

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF ESSEX**

RESOLUTION NO. _____ **AUTHORITY FOR RESOLUTION:** N.J.S.A. 40:41A-38(n)

PROPOSED BY: COUNTY EXECUTIVE **AUTHORITY FOR ACTION:** N.J.S.A. 40:41A-36(i)

SUBJECT:

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS – APPROVAL OF SUB-GRANT AGREEMENTS FOR THE 2023 LOCAL ARTS PROGRAM GRANT UNDER THE NEW JERSEY STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS – AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$391,400.00

WHEREAS, the County of Essex acting through the Department of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs, proposes to provide a variety of cultural programs and events for Essex County residents under the County’s Local Arts Program and proposes to enter into subgrant agreements for the provision of such services with the subgrantees set forth in the schedule attached hereto to provide the services for the contract period January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023 and in the amounts set fort on said schedule which total subgrant amount will not exceed \$391,400.00; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified the availability of funds to pay such contracts which certification is attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners is empowered by N.J.S.A. 40A:41A 38(n) to approve, by resolution, contracts presented by the County Executive, now, therefore; be it.

RESOLVED, by the Essex County Board of County Commissioners:

1. That the County Executive is authorized to enter into sub grant agreements for the 2023 Local Arts Development in accordance with the schedule and grant agreements attached hereto and made a part hereof.
2. That the Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners shall provide two (2) certified copies of the resolution and grant schedule and one copy of the grant agreements to Daniel Salvante, Director, Department of Parks, Recreation & Cultural Affairs and one copy of the resolution and grant schedule to the Office of Purchasing.

Approved as to form and legality  Date 2/28/23
 ESSEX COUNTY COUNSEL

RECORD OF VOTE (X=Vote N.V.=Abstention ABS=Absent)

Moved by Commissioner _____
 Second by Commissioner _____

Commissioner	Yes	No	N.V.	ABS	Commissioner	Yes	No	N.V.	ABS
Cooper					Mercado				
Gill					Pomares, V.P.				
Graham					Richardson, Pres.				
Johnson					Sebold				
Luciano									

It is hereby certified that the foregoing Resolution was () adopted () defeated () tabled by roll call vote at a _____ meeting of the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Essex, New Jersey held on _____.

Is Publication Required () Yes () No

Date Published _____

 Wayne L. Richardson, President

Local Arts Program Grant
 2/27/2023



COUNTY OF ESSEX

DECISION MEMORANDUM

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Parks

DEPARTMENT: _____

DIVISION: _____

TO: Robert Jackson, County Administrator

FROM: Daniel K. Salvante, Director

DATE: February 3, 2023

RE: Request approval of sub-grant agreements in the amount of \$391,400.00 for FY23 Local Arts Grant with the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.

INTRODUCTION

The Essex County Division of Cultural and Historic Affairs has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$391,400.00 from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts (NJSCA) for its 2023 Local Arts Grant Program. These funds were previously inserted. It is recommended the County grant awards to forty-five community-based non-profit arts organizations and other art programming under the Local Arts Program funded through grant monies from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

The grant amount of \$305,200.00 will fund re-grant awards to forty-five non-profit organizations to provide Essex County residents accessibility to a broad range of the arts and foster arts education. The remaining \$86,200.00 of the NJSCA award will fund grant administration, Division of Cultural Affairs arts programming, and arts education opportunities.

FISCAL IMPACT

Of the \$391,400.00 awarded by the State, \$305,200.00 will be re-granted to forty-five non-profit arts organizations. There is no match required for this portion of the award. In addition, \$86,200.00 of funding is for workshops, compensation to peer evaluators, Teen Arts or other arts education, the summer concert series, and other administrative needs. There is a 1:1 match requirement for the \$86,200.00 not re-granted. The match will be met with the current Division of Cultural Affairs budget. Additional county funds are not necessary for this action.

CONCLUSION

As administrator of the Local Arts Program Grant, the Division is in the position to promote and reward artistic excellence and to influence the development of quality arts programs in the County. The Division is granted the opportunity to encourage expanded public and private support for the local arts activities and to increase public accessibility to the arts.

FEB 7 PM 12:59



OFFICE OF ACCOUNTS AND CONTROL
HALL OF RECORDS, ROOM 542
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY 07102

CERTIFICATION OF FUNDS

Vendor Name Per Attached Matrix
Account Name SFY23 Essex County Local Arts Program B
Account # 02-213-23-370-012-001
Contract Period (If Applicable) 01/01/2023 12/31/2023
Purpose of Contract To provide a variety of cultural programs and events.

391,400.00 Contract Amount

Funding

Temporary Budget Amount
Current Fund Budget Amount
Contingent Current Year Amount
391,400.00 Grant Funding
Capital Funding
Trust Funding
Contingent Subsequent Years

I, do hereby certify that the funding is legally appropriated per the above information for the purpose specified in the attached contract. Furthermore, it has been represented to me that the contracts have been processed in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Optional County Charter Law, the Essex County Administrative Code and the Essex County Standard Operating Policies and Procedures.

^{KD} Date: 2/28/2023
Cert: 707


Ehab Salama
Chief Financial Officer

ESSEX COUNTY
2023 LOCAL ARTS GRANT PROGRAM AWARDEES
 Contract Period January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023

Organization	Description of Funded Program or Project
1. AAPI Montclair Score: 88% Award: \$10,000.00 Amber Lee Reed 30 Norman Rd Montclair, NJ 07043 Tel: (917) 757-5983 Email: amber.reed@aapimontclair.org	Special Project Support Lunar New Year, celebrated by billions around the world, is a time for family reunions, abundant food, and joyful celebrations. Our celebration will feature family-friendly educational, cultural, and social activities to offer community members a chance to celebrate and learn about Lunar New Year together. Ring in the Year of the Rabbit with performances including a Chinese lion dance, Korean fan dance, and Filipino hip-hop, and arts & craft activities led by Montclair Art Museum educators.
2. Arts Council of East Orange Score: 75% Award: \$3,972.00 Helena Branch 377 So. Harrison St., Apt. 11F East Orange, NJ 07018 Tel: (973) 395-1186 Email: lilsisny@gmail.com	General Operating Support Continuing the developing relationship with the Manufacturers Village expanding interaction with the East Orange Community by finalizing Artist Registration for both students, emerging professionals and seasoned East Orange professionals.
3. ARTS ETC Score: 89% Award: \$3,500.00 Toni Thomas PO Box 22626 Newark, NJ 07101 Tel: (973) 699-3269 Email: toni@artsetcnow.org	General Operating Support We are asking for funds to support the following program areas: to expand our Community Arts program to include a crochet club with a Social Emotional Learning (SEL) focus; provide mentorship to young and developing artists through our Catfish Friday Artist Collective which would include reduced membership to the collective and a year of mentoring with a seasoned artist; and printing and publish our community service coloring book project Embrace Dreamz.
4. Blissful Us Score: 70% Award: \$7,316.00 Anusha Bansal 2 Tuxedo Drive Livingston, NJ 07039 Tel: (973) 931-7066 Email: info@blissfulus.org	Special Project Support Our project is a student run initiative. We have developed peer-to-peer student managed digital arts magazine for younger generation of underserved communities in Essex County (ages 7-22) to creatively express views and analysis via literary and visual arts forms on topics related to diversity & culture, history. Blissful Us mission is to promote literary and arts education in students of all ages from lower income and inner city communities across Essex County and broader NJ.
5. Bloomfield Public Library Score: 81% Award: \$5,952.00 Lisa Cohn 90 Broad Street Bloomfield, NJ 07003 Tel: (973) 566-6200 x213 Email: Lisa.Cohn@bloomfield.bccls.org	Special Project Support We are presenting a series of concerts free for the public. As the Covid situation improved, we began offering our concerts in person in the theatre. We also bought some equipment to better continue to offer some programs and publicity online.

