



Local Arts Program Grant Funding Opportunity Announced *Technical Assistance Workshops Sept. 1*

SOMERVILLE - Guidelines and an application form for the 2017 New Jersey State Council on the Arts State/County Partnership Local Arts Program Grant are now available at <http://bit.ly/2017ArtsHistory> Two workshops for prospective applicants will be held Sept. 1.

Local non-profit arts and other non-profit (non-arts) organizations planning an arts program or series (theater, dance, music/concerts, visual arts, literary or film arts) may apply directly to the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission. Grants funded through this program will be available to support cultural programs and events from January through December 2017.

Eligible organizations must be designated non-profit, based in Somerset County and planning an arts/cultural program, project or service within Somerset County that is accessible to the general public. Funding is competitive and organizations must demonstrate managerial competency, fiscal stability, artistic excellence and the capacity to execute the proposed program or project.

Applicants are required to provide a match for funding requested, and may request funding for general operating support if their organization's mission is solely arts-dedicated; or special project support or arts-in-non-traditional venues support, both of which are available to arts and non-arts organizations alike for the purpose of offering an arts program/event/series in Somerset County in partnership with other organizations or artists.

Two free technical-assistance grant-writing workshops, **geared specifically and only to this Local Arts Program Grant** to familiarize and assist potential applicants with the application process, will be offered Thursday, Sept. 1, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m., and again from 6 to 8 p.m. for those who cannot attend the earlier session. Pre-registration is required by Aug. 30.

To register, call SCC&HC Administrative Assistant Cathy Bunting at (908) 231-7021. All applicants are strongly advised to attend one session. Both workshops will be held in the second-floor Engineering Conference Room in the Somerset County Administration Building at 20 Grove St., Somerville, NJ 08876. Free parking is available in the attached Bernie Field Parking Deck off East High Street, directly behind the Administration Building.

A formal letter of intent is due by Sept. 7 to the SCC&HC as a preliminary requirement of the grants process, in which the potential applicant states, in a paragraph or two, the purpose for which the organization intends to apply for funding, and approximately how much money will be requested.

The application deadline is 5 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20, 2016.

For more information, contact Pat McGarry at (908) 203-6020 or Kaitlin Bundy (908) 231-7000, ext. 7246 or email CulturalHeritage@co.somerset.nj.us

This grant opportunity is made possible through the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, through the State/County Partnership Local Arts Program administered by the Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission.