

Program Guidelines

Guaranteed Income

CREATIVES
REBUILD
NEW YORK

for Artists



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1 | Overview

Creatives Rebuild New York's Guaranteed Income for Artists program will provide 2,400 artists with regular, no-strings-attached, cash payments of \$1,000 per month for 18 consecutive months.

2 | Context and Vision

Guaranteed income programs build safety nets to ensure that no individual falls below a defined income floor over time. They enable people to weather crises and plan for the future. CRNY's Guaranteed Income for Artists program takes inspiration from economic and racial justice movements of the past, government actors, reparations-focused philanthropists, and recent pilots and programs across the world.

Many guaranteed income pilots have demonstrated the efficacy of regular cash payments to improve individuals' well-being and financial stability. Building on this body of evidence, our program's goal is to help artists meet their basic needs outside of traditional or merit-based grantmaking.

How This Program Was Designed

In the fall of 2021, Creatives Rebuild New York convened a Think Tank—a diverse coalition of New York State artists, scholars, strategists, and activists with wide-ranging identities and lived experiences. Through bi-monthly facilitated digital meetings, this group determined the overall direction of both Guaranteed Income for Artists and Artist Employment Programs.

3 | Timeline

Important Dates

Application Guidelines Released	February 14, 2022
Applications Close	March 25, 2022
Notification of Selection and Next Steps	April 15, 2022

A detailed timeline with instructions for all required next steps—from Submitting Documentation of Eligibility to Onboarding—will be provided to selected artists by April 15, 2022.

Sequence of Activities

Application Period: All applications will be submitted online.

Selection: After the application period closes, eligible participants will be selected through a process that ensures equitable distribution. See Section 5, “Selection Process” for more information.

Notification of Selection: All applicants will be notified of their status. Artists who are selected to participate will receive a detailed timeline and instructions for required next steps. Artists who are not selected will be automatically added to a newsletter with information about other resources and aid they may qualify for.

Submitting Documentation of Eligibility: Before confirming entry to the program, CRNY requires that selected artists submit documentation of their eligibility.

Verification: An independent team of artists and verification experts will confirm selected artists’ eligibility based on their submitted documentation.

Benefits Counseling: After successful verification, selected artists who receive public benefits prior to accepting, will be provided with an opportunity to connect with a Benefits Counselor to consider the potential impact of this Guaranteed Income on the public benefits they receive.

Onboarding: Once they accept participation in the program, selected artists will be enrolled into the payment system.

4 | Eligibility

Who Can Apply

Eligible participants must meet the following requirements:

- **18 years of age or older as of January 1, 2022**
- **Primary residence in New York State at the time of application**
- **Have financial need (as determined by the Self-Sufficiency Standard)**
For this program, an applicant qualifies if their household income falls under the Self-Sufficiency Standard.
- **Identify as an artist, culture bearer, or culture maker**
An artist, culture bearer, or culture maker ('artist') is someone who regularly engages in artistic or cultural practice to: express themselves with the intention of communicating richly to or sharing with others; pass on traditional knowledge and cultural practices; offer cultural resources to their communities; and/or co-organize and co-create within communities toward social impacts. Artists aspire to sustain themselves through their practice and maintain a commitment to continuing their practice. Artists can work both individually and collaboratively, or as educators within their field of practice.
- Not a staff member or related to a staff member (e.g., an immediate family member) of Tides or Creatives Rebuild New York

Definitions and Details

The **Self-Sufficiency Standard** determines the amount of income required for working families to meet basic needs at a minimally adequate level. This Standard considers family composition, ages of children, and geographic differences in costs.

How to use the Self-Sufficiency Standard to determine eligibility for CRNY's Guaranteed Income Program:

- [Click here to use the Self-Sufficiency Standard Calculator.](#)
- Input New York State, your County, and household/family type into the calculator.
- Compare the Annual Total at the bottom of the calculator (the second to last line) to your total household/family income for 2021.
- If your total household/family income for 2021 falls below the Annual Total listed in the calculator, you are eligible for this program.

**All Self-Sufficiency Standard data produced by the Center for Women's Welfare at University of Washington are publicly available.*

Artistic and cultural practice includes, but is not limited to:

- **Craft** - Includes artists working in ceramics, glass, jewelry, metalworking, and textiles – fiber, weaving, and quilting
- **Dance** - Includes dancers, choreographers, and producers working in a variety of genres such as ballet, jazz, tap, hip hop, aerial, and modern
- **Design** - Includes designers working in the fields of fashion, graphic, object, and industrial design
- **Film** - Includes artists, actors, directors, creative producers, and others working in a variety of genres, such as animation, fiction, documentary, episodic, experimental, and narrative
- **Literary Arts** - Includes writers who work in genres such as fiction, nonfiction, short story writing, memoir, screenwriting, poetry, comedy, children’s literature, and graphic novel
- **Media Arts** - Includes artists, culture bearers, and culture makers working at the intersection of technology, aesthetics, storytelling, and digital cultures
- **Music** - Includes singers, musicians, composers, producers (those who create the sound and feel of the recording), DJs (original work), and live sound designers working in a variety of genres such as hip hop, jazz, rock, pop, country, and classical
- **Oral Traditions** - Includes artists, culture bearers, and culture makers whose knowledge, art, ideas, and intangible cultural material received, preserved, and transmitted from one generation to another through speech or song; may include folktales, ballads, chants, prose or verses, and storytelling
- **Social Practice** - Includes socially engaged and civically engaged artists, culture bearers, and culture makers whose art involves people and communities in debate, collaboration, or social interaction and work wherein artists partner with communities toward community development outcomes
- **Theater** - Includes actors and actresses, directors, playwrights, costume designers, stage designers, and lighting designers in a variety of genres such as experimental, live action, puppetry, opera, and musical theater
- **Performance Art** - Includes artists, culture bearers, and culture makers whose work is created through actions performed by the artist or other participants, which may be live or recorded, spontaneous or scripted, tactical and site performance
- **Traditional Arts** - Includes artists, culture bearers, and culture makers whose work is rooted in and reflective of the tradition and/or cultural heritage of a community, transmitted from generation to generation, such as cultural dance, cultural music, traditional crafts, and foodways
- **Visual Arts** - Includes artists, culture bearers, and culture makers whose arts practice is installation, illustration, painting, drawing, collage, printmaking, photography, sculpture, video art, or public art
- **Interdisciplinary Arts** - Includes artists, culture bearers, and culture makers who use an interdisciplinary approach involving more than one artistic discipline

While we understand that artistic and cultural practices are defined broadly, we are unable to consider submissions from individuals whose main connection to the arts is through arts administration or commercial merchants or vendors working in fields such as, but not limited to:

- baking and culinary arts,
- cosmetology,
- architecture, interior, landscape design,
- radio—personalities and DJs,
- event planning and production, and
- wellness and fitness.

We are communicating this out of respect for your time and energy.

Restrictions

Artists are not permitted to apply to both the Guaranteed Income for Artists and Artist Employment Programs. We encourage all potential applicants to consider, prior to applying, which program is best suited to their needs.

5 | Selection Process

Our Guaranteed Income for Artists program does not put artists in competition with each other based on artistic merit. Like many other guaranteed income programs, our selection process seeks to minimize bias and opinions about worthiness. Our process allows us to uphold our belief that achieving equity matters and acknowledges that harm has historically been inflicted on certain populations, and these populations face structural barriers to reaching financial security.

The 2,400 eligible artists will be selected through a randomized process that prioritizes people who hold the following identities or community conditions (in no particular order):

- Black, Indigenous, and People of Color
- Deaf/Disabled
- LGBTQIAP+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex, Asexual/Aromantic, Pansexual+)
- Caregivers
- Immigrants
- Criminal Legal System Involvement
- Lack of Financial Safety Net
- Rural

6 | Submitting Documentation of Eligibility

Applicants who are selected to participate will be required to submit documentation that verifies their eligibility. By April 15, 2022, each selected artist will be provided with a detailed timeline including instructions for all required next steps.

This notification will include an updated list of the exact documentation CRNY and its team of independent artists and data experts require in order to complete the verification. Artists will be notified if their eligibility is not able to be verified.

Documents may include:

- **18 years of age or older as of January 1, 2022**
 - Passport or Photo ID
 - Any of the residency documents below with a date of birth
- **Primary residence in New York State**
 - A non-expired NYS driver's license
 - A non-expired NYS non-driver ID
 - A non-expired NYC learner's permit issued by DMV
 - A non-expired iDNYC
 - State or federal tax filing or return for 2020 or 2021, whichever is most recent.
 - Copy of a utility bill
 - Bank or credit card statement
 - A lease or sublease, mortgage payment, or property tax statement
 - Medical statement, bill, or record
- **Identify as an artist, culture bearer, or culture maker**

The following items will be used only to verify your eligibility according to CRNY's definition of artists, culture bearers, or culture makers. Your materials will not be reviewed for merit or excellence.