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<p>6. Blue Butterfly Arts & Media Score: 86% Award: \$8,988.00 Celeste Anne Bateman 68 Shephard Ave Newark, NJ 07112 Tel: (973) 705-8253 Email: celestebatemanagency@gmail.com</p>	<p>Special Project Support The special project is a documentary on Sen. Wynona Lipman. (1923-1999). Sen. Lipman was the first African-American woman elected to the New Jersey Senate. Earlier in her career, Dr. Lipman taught at Essex County College. Her foray into politics led her to becoming the President of the Essex County Board of Freeholders (now Commissioners), before being elected to the State Senate in 1971 (29th District). Among other projects, Lipman cared deeply about the rights of women and children.</p>
<p>7. Cinema Ed Score: 93% Award: \$10,000.00 Richard Bell 321 Walton Avenue South Orange, NJ 07079 Tel: (201) 452-4004 Email: RSBell@CinemaEd.org</p>	<p>Special Project Support We will provide Orange and Newark HS students with two filmmaking workshop programs and screenings. The spring and fall 2023 events are a collaboration between Cinema Ed, Orange School District, Drew University and ValleyArts. The spring event will run over two months in March and April. The fall event will take place over a weekend at Drew University in Madison, NJ. Professional mentors will work with teams of HS students along with Drew students to create their films and then screen them live.</p>
<p>8. Clinton Hill Community Action Score: 86% Award: \$8,988.00 Ms. Ja'Meda Al-Nisa Reaves 404 Hawthorne Avenue Newark, NJ 07112-2018 Tel: (201) 228-0757 Email: impact@clintonhillaction.org</p>	<p>Special Project Support Beat the Blight is a resident-led beautification campaign where we secure, beautify, and board up vacant and abandoned properties. Once windows are boarded up, we work with local artists who create inspiring murals to enhance the building's façade. These vacant properties were once used for illegal activities, including prostitution and the sale of drugs, in addition to being eyesores. Once they were transformed into local works of art, the properties remained clean and graffiti free.</p>
<p>9. Community Foundation of New Jersey Score: 85% Award: \$8,900.00 Barbara Bell Coleman 115 Clifton Ave, Suite 300 Newark, NJ 07104 Tel: (973) 969-1189 Email: info@branchbrookpark.org</p>	<p>Special Project Support The grant will support a seasonal recurring local arts event that takes place in Essex County Branch Brook Park at Prudential Concert Grove during the Summer and Fall of 2023. These events hosted by Branch Brook Park Alliance are a catalyst for providing economic opportunity to artists while showcasing the vibrant art community. Events include free entertainment, a community participation art project, and connections to wellness organizations.</p>
<p>10. Coro d'Italia ~ d'Italia Programs Score: 84% Award: \$4,456.00 Ms. Marylou Romano 20 Erie Place Nutley, NJ 07110 Tel: (973) 461-9624 Email: ditalianj@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Special Project Support Italy has given the world a host of cultural arts for centuries. It is the birthplace place of opera & is a classical hub. Due to dire socioeconomic conditions, Italy has also given the world millions of immigrants who've both added to and benefitted from the culture of their new homes. From Argentine Tango to Brazilian Bossa Nova, New Orleans Jazz, Memphis Country, musical theatre on Broadway, filmscores in Hollywood, & contemporary pop music - all have been influenced by Italy's music.</p>

