

NCV AWARD CATEGORIES

Idea Awards



Idea Awards feature projects where organizers have a clarity of purpose around an identified community issue or need. Funds support testing a new idea, performance, initiative, or collaboration, or testing specific components of a larger idea. This may include arts-focused apprenticeships or arts-focused workshops or training, as well as creative business development. Applicants could be non-arts organizations or businesses working to integrate arts experiences and strategies into programmatic work or service offerings. Individuals, community influencers, organizers, or artists may be serving as the lead on the project.

Award amount: \$1,000 - \$2,500.

Creating Space Awards

Awards in this category are for projects that intend to secure or offset working space or performance space for creative projects, artists, artisans, and craftspeople. Funds may support exhibition or performance production costs, rental, security measures, transportation costs for participants or creators, non-traditional hour childcare support for participants or creators, translation, or food for participants or creators. Applicants are encouraged to use New Haven's public parks and spaces.

Award amount: \$1,000 - \$2,500



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Start Up Awards

Start Up Award programs are new or moving out of a testing phase. Program content shows a full span of subject knowledge, with opportunities to maximize specific topics for focus, amplification, and exploration through the grant award. The project will have a clear plan for risk and includes a map for making changes if needed. These awards are intended to support testing and learning to refine a project for increased sustainability, to maximize impact and engagement with the community, or activate a specific priority of New Haven's Cultural Equity Plan.

Award amount: \$2,500 - \$5,000.



Isabella Mendes. Corey Lynn Tucker Photography



Growth Awards

Awards in this category support existing programs, projects, or events that are seeking to grow their audience, boost engagement, stretch program to a new level of impact, or grow the pool of contributing creators. These could be projects that have received NCV support in the past and are working to grow or test new aspects of their work. The projects should have a clear plan for risk and a map for changes should they be required.

Award amount: \$2,500 - \$5,000

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Learning & Teaching Awards

Learning and Teaching Awards include projects with an arts-based education component or projects that train young and/or emerging artists. Projects may include job training for established artists, as well as projects focused on inter-generational mentoring and engagement.

Award amount: \$2,500 - \$5,000.

Evolution Awards

Awards in this category are for arts organizations, artists, artisans, culture bearers, craftspeople and creators who are seeking to change how work is created or build new results to better meet the current needs of the

community. These are projects that are intended to support an organization or individual in shifting how they work and how they present that work and engage the broader community. These changes could be necessary for survival, or these projects could reflect a new creative approach or arts-based educational concept. Changes may be for the purpose of advancing social change; economic improvements of individuals, institutions, or the community; or physical improvements to the natural and/or built environments of New Haven. Awards may be intended to give more solid footing to an artist, arts-based organization, culture bearer, or group that has been impacted by COVID-19 and the shifts the community has had to make to endure. This is an award for rebuilding, or evolving into new programs and/or services that better serve the current context of our community.

Award amount: \$2,500 - \$5,000



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Magnitude & Bond Awards

Magnitude & Bond Awards are intended for artists, artisans, craftspeople, culture bearers, creators, and arts-based organizations seeking to take their work in the community to the next level. These are projects that seek to make significant investment into the cultural life of their neighborhoods or the broader City of New Haven as a whole, and contribute to the ecosystem of the cultural community. These awards may support a new, big idea. The awards may amplify or significantly expand an existing program, service, or project. Or these awards may focus on building infrastructure and action for influencing change - change that improves the capacity to integrate arts, culture, and design into sustainable strategies for advancing local economic, social, and physical outcomes (e.g. deeper partnerships across sectors, replication or scaling of proven project models, a creative method of sharing information and resources that support the creative community and systems change that reflect the priorities and values of New Haven's Cultural Equity Plan).

This award is for artists, artisans and craftspeople, creative sector organizations, and culture bearers trying to grow and develop. These are projects that are not only meant to be a part of the conversation addressing the issues, needs, and celebrations of our city, but also to bring new ideas and movements to the forefront of conversations. These projects open opportunities for visibility and awareness that will impact the decisions and perspectives of community leaders, so that we as a community may address complex scenarios with solutions that reflect the lived experiences of members of our community. The project may support bolstering infrastructure, or launching innovation.

Award amount: \$5,000 - \$10,000