 - Describe your way of being an artist, culture bearer, or culture maker that explains your commitment and practice *[limit 100-300 words]*

OR
 - Upload a video or audio of yourself describing your way of being an artist, culture bearer, or culture maker that explains your commitment and practice *[limit 2 minutes]*

AND
 - Provide a URL to a website, social media, press links, or any other digital presence that demonstrates your practice [If you are not able to provide a URL, you will be asked to submit a Resume or Curriculum Vitae]

- **Financial Need (as determined by the Self-Sufficiency Standard)**
 - Self-report of your total household/family income for 2021
 - Self-report of your household size/family composition
 - AND
 - Submission of your income information through our verification expert's secure portal
 - OR
 - A set of documents that best represent your household/family income for 2021, which may include:
 - W2(s) for 2021
 - Form 1040 for 2021
 - Multiple 1099s for 2021
 - Combination of pay stubs and 1099s for 2021

7 | Benefits Counseling

Taking part in the Creatives Rebuild New York Guaranteed Income Program might impact city, state, or federal benefits you currently receive.

Artists who are selected to participate and currently receive benefits will have access to a benefits counselor. Meeting with a benefits counselor can assist in understanding how income will affect your eligibility for the public benefits that you currently receive, such as Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Medicaid, Medicare, Veterans Benefits, and Public Housing. Although each case will be different, Social Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) are likely to be impacted.

Our benefits counseling partners will aid selected artists in their decision to accept or decline the guaranteed income. Once enrolled in the program, the benefits counselors will also be available to assist with any ongoing benefit-related issues, should they arise.

8 | Data Security and Confidentiality

CRNY will establish and maintain appropriate security measures designed to ensure the confidentiality of participant information and to prevent unauthorized access, destruction, loss, or alteration of such data. Submittable, our application platform, has a variety of security features and compliance certifications that can be found here: <https://www.submittable.com/security/>.

Information submitted as part of the Guaranteed Income for Artists application process will be shared as de-identified, anonymized data with partners who assist CRNY with selection and impact assessment processes. Applicants will not be personally identified in any outputs from these processes unless additional consent is sought and secured.

Participants' information may additionally be shared, upon consent, with benefits counseling partners to facilitate counseling about the potential loss of benefits due to participation in the program.

Participants' data will be kept through the end of the Creatives Rebuild New York initiative (December 2024). Additional documentation is available upon request.

9 | How to Apply

All applications must be submitted digitally through Submittable by March 25, 2022 at 11:59 PM Eastern to be considered for selection: <https://creativesrebuildny.submittable.com/>

10 | Application Support

Help Desk

CRNY has established a Help Desk that will be available throughout the entire application process. To ensure care throughout the application process, CRNY's Help Desk will provide technical support for applicants who:

- Have additional questions about eligibility for either program that are unanswered in the Guidelines and FAQs
- Are unsure of which program to apply to
- Are unable to apply online and need someone to submit an application on their behalf for any reason, including:
 - Limited access to broadband or Wi-Fi
 - The need to submit their application in a language other than English or Spanish
 - A disability that bars their access to the application
 - Other circumstances

To access the Help Desk, email HelpDesk@creativesrebuildny.org or call 855-929-3863 (live assistance available Monday-Friday from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM Eastern). The Help Desk includes dedicated translators to assist applicants who do not speak English or Spanish, and applicants who are English language learners.

Information Sessions

CRNY is partnering with the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) and several regional organizations across the state to co-host online information sessions for potential applicants to learn more about our programs. All events will provide multilingual and ASL support. More dates will be added and are subject to change. Visit www.creativesrebuildny.org/apply for the most up-to-date schedule and registration instruction.

Date	Host
Tuesday, February 15 at 9:00 AM	Long Island Arts Alliance
Thursday, February 17 at 12:00 PM	Friends of Ganondagan
Tuesday, February 22 at 7:00 PM	CNY Arts
Thursday, February 24 at 7:00 PM	The Arts Council of the Southern Finger Lakes
Tuesday, March 1 at 7:00 PM	Supporting Disability Artistry with Kevin Gotkin
Thursday, March 3 at 12:00 PM	New York State Council on the Arts
Wednesday, March 9 at 12:00 PM	St. Lawrence County Arts Council
Tuesday, March 15 at 12:00 PM	Arts Services Inc., Tri-County Arts Council, Seneca-Iroquois National Museum
Thursday, March 17 at 12:00 PM	New York State Council on the Arts

11 | Payments

All onboarding details will be provided to selected participants at the time of notification, including detailed information about start and end dates. Each participant will receive monthly \$1,000 payments for 18 consecutive months.

All participants will be able to receive payments regardless of their documentation status.

An artist whose true name differs from their legal name is eligible to apply. Our application asks for both a legal name and true name so that we can complete the verification process and ensure appropriate communication with each artist.

Options for receiving payments will depend on several variables, but will either be via a pre-paid reloadable debit card or via direct deposit into the artist's existing account of choice. All details will be clearly articulated in the detailed timeline and next steps provided at the time of notification.