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11. Culture Connection Theater Score: 89% Award: \$4,000.00 Ms. Elaine Molinaro 13 Montclair Ave. Montclair, NJ 07042 Tel: (646) 418-1658 cultureconnectiontheater1@gmail.com	Special Project Support Circle of Sparks Playback Project, a program of Culture Connection Theater, is a storytelling improv company providing performances and workshops for the general public and targeted groups. This community building project's mission is to foster connection between people through improv theater to enable positive social change. Enacting the stories of others provides an opportunity to increase understanding of one another. Theater allows us to move beyond talking and get into action.
12. East Orange Public Library Score: 84% Award: \$2,714.00 Ms Wendy Oldham 21 South Arlington Avenue East Orange, NJ 07018 Tel: (973) 266-5607 Email: woldham@resourceswork.com	Special Project Support The Cultural Cafe will include a range of performances and artistic presentations including music, poetry, art, film, and discussions. These programs will bring community residents together in the library or on Zoom or a Facebook Live presentation depending on public health restrictions at the time. Community engagement in activities that promote cultural exposure and education helps to foster greater appreciation for the arts and inspires individual creativity and development.
13. Explore Millburn Short Hills Score: 75% Award: \$7,844.00 Mr. Steven Grillo 375 Millburn Ave Millburn, NJ 07041 Tel: (646) 327-3388 Email: steve@exploremillburnshorthills.org	Special Project Support "Explore" is a Special Improvement District (SID) and represents approx. 500 businesses. We strive to enhance public engagement/placemaking through innovative art programs. In 2022 we created the "Millburn Art Alley" with 3 murals, seating/lighting and games inc. a bocce court. We also created a Selfie Box and Fence Weaving project. We plan to continue this in Q3/Q4 of 2022 by installing additional murals. We are seeking 2023 funding for additional murals, artistic benches and intersection art.
14. Forest Hill Community Association Score: 89% Award: \$10,000.00 Daniel Zanella P.O. Box 9481 Newark, NJ 07104 Tel: (201) 306-3201 Email: d.zanella@verizon.net	Special Project Support Newark PorchFest brings a diverse set of local performing, visual and spoken word artists (both amateur & professional) to participate in a free day-long festival on the last Saturday of September. Local residents volunteer their porches as stages. Attendees of all ages are encouraged to visit the porches to partake in the festivities, which in addition to performance and exhibitions, include interactive opportunities, children's activities, and food vendors.
15. Friends of Anderson Park Score: 87% Award: \$2,425.00 Lisanne Renner P.O. Box 43712 Montclair, NJ 07043 Tel: (973)-477-7207 Email: Gracerenner@verizon.net	Special Project Support This free outdoor summer chamber music concert in Essex County's Anderson Park is presented by the Chamber Music Society of North Jersey. On the day before the performance, the CMSNJ would partner with an arts-focused school, such as Newark's Arts High School, to arrange an in-school program. The concert presents classical music in a relaxed, welcoming setting. CMSNJ chooses programs that include standard repertoire and pieces that may appeal to an audience less versed in classical music.

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16. Friends of the Livingston Library Score: 92% Award: \$5,000.00 Barbara Bye 10 Robert H Harp Drive Livingston, NJ 07039 Tel: (973)-533-7139 Email: friends_livlibrary@verizon.net	Special Project Support Senior Happening is a set of 10 programs designed for seniors but open to all. It is entertaining, educational, and promotes socialization. In hour 1, attendees “brown bag” lunch while Friends volunteers serve complimentary beverages and dessert; lively talk occurs among attendees and with volunteers. Hour 2 presents arts and cultural programs. Optional hour 3, done in coordination with the Township, gives seniors 1-1 instruction on smart devices from Livingston High School teen volunteers.
17. interACT Theatre Productions Score: 84% Award: \$8,812.00 Holland Jancaitis 10 Durand Rd Maplewood, NJ 07040 Tel: (203) 500-9042 holland@interactproductions.org	General Operating Support interACT Theater produces plays, musicals, and offers theater classes for the South Orange-Maplewood area, for both children and adults.
18. Maplewood Memorial Library Score: 85% Award: \$4,500.00 Sarah Lester 129 Boyden Ave Maplewood, NJ 07040 Tel: (973) 762-1688 x5003 Email: slester@maplewoodlibrary.org	Special Project Support The Maplewood Ideas Festival is a series of programs and events celebrating the talent and creativity in Maplewood, New Jersey. The Festival features authors, actors, filmmakers, artists, musicians and visionaries. The highlight of the Festival is the presentation of the Maplewood Literary Award.
19. Mighty Writers Score: 87% Award: \$10,000.00 Ms. Sukripa Shah 59 Lincoln Park Newark, NJ 07102 Tel: (267) 239-0899 Email: sshah@mightywriters.org	General Operating Support Mighty Writers (MW) respectfully requests \$10,000 in GOS to teach 150 Newark students (ages 7 to 17) culturally relevant literary art curricula that exercise creativity, improve writing skills, stimulate critical thinking and empower marginalized artistic voices. The curriculum includes Afterschool poetry units, playwriting, songwriting and arts-integrated writing workshops and bridges the accessibility gap in marginalized communities by teaching art forms such as poetry, music, and literature.
20. Montclair Early Music Score: 67% Award: \$5,100.00 Mr. Martin Ira Brounstein 9 Hudson Pl Bloomfield, NJ 07003 Tel: (973) 476-3498 Email: martybrounstein@gmail.com	General Operating Support Montclair Early Music (MEM) plans to deliver community based musical performances within a historical and educational format. The organization required operational funding for music directors, accounting, legal and support services.

Commented [a1]: Question: they have the PO box for last year and the PO Box on the website - but on foundant they have a different address. Follow up with them for this change of address?

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Organization	Description of Funded Program or Project
21. Montclair Public Library Score: 82% Award: \$4,324.00 Marisa Shaari 50 South Fullerton Ave Montclair, NJ 07042 Tel: (973) 744-0500 Email: marisa.shaari@montclairlibrary.org	Special Project Support MPL's first true Hispanic Heritage Celebration will be a comprehensive series of free events, exploring Hispanic culture, from indigenous to contemporary. It will cover the span of many Central and South American countries. Programming will target a variety of ages and include performing arts, tactile craft making, lectures, as well as bilingual story times.
22. Mosaic Dance Theater Company Score: 86% Award: \$8,988.00 Celeste Varricchio 7 Columbus Avenue Glen Ridge, NJ 07028 Tel: (973) 783-2395 Email: mosaicdte@att.net	Special Project Support "Alhayat Raksa (Life Is a Dance)," our SP for 2023, is an evening-length dance theater work set in Egypt. The story centers around a woman who, at the end of her life, resolves her conflicting emotions and resentments of having had to follow the tradition of an arranged marriage instead of pursuing a career as a dancer and risk being shunned and ostracized by her family and her community. The work, with a cast of 9 performers (7 women, 2 men), underscores the fragility of women's rights.
23. NJ Tap Ensemble Score: 87% Award: \$10,000.00 Ms. Deborah Mitchell 590 Bloomfield Ave, Suite 383 Bloomfield, NJ 07003 Tel: (201) 394-9032 Email: deborah@njtap.org	General Operating Support NJTAP is requesting operational support for the expenses of programs and activities that were significantly impacted by COVID-19. Those expenses included space rental for classes, rehearsals, presentations, community workshops, special events, artists teaching and rehearsal fees, part-time administrative staff that market, promote and help us reach underserved, hard to reach and/or disproportionately affected Black Indigenous and People of Color.
24. New Wave Productions Score: 68% Award: \$1,078.00 Anne Quinn 60 Ridgeway Avenue West Orange, NJ 07052 Tel: (201) 463-3646 Email: essexbookpantry@gmail.com	General Operating Support The main program of New Wave is our educational arm called La Cinematheque Film Club. We show important foreign films from all eras and make a presentation about each film's background and artistic significance, followed by Q&A with the audience. We also support independent filmmaking and community education through tactile arts.
25. Newark Public Library Score: 87% Award: \$10,000.00 Sharron Little PO Box 630 Newark, NJ 07101 Tel: (973) 733-7774 Email: slittle@npl.org	Special Project Support The phrase, "A picture is worth 1,000 words" conveys the power of images. They can exalt or disparage, encourage or discourage, promote pride or shame, and transmit information to our brains that may drive internal love or hatred for oneself, one's history, and one's cultural experience. Our 2023 project will examine, celebrate and illuminate the impact of positive depictions of the experiences of Black and LatinX communities as seen through the lens of prominent diverse photographers.

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Organization	Description of Funded Program or Project
26. Nutley Historical Society Score: 62% Award: \$2,100.00 Barry Lenson 9 Myrtle Avenue Millburn, NJ 07041 Tel: (973) 715-2691 Email: barrylenson@aya.yale.edu	Special Project Support We are planning to buy modular wall panels that will enable us to have exhibitions of paintings and drawings on the ground floor of the Nutley Museum Building located at 65 Church Street in Nutley, New Jersey. We have priced several models of these panels, and they all cost about \$600 each. We are therefore hoping to get a grant that will pay for the first three. We will but additional panels from our own funds.
27. Nutley Public Library Score: 79% Award: \$3,374.00 Mrs. Michelle Salimbene Albert 93 Booth Dr Nutley, NJ 07110 Tel: (973) 667-0405 X2638 Email: albert@nutley.bccls.org	Special Project Support A Special Project Grant to support a Film Series. This two part series is comprised of free public screenings of Emmy-nominated, award-winning, Essex County filmmakers' Marylou & Jerome Bongiorno's acclaimed films. The first is RUST feature documentary on solutions to inner city poverty and racism for target exhibition during February Black History Month or to commemorate Juneteenth in June, and the second is a short fiction film COLUMBUS ON TRIAL, on the Columbus controversy, in October.
28. Oratorio Society of New Jersey Score: 75% Award: \$4,747.00 Peter Braley PO Box 1872 Montclair, NJ 07042 Tel: (973) 220-2014 Email: pwlbraley@gmail.com	General Operating Support Our planned activities for 2023 are to continue with our schedule of live performances in Spring and Fall and our Messiah Sing in December. However in lieu of creating a second performance in Newark (Grace Church being our primary target), we will instead focus on re-introducing a Summer Sing by which we will provide accompaniment and soloists and hope to bring a wide and diverse group of singers to join us singing some classics. Grace Church is agreeable to this and we are working out details.
29. Producers Edge Score: 85% Award: \$8,020.00 Spencer Frohwirth 505 Clinton Ave Newark, NJ 07108 Tel: (551) 655-3734 Email: spencer@producersedge.org	Special Project Support Producer's Edge will lead an after-school teen music production program at the new Gant-Gilbert Arts Collective, part of the revitalization of Newark South Ward's Clinton Hill neighborhood. Once a week in the Spring and Summer of 2023 and culminating in a showcase event, this STEAM + Language Arts program will teach at-risk youth musical composition, audio engineering, creative writing, and performance using technology like iPads, USB keyboards, and recording sessions in a portable vocal booth.
30. Progressive Theater Score: 76% Award: \$7,932.00 Gregory Omar Osborne 266 Parker Ave Maplewood, NJ 07040 Tel: (862) 340-5367 Email: management@progressivetheater.com	Special Project Support Progressive Theater A Nonprofit Corporation plans to work with the Newark Board of Ed to produce a school musical that can compete multiple High School Theatre Awards, like Paper Mill's Rising Stars. There has been no participation of Lower Essex County Schools in these ceremonies. Nominees get a shot at receiving high honors for their artistry and possible scholarships opportunities. This would be, yet, another chance to showcase the brilliance that is often shaded by socioeconomic status.

