative and evidence of 501c3 fiscal sponsorship.

Program Narrative Description: This letter should be written in a manner that celebrates your organization's commitment to community-minded diverse arts practices. Think of this letter as a way to create a meaningful and concise narrative detailing why your planned project is well-suited as a public program at Washington Square Park. Program narratives should be no longer than two pages.

- Description of event
- History of event at WSP/relationship to WSP/cultural connection to WSP
- Description of event budget and how grant funds will be used, in addition to a comprehensive comparison to a standard programmatic project coordinated by your organization
- If applicable - any elaboration on unusual expenses that may occur. It is not necessary to include numbers in letters of intent - they will be listed in project budget)
- **Past Grantees only**: should include a short description (one paragraph, 150 words or less) of their last program which received a WSPC Arts Grant.

Selection Committee

The selection committee will be comprised of members of the Washington Square Park Conservancy board of directors, Manhattan Community Board 2 members, and Greenwich Village community and community organization members.

Grants Timeline

January 29th, 2024	Grant program announced
February 26th, 2024	Questions will be answered when submitted by this date
March 4th, 2024	[Applications](#) due by midnight
First week of April	Recipients announced
June 2024	Funds start being distributed

Full guidelines can be found [here](#). Applicants must fill out [this form](#) in order to be considered.

Remember to use [this form](#) to submit your application by **March, 4th 2024**, by midnight.

Applications received after this time will not be considered.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Applications not submitted through the form will not be considered.

Questions? Inquiries regarding this program may be submitted via email to kaitlyn@washingtonsqpark.org **before February 26th**. Ask early, we cannot guarantee a response to an inquiry submitted after that date.