12 | Portrait of New York State Artists

Creatives Rebuild New York (CRNY) seeks to create a portrait of the needs, circumstances, and experiences of artists, culture bearers, and culture makers across New York State. We will use this portrait to conduct advocacy and narrative change work, and to assess whether the funding provided through CRNY's programs helps meet the needs of individual artists in any substantive or transformational ways.

Upon submission of an application, artists will be invited to answer additional questions, all optional, that ask about artistic practice, financial circumstances, well-being, pandemic experience, and attitudes about policy and advocacy matters.

Choosing to respond to these additional questions will NOT impact an applicant's likelihood of receiving CRNY funding. All responses will be strictly confidential, and anonymized before they are viewed.

Respondents can opt-in to be entered in the Portrait of New York State Artists Giveaway—a drawing to receive an iPad Pro 12.9", Bose Noise Cancelling Headphones, or a one-year membership to a museum or cultural institution your choice. View the complete Portrait of New York State Artists Giveaway Rules at <https://www.creativesrebuildny.org/giveaway-rules/>.

13 | Application Questions

We acknowledge the sensitive nature of demographic data and how it has been used historically to harm oppressed populations. Responses will be treated strictly confidentially. For the purposes of our selection process, this application asks questions pertaining only to eligibility and to account for those who experience barriers to financial security, which include people who hold the following identities or community conditions (in no particular order):

- Black, Indigenous, and People of Color
- Deaf/Disabled
- LGBTQIAP+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex, Asexual/Aromantic, Pansexual+)
- Immigrants
- Caregivers
- Criminal Justice System Involvement
- Lack of Financial Safety Net
- Rural

To learn more about the Guaranteed Income for Artists Program, visit:

www.creativesrebuildny.org/apply/guaranteed-income

This application takes approximately 15 minutes to complete. CRNY aims to make this application as accessible and simple as possible.

If you need any assistance, please call our Help Desk at 855-929-3863 (live assistance available Monday-Friday from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM Eastern) or email HelpDesk@creativesrebuildny.org.

Step 1: Confirm your eligibility to apply for this program

** Eligibility does not guarantee that will you be selected for this program. If selected, the responses you provide in this section will be verified prior to entry into the program.*

1. Are you 18 years or older as of January 1, 2022? [Select one]
 - Yes [1.1] (Eligible)
 - No [1.2] (Ineligible)
2. Is your primary residence currently in New York State? [Select one]
 - Yes [2.1] (Eligible)
 - No [2.2] (Ineligible)
3. Do you identify as an artist, culture bearer, or culture maker? [Select one]
 - Yes [3.1] (Eligible)
 - No [3.2] (Ineligible)

4. Do you have financial need (as determined by the Self-Sufficiency Standard)?
**Before responding, we encourage you to make sure you've used the calculator according to the instructions below. If selected, we will verify this information before official entry into the program.*

- [Click here to use the Self-Sufficiency Standard Calculator](#)
- Input New York State, your County, and household/family type into the calculator.
- Compare the Annual Total at the bottom of the calculator (the second to last line) to your total household/family income for 2021.

Does your total household/family income for 2021 fall below the Annual Total listed at the bottom of the calculator? [Required, select one]

- Yes [4.1] (Eligible)
 - No [4.2] (Ineligible)
5. Are you a staff member or related to a staff member (e.g., an immediate family member) of Tides or Creatives Rebuild New York? [Select one]
- Yes [5.1] (Ineligible)
 - No [5.2] (Eligible)
6. I am aware that by applying for Guaranteed Income, I am not permitted to submit an application to the Artist Employment Program.
- Check box

Step 2: General Information

Contact Information

7. Legal First Name
8. Legal Last Name
9. Public/Preferred/True Name
10. Email Address [Please provide a valid email address for sending communications related to your application]
11. Phone Number
- Cell or landline [11.1]
 - If Cell, can we contact you by text message? [11.2]
 - Yes [11.2.1]
 - No [11.2.2]
12. Pronouns

Geography

13. Street Address or Intersection
14. City
15. Zip Code [Must be in 5-digit format]

16. County [Note that the City of New York is made up of five boroughs and each borough is a different county of New York State. Brooklyn is Kings County, the Bronx is Bronx County, Manhattan is New York County, Staten Island is Richmond County, and Queens is Queens County.]