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Organization	Description of Funded Program or Project
31. South Orange/Maplewood Community Coalition on Race Score: 92% Award: \$8,000.00 Audrey Rowe PO Box 1309 Maplewood, NJ 07040 Tel: (973) 761-6116, x4 Email: audrey.rowe@twotowns.org	Special Project Support Integrated Art Circles combine art education, creative expression, interracial interaction and community discussion into a single process. A racially diverse group of Essex County artists will design group projects including a variety of visual and performing art forms and then conduct small group workshops to instruct and coach racially diverse participants in completing a project over multiple sessions. Projects will be publicly displayed followed by a community discussion.
32. South Orange Symphony Score: 83% Award: \$8,724.00 Janet Poland PO Box 91 South Orange, NJ 07079-0091 Tel: (973) 376-6349 Email: jmpoland@yahoo.com	General Operating Support The South Orange Symphony plans to present three or more free orchestral concerts that challenge and engage the orchestra musicians; educate and entertain diverse audiences, and are accessible and enjoyable for all citizens, including families with young children (recommended age 4 and older.) Each concert includes brief spoken introductions about the music and composers, and ways for audience members to respond in place to the intros and music and through an audience Q & A.
33. SPARK Friends of Riverbank Park Score: 90% Award: \$5,000.00 Nancy Zak 272 Walnut Street Apt. 7 Newark, NJ 07105 Tel: (973) 517-3297 Email: spark07105@yahoo.com	Special Project Support SPARK Friends seeks a grant to support its 2023 Cultural Arts Program (CAP) from May to December 2023. CAP brings arts programs to people of a variety of ages, cultures and languages who live in this immigrant community. This program, begun in 2004, brings people of diverse cultures together to experience the arts and helps build community unity. Those with low incomes can enjoy free arts experiences. SPARK believes good programming helps to foster park stewardship attitudes.
34. Studio Montclair Score: 83% Award: \$8,724.00 Susanna Baker 127 Bloomfield Ave Montclair, NJ 07042 Tel: (862) 500-1447 Email: susanna@studiomontclair.org	General Operating Support Studio Montclair Inc (SMI) is an inclusive organization that serves a wide and diverse group of artists at all phases of their careers through exhibitions, community building, programs, and education. SMI operates and staffs multiple unique locations that provide opportunities to artists and the surrounding community. In 2020, SMI started the Studio Montclair Art Academy to provide arts education to under-served populations. This program currently focuses on classes for adults with disabilities.
35. Succeed2gether Score: 93% Award: \$10,000.00 Cynthia Kitay P.O. Box 1355 Montclair, NJ 07042 Tel: (973) 873-2610 Email: ckitaynj@yahoo.com	Special Project Support The 7th MLF will be a 5 day celebration in Montclair of reading, literature & ideas in early May 2023. MLF 7 will feature a wide-ranging program of fiction & non-fiction authors, poets, & speakers in book talks, panel discussions, writing workshops & children's events. The Festival will proactively support S2G's literacy-for-all goal through new measures being planned to reach out to both S2G's target population of low-income families in the Montclair area and the community at large.

ESSEX COUNTY
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Organization	Description of Funded Program or Project
36. The Moving Architects Score: 91% Award: \$10,000.00 Erin Carlisle Norton 167 Pine Street Montclair, NJ 07042 Tel: (312) 343-2840 Email: erin@themovingarchitects.org	Special Project Support Our Special Project Support request is to fund two specific programs of the dance organization The Moving Architects, namely our intergenerational dance performance project slated to premiere in 2023 "O my soul" and the production of our semi-monthly dance interview podcast Movers & Shapers: A Dance Podcast.
37. The Strollers Score: 80% Award: \$8,372.00 Ms. Bethany Seales PO Box 83 Maplewood, NJ 07040 Tel: (917) 869-7667 Email: TheMaplewoodStrollers@gmail.com	General Operating Support Now that our assistive listening devices project is underway, with the requisite electrical work to upgrade the sound system in progress (thanks to ECLAP), we would like to upgrade the dated lighting system as well. This would not only benefit The Strollers but also the multiple groups in the area who use the Burgdorff theater. It would also strengthen our position with the Township, allowing us to further our mission of ensuring that arts in the community are vibrant and well-supported.
38. The Theater Project Score: 90% Award: \$10,000.00 Mark Spina 10 Durand Rd Maplewood, NJ 07040 Tel: (908) 809-8865 Email: markanthonyospina@aol.com	Special Project Support In the summer of 2023, The Theater Project (TTP) will present three plays in ten weeks at the Burgdorff Cultural Center in Maplewood, NJ. Each production would run eight performances over two weekends. At least one of these plays would be a new work from a New Jersey playwright. Actors would greet the audience after every performance, with more formal talkbacks after every Friday night show, increasing enthusiasm and engagement in arts participation.
39. Township of Belleville Score: 68% Award: \$2,600.00 Anthony Iacono 152 Washington Ave Belleville, NJ 07109 Tel: (973) 450-3322 Email: aiacono@bellevillenj.org	Special Project Support The Belleville Arts and Crafts Program is facilitated by the Township throughout the year and engages with youth in a variety of activities centered around promoting self-expression and creativity. Activities include but are not limited to drawing, painting, and photography. Grant funding will be used for to support the general operations of the program when it returns to in-person instruction in 2023. Funds will be used to purchase equipment and perishable supplies essential to the program.
40. Township of Bloomfield Score: 73% Award: \$2,522.00 Kim Duva 1 Municipal Plaza Bloomfield, NJ 07003 Tel: (973) 680-4007 Email: kduva@bloomfieldtwpnj.com	Special Project Support The Township of Bloomfield is requesting \$3,200 to implement a new program at the Oakeside Mansion which will showcase local artist talent. The event will take place quarterly and feature work from local artists across a variety of mediums.

