



**Council on
the Arts**



CNY ARTS

Senator Rachel May Young Artist Scholarship 2022

For the 53rd NYS Senate District

Program Guidelines

SENATOR RACHEL MAY YOUNG ARTIST SCHOLARSHIP 2022

Program Guidelines

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[CNY Arts Commitment to Equity & Anti-Discrimination](#)

CNY Arts is committed to providing services and making resources available to every resident in the counties of Cortland, Herkimer, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, and Oswego without regard to ethnicity, color, creed, religion, age, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, military status, marital status, political opinion, national origin, familial status, mental and physical disability, or source of income.

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About the Program

The purpose of the Senator Rachel May Young Artist Scholarship program is to recognize and support gifted young artists in their artistic development by providing financial assistance in advanced or ongoing study and intensive programs. The scholarship is an opportunity for students to further their development and education in the arts, advance in their artistic discipline, and increase their exposure as artists. Students must demonstrate talent and a minimum of three years of experience in their artistic or cultural discipline. Returning applicants must demonstrate the advancement in their artistic development and will be asked to describe the value and impact of the program on their artistic development. Young Artist Scholarships are paid directly to the grantee's hosting program or institution.

Program Details

Application deadline: Friday, October 14, 2022 by 11:59 pm

How to apply: All applications must be submitted online through Submittable

Eligible applicants: Young artists residing in the 53rd NYS Senate District

Award amount: \$500.00 to \$3,000.00

Scholarship program period: January 1, 2022 and December 31, 2022

Scholarship Amount

Students may submit up to two applications for up to a combined total of \$3,000.00 in requested scholarship funds. Students with two applications are asked to indicate one of their submissions as their primary request. Due to the limited funding available, all primary submissions will be considered before any secondary submission.

Eligibility

Eligible Applicants

Applicants **must** be students currently enrolled in grades 7 to 12 and must reside in the 53rd NYS Senate District.

Find My Senator

Please use this link to confirm that applicants reside in 53rd NYS Senate District:

<https://www.nysenate.gov/find-my-senator>

Scholarship Requests

Eligible Expenses

Scholarship grantees may use awarded funds for the following expenses:

- Tuition & private instruction fees;
- Registration & participation fees;
- Audition & application fees;
- Equipment rental; and
- Room & board.

Scholarships will be paid directly to the institution and cannot be paid directly to the young artist. CNY Arts will not accept reimbursement requests. Please direct all questions regarding expense eligibility to the **Regrants Program Staff**.

Ineligible Expenses

- Equipment purchases, including but not limited to instruments, cameras & lenses, computers;
- Supplies & material purchases, including but not limited to costumes, pointe shoes, sheet music, art supplies;
- Tuition for college or any other higher education tuition, including room & board (pre-college courses and intensives are eligible);
- Costs associated with any program or activity that takes place outside of New York State; or
- Payments to organizations, businesses, or instructors that are registered outside of New York State.

Application Instructions

Deadlines

The application deadline is **Friday, October 14, 2022 by 11:59 pm**.

Submittable

Applications must be completed and submitted through the CNY Arts online portal at cnyarts.submittable.com/submit. Applicants are strongly recommended to review the online application form in advance.

Applicants may save their progress on Submittable as they complete their application. Please note that once the "Submit" button has been clicked and the application has been submitted, it **cannot** be further edited or changed in any way.

Upon completing and successfully submitting an application through Submittable, the applicant will receive an automated email confirmation to the registered email address. If the applicant does not receive an email confirmation, the application has not been correctly submitted and cannot be considered for funding.

For further assistance, please refer to the [Submittable Help Forum](#) or contact the CNY Arts [Regrants Program Staff](#).

Required Documents

Young Artist Letter

A letter from the applicant that explains, in their own words, how they will benefit from this opportunity and why the arts are important to their life. The letter should not exceed one page and should also respond to the following questions:

- What is your level of competency in your artistic discipline?
- What are your goals for the future in your artistic discipline?
- What is the program you wish to attend?
- How will this program support your artistic growth and education?

Sponsor Letter

A sponsor can be a teacher, mentor, or advisor in the student's artistic discipline. The sponsor letter should include an honest evaluation of the student's ability, progress, and potential in their discipline. The letter should also respond to the following questions:

- How long have you known the student?
- Why do you think they deserve this