- Albany County [16.1]
- Allegany County [16.2]
- Bronx County [16.3]
- Broome County [16.4]
- Cattaraugus County [16.5]
- Cayuga County [16.6]
- Chautauqua County [16.7]
- Chemung County [16.8]
- Chenango County [16.9]
- Clinton County [16.10]
- Columbia County [16.11]
- Cortland County [16.12]
- Delaware County [16.13]
- Dutchess County [16.14]
- Erie County [16.15]
- Essex County [16.16]
- Franklin County [16.17]
- Fulton County [16.18]
- Genesee County [16.19]
- Greene County [16.20]
- Hamilton County [16.21]
- Herkimer County [16.22]
- Jefferson County [16.23]
- Kings County (Brooklyn) [16.24]
- Lewis County [16.25]
- Livingston County [16.26]
- Madison County [16.27]
- Monroe County [16.28]
- Montgomery County [16.29]
- Nassau County [16.30]
- New York County (Manhattan) [16.31]
- Niagara County [16.32]
- Oneida County [16.33]
- Onondaga County [16.34]
- Ontario County [16.35]
- Orange County [16.36]
- Orleans County [16.37]
- Oswego County [16.38]

- Otsego County [16.39]
- Putnam County [16.40]
- Queens County [16.41]
- Rensselaer County [16.42]
- Richmond County (Staten Island) [16.43]
- Rockland County [16.44]
- St. Lawrence County [16.45]
- Saratoga County [16.46]
- Schenectady County [16.47]
- Schoharie County [16.48]
- Schuyler County [16.49]
- Seneca County [16.50]
- Steuben County [16.51]
- Suffolk County [16.52]
- Sullivan County [16.53]
- Tioga County [16.54]
- Tompkins County [16.55]
- Ulster County [16.56]
- Warren County [16.57]
- Washington County [16.58]
- Wayne County [16.59]
- Westchester County [16.60]
- Wyoming County [16.61]
- Yates County [16.62]

17. Region [Select one]

- Capital Region [17.1]
- Central New York [17.2]
- Finger Lakes [17.3]
- Long Island [17.4]
- Mid-Hudson [17.5]
- Mohawk Valley [17.6]
- New York City [17.7]
- North Country [17.8]
- Southern Tier [17.9]
- Western New York [17.10]

18. How would you describe the community in which you live? [Select one]

- Urban [18.1]
- Suburban [18.2]
- Rural [18.3]
- Tribal [18.4]

Demographic Information

19. Please enter your Date of Birth. [Must be in MM/DD/YYYY format]

20. Which of the following best describes you? [Select all that apply]

- Arab or Middle Eastern [20.1]
- Asian [20.2]
- Black or African American [20.3]
- Hispanic or Latinx [20.4]
- Indigenous American, First Nation, or Alaska Native [20.5]
- Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian [20.6]
- White [20.7]
- Other: please specify [20.8]
- I prefer not to answer [20.9]

21. Do you identify as an immigrant to the U.S.? [Select one]

- Yes [21.1]
- No [21.2]
- I prefer not to answer [21.3]

22. What is your primary spoken language? [Select one]

- English [22.1]
- Spanish [22.2]
- Mandarin or Cantonese [22.3]
- Russian [22.4]
- Yiddish [22.5]
- Bengali [22.6]
- Korean [22.7]
- Haitian Creole [22.8]
- Italian [22.9]
- Arabic [22.10]
- Polish [22.11]
- Other: Please specify [22.12]
- I prefer not to answer [22.13]

23. What is your gender identity? [Select all that apply]

- Man [23.1]
- Woman [23.2]
- Non-binary [23.3]
- Two-spirit [23.4]
- Other: please specify [23.5]
- I prefer not to answer [23.6]

24. Do you identify as transgender? [Select one]

- Yes [24.1]
- No [24.2]

- I prefer not to answer [24.3]
25. Do you identify as LGBTQIAP+ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex, Asexual/Aromantic, Pansexual+)? [Select one]
- Yes [25.1]
 - No [25.2]
 - I prefer not to answer [25.3]
26. Do you identify as Deaf or disabled? [Select one]
- Yes [26.1]
 - No [26.2]
 - I prefer not to answer [26.3]

Household and Community Conditions

27. Do you regularly provide care—either on your own or with someone else—to any of the following people? [Select all that apply]
- Yes, a child or children [27.1]
 - Yes, a spouse or partner who is elderly, ill, or disabled [27.2]
 - Yes, an adult/adults who is/are elderly, ill, or disabled [27.3]
 - Yes, someone else [27.4]
 - No [27.5]
 - I prefer not to answer [27.6]
28. Do you have any past criminal legal system involvement? [Select one]
- Yes [28.1]
 - No [28.2]
 - I prefer not to answer [28.3]

If yes: Has your past criminal legal system involvement impacted your ability to find employment? [Select one] [28.1.1]

- Yes [28.1.2]
 - No [28.1.3]
 - I prefer not to answer [28.1.4]
29. Please check all that apply regarding your financial safety net: [Select all that apply]
- I am unsure when I will make any income again [29.1]
 - I have no financial safety net (savings, assets, family resources) [29.2]
 - I am vulnerable to a medical emergency [29.3]
 - I have unmanageable debt (financial obligations not paid in full each month like credit cards, personal loans, payday loans or short-term debt, student loan debt, housing debt, automobile loan, other) [29.4]
 - None of the above [29.5]

Artistic Practice

30. (I, II, III) Please rank up to three disciplines that best reflect your practice as an artist, culture bearer, or culture maker: [Detailed description of each can be found in the FAQs.]