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<p>41. United Community Corporation Score: 72% Award: \$7,580.00 Wanda Addeo 332 South 8th St Newark, NJ 07103 Tel: (973) 642-0181 Email: waddeo1234@gmail.com</p>	<p>Special Project Support UCC will use funds received from Essex County to implement a fine arts component in conjunction with our Mental Health First Aid program. We plan to expand the program to include drawing, sculpting, painting, etc. to help youth achieve the following outcomes: Improve in the development of positive behaviors and healthy social skills Prevent Youth (15-18) from engaging in antisocial and delinquent behavior Our partners include United Way of Greater Newark and the Barat Foundation.</p>
<p>42. Verona Public Library Score: 69% Award: \$2,100.00 Claudine Pascale 17 Gould St Verona, NJ 07044 Tel: (973) 857-4848 Email: pascale@veronalibrary.org</p>	<p>Special Project Support The Verona Public Library will install a story walk in Verona Park that showcases important local literary and artistic works. The story walk will consist of stakes cemented into the ground along the park's walkway in a central part of the open space. These stakes will be specifically designed to permit ease of interchangeability of works, through which the library plans to alternate the stories quarterly.</p>
<p>43. West Orange Arts Council Score: 88% Award: \$10,000.00 West Orange Arts Center 551 Valley Road West Orange, NJ 07052 Tel: (973) 722-1919 Email: info@woarts.org</p>	<p>General Operating Support The West Orange Arts Council is respectfully requesting funding from the Essex County Local Arts & History Grants Program for general operating support. This will greatly enhance our ability to offer robust programs in 2023 and our capability to meet the distinct challenges we continue to face as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. This will help improve fundraising initiatives, technological infrastructure, and overall programming.</p>
<p>44. West Orange Public Library Score: 90% Award: \$10,000.00 Marianne DeAngelis 46 Mt. Pleasant Avenue West Orange, NJ 07052 Tel: (973) 736-0196 Email: mdeangelis@westorangelibrary.org</p>	<p>Special Project Support The West Orange Public Library is requesting funding from the Essex County Local Arts & History Grants Program to present interdisciplinary programming with an emphasis on providing space for local artists to exhibit work in a professional manner. Art teachers will engage the community through intergenerational educational programming, artist talks, and hands-on workshops, including visual arts, music, dance, and book promotions. We will also begin a creative aging program for older adults.</p>
<p>45. Youth Orchestras of Essex County Score: 82% Award: \$8,548.00 Dr. Jessica Lynne Valiente PO Box 1409 Maplewood, NJ 07040 Tel: 973-507-6096 Email: yoec@yoec.org</p>	<p>General Operating Support In 2023, YOEC plans to continue and build on instrumental ensemble programs we have offered since 1956. Our programs improve the technical skill and musicianship of instrumental music students ages 6 to 17 through participation in our classical ensembles and jazz ensemble. Our outstanding faculty includes the most distinguished musicians in the region who also have the training and experience to teach students of all levels, from all backgrounds, and with diverse learning styles and challenges.</p>