- Craft [30.1]
- Dance [30.2]
- Design [30.3]
- Film [30.4]
- Literary Arts [30.5]
- Media Arts [30.6]
- Music [30.7]
- Oral Traditions [30.8]
- Social Practice [30.9]
- Theater [30.10]
- Performance Art [30.11]
- Traditional Arts [30.12]
- Visual Arts [30.13]
- Interdisciplinary Arts [30.14]

31. How do you approach your practice as an artist, culture bearer, or culture maker? Select all that apply:

- I work as a solo artist. [31.1]
- I collaborate regularly with other artists. [31.2]
- I collaborate regularly with other non-arts practitioners. [31.3]
- My practice requires public or community involvement to have meaning. [31.4]
- Performing, presenting, or exhibiting to an audience or viewers is core to my practice. [31.5]
- Teaching or educating others is core to my practice. [31.6]

Step 3: Support and Submit

Supporting you in this process

Taking part in the Creatives Rebuild New York Guaranteed Income Program might impact city, state, or federal benefits you currently receive. If you currently receive public benefits and are selected, you will have access to a benefits counselor to assist in your decision to accept or decline the guaranteed income.

32. I am currently enrolled and receive public benefits from city, state, or federal government. [Select one]

- Yes [32.1]
- No [32.2]

If Yes: To the best of your knowledge, in which of the following are you currently enrolled? [Select all that apply] [32.1.1]

- Childcare Subsidy (CCDF) [32.1.2]
- Head Start/Early Head Start [32.1.3]
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) [32.1.4]
- Women, Infants, and Children Nutrition Program (WIC) [32.1.5]
- Section 8 Housing Voucher [32.1.6]
- Health Insurance Marketplace Subsidies [32.1.7]
- Medicaid for Adults and Child Health Plus [32.1.8]
- Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) [32.1.9]
- Child Tax Credit (CTC) [32.1.10]
- Federal Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (CDCTC) [32.1.11]
- Temporary Cash Assistance (TANF) [32.1.12]
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI) [32.1.13]
- Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) [32.1.14]
- Other (please specify): [32.1.15]

33. If selected, do you consent to CRNY sharing your responses with our Benefits Counseling Partners and being contacted by them to initiate benefits counseling? [Select one]

- Yes [33.1]
- No [33.2]

If selected, you will need to provide documentation to demonstrate your eligibility as well as to enroll in the payment platform. In addition, please respond to the following:

34. If selected, I will be able to provide: [Select one]

- My Social Security Number (SSN) [34.1]
- My Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) [34.2]
- Neither [34.3]

**Your documentation status does not affect your ability to be selected for this program*

35. In case we have trouble reaching you, please provide the names and contact info (email/phone) of up to 2 people who live outside your household who would be able to get us in touch:

- Contact Person 1: Name [35.1]
- Contact Person 1: Email [35.1.2]
- Contact Person 1: Phone [35.1.3]
- Contact Person 2: Name [35.2]
- Contact Person 2: Email [35.2.2]
- Contact Person 2: Phone [35.2.3]

36. I affirm and certify that all the information and answers to questions are complete, true, and correct, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

- Checkbox

Thank you for applying! We appreciate the time you took to apply for our Guaranteed Income for Artists Program. You will be notified of your status by April 15, 2022. If you know other artists in New York State who might need this resource, please encourage them to apply.

14 | Frequently Asked Questions

How likely am I to be selected?

Artists will not be selected based on their artistic merit, as CRNY believes all artists deserve support. The odds of being selected will depend on how many artists across the state apply. All kinds of artists, regardless of their identity, circumstance, and location within New York State will be selected.

How are you addressing equity in your selection process?

We are prioritizing populations that face structural barriers to financial security. We recognize that there is much diversity within each of the following populations, and no one group is a monolith:

- **Black, Indigenous, and People of Color:** People whose racial identity and community of belonging face racism.
- **Deaf/Disabled:** Disability is defined by the ADA as a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities (which could include movement, self-care, learning, communicating, or working). Disability includes a diverse community of people with physical, sensory, intellectual, or psycho-social disabilities and chronic illness; among others.
- **LGBTQIAP+** (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Intersex, Asexual/Aromantic, Pansexual+): All who face discrimination based on their gender expression and/or sexual orientation, particularly the harmful effects of transphobia and queerphobia.
- **Immigrants:** People with a range of experiences whose birth country is outside the United States and who face xenophobia, detention, and deportation, among other impacts that threaten financial security.
- **Caregivers:** People who provide care to others who need some degree of ongoing assistance with everyday tasks on a regular or daily basis. The recipients may live either in residential or institutional settings, range from children to older adults, and have chronic illnesses or disabling conditions.
- **Criminal legal system-involved:** People who have had interactions with the criminal legal system as a defendant; possibly previously incarcerated and often face difficulties securing employment.
- **Lack of Financial Safety Net:** A financial safety net is a personal financial cushion that can include emergency savings funds, assets, family resources, disability insurance coverage, and life insurance so that one can financially support themselves for 3 - 6 months without income and/or in the case of an emergency.
- **Rural:** Defined in nearly a dozen different ways within New York State; however, for the purposes of the CRNY's funding programs, 'rural communities' are those outside metropolitan and micropolitan areas with a population of 10,000 or fewer residents.

Will artists who live outside New York City be selected?

Yes, the selection process will account for distribution across the state, and we hope that our outreach strategies will ensure artists from all counties of New York State apply.

Will I have to pay taxes on this money?

The federal gift tax exemption for 2022 is \$16,000. Artists in CRNY's Guaranteed Income for Artists Program will receive a total of \$18,000 across 18 months; no artist will receive more than \$16,000 in a single participating year. Creatives Rebuild New York cannot provide tax advice regarding the tax consequences of the guaranteed income received.

What am I allowed to spend the money on?

There are no restrictions on how you spend your funds!

Do I need to have a Social Security Number to be eligible?

No.

What is an ITIN?

[An Individual Taxpayer Identification Number](#) (ITIN) is a tax processing number issued by the Internal Revenue Service. The IRS issues ITINs to individuals who are required to have a U.S. taxpayer identification number but who do not have—and are not eligible to obtain—a Social Security number (SSN) from the [Social Security Administration \(SSA\)](#).

If you need support finding your ITIN or ensuring that it is still active, Free Tax Prep sites participating in the [IRS Certified Acceptance Agent program](#), can help find your ITIN, ensure it is active, and/or help renew.

What are Benefits Counselors and why are you offering this?

Benefits Counselors are typically licensed social workers who help people and their families understand how their earned wages may affect their eligibility for public benefits, such as Social Security Income (SSI), Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI), SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), Medicare, and many more.

Working with Benefits Counselors will support selected artists, prior to making their decision to accept the guaranteed income, who may face a 'benefits cliff' by receiving this Guaranteed Income.

People face a 'benefits cliff' (also known as the 'cliff effect') when they receive public benefits from the government, earn a raise, and then discover that they make too much money to receive the benefits. They nonetheless do not make enough money to sustain themselves and their household. Visit <https://www.benefitscliff.com/what-is-a-benefits-cliff> to learn more.

Why do you need to verify my eligibility?

Because CRNY is funded exclusively through private foundations, we have a legal obligation to ensure all the funds are directed toward individuals who fit the eligibility that was carefully refined and approved by our legal team.

I live in a place outside of New York part-time, am I still eligible?

To be eligible for this program, your primary residence needs to be in New York State at the time of application.

I lived in NYS in 2020 but had to leave for the pandemic. Am I eligible?

You are eligible for this program if your primary residence is in New York State at the time of application. We recognize the complex nature of residency and the pandemic, and because of volume and capacity, we are not able to consider residency on a case-by-case basis.

Who is an artist, culture bearer, or culture maker?

An artist, culture bearer, or culture maker ('artist') is someone who regularly engages in artistic or cultural practice to: express themselves with the intention of communicating richly to or sharing with others; pass on traditional knowledge and cultural practices; offer cultural resources to their communities; and/or co-organize and co-create within communities toward social impacts. Artists aspire to sustain themselves through their practice and maintain a commitment to continuing their practice. Artists can work both individually and collaboratively, or as educators within their field of practice.

What disciplines are included in CRNY's definition of artistic or cultural practice?

Artistic and cultural practice includes, but is not limited to:

- **Craft** - Includes artists working in ceramics, glass, jewelry, metalworking, and textiles – fiber, weaving, and quilting
- **Dance** - Includes dancers, choreographers, and producers working in a variety of genres such as ballet, jazz, tap, hip hop, aerial, and modern
- **Design** - Includes designers working in the fields of fashion, graphic, object, and industrial design
- **Film** - Includes artists, actors, directors, creative producers, and others working in a variety of genres, such as animation, fiction, documentary, episodic, experimental, and narrative
- **Literary Arts** - Includes writers who work in genres such as fiction, nonfiction, short story writing, memoir, screenwriting, poetry, comedy, children's literature, and graphic novel
- **Media Arts** - Includes artists, culture bearers, and culture makers working at the intersection of technology, aesthetics, storytelling, and digital cultures
- **Music** - Includes singers, musicians, composers, producers (those who create the sound and feel of the recording), DJs (original work), and live sound designers working in a variety of genres such as hip hop, jazz, rock, pop, country, and classical
- **Oral Traditions** - Includes artists, culture bearers, and culture makers whose knowledge, art, ideas, and intangible cultural material received, preserved, and transmitted from one

generation to another through speech or song; may include folktales, ballads, chants, prose or verses, and storytelling

- **Social Practice** - Includes socially engaged and civically engaged artists, culture bearers, and culture makers whose art involves people and communities in debate, collaboration, or social interaction and work wherein artists partner with communities toward community development outcomes
- **Theater** - Includes actors and actresses, directors, playwrights, costume designers, stage designers, and lighting designers in a variety of genres such as experimental, live action, puppetry, opera, and musical theater
- **Performance Art** - Includes artists, culture bearers, and culture makers whose work is created through actions performed by the artist or other participants, which may be live or recorded, spontaneous or scripted, tactical and site performance
- **Traditional Arts** - Includes artists, culture bearers, and culture makers whose work is rooted in and reflective of the tradition and/or cultural heritage of a community, transmitted from generation to generation, such as cultural dance, cultural music, traditional crafts, and foodways
- **Visual Arts** - Includes artists, culture bearers, and culture makers whose arts practice is installation, illustration, painting, drawing, collage, printmaking, photography, sculpture, video art, or public art
- **Interdisciplinary Arts** - Includes artists, culture bearers, and culture makers who use an interdisciplinary approach involving more than one artistic discipline

Who is NOT considered an artist for the purposes of the Guaranteed Income for Artists Program?

While we understand that artistic and cultural practices are defined broadly, we are unable to consider applications from individuals whose main connection to the arts is through arts administration or commercial merchants or vendors working in fields such as, but not limited to:

- baking and culinary arts,
- cosmetology,
- architecture, interior, landscape design,
- radio - personalities and DJs,
- event planning and production, and
- wellness and fitness.

What is the Self-Sufficiency Standard, and why are you using it?

The Self-Sufficiency Standard is a measure of income adequacy that is based on the real cost of all basic needs for working families: housing, childcare, food, healthcare, transportation, and miscellaneous items, as well as the cost of taxes and the impact of tax credits. This measure describes how much income families of various sizes and compositions need to make ends meet without public or private assistance. <http://www.selfsufficiencystandard.org/the-standard/overview/>

Many cash assistance programs use the Official Poverty Measure (OPM) in order to identify people in need. Developed half a century ago, OPM is now methodologically out of date and no longer accurately measures the ability to provide for oneself and one's family; at best it measures deprivation. The OPM calculation is based on the cost of food only—assuming that food is one-third of a family's budget.

Unlike OPM's one-size-fits-all model, which varies costs just by the size of the family and number of children, the Standard costs also vary by the age of children—for example, childcare costs differ dramatically by age. Finally, while the OPM is the same throughout the entire continental U.S., the Standard varies for each county or region in a state.

I wasn't selected and am in an emergency.

We strongly suggest that you sign up for CRNY's newsletter to get updates on other resources and funding that you may be eligible to receive. Visit <https://www.creativesrebuildny.org/contact/> to sign up.

Why can't I apply to both the Guaranteed Income for Artists and Artists Employment Programs at CRNY?

We recognize the enormous need many artists face, and we trust artists to deeply consider which of the two programs is best for their specific needs. The primary focus of the Artist Employment Program is the partnership between artists and community-based organizations. A commitment to that partnership is integral to CRNY's review process and to the success of the proposed collaboration. In addition, allowing artists to be considered for both programs conflicts with our goal of supporting 2,700 individual artists across New York State.

If I'm selected to receive Guaranteed Income, will my name be made public?

No. Personal information will never be disclosed or publicized without consent.

Are there reporting requirements?

Guaranteed income is truly a no-strings-attached payment and therefore no reporting will be required. Selected artists may be invited to participate, for additional compensation, in CRNY's research, storytelling, or advocacy work in the future. Your decision whether or not to participate in any additional activities with CRNY will have not have any impact on your enrollment in the guaranteed income program.

I don't speak English or Spanish. How can I apply?

The Help Desk includes dedicated translators to assist applicants who do not speak English or Spanish, and applicants who are English language learners. Contact the Help Desk team by calling 855-929-3863 (live assistance available Monday-Friday from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM Eastern) or emailing HelpDesk@creativesrebuildny.org.

I have more questions. Whom do I contact?

Contact our dedicated Help Desk team by calling 855-929-3863 (live assistance available Monday-Friday from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM Eastern) or emailing HelpDesk@creativesrebuildny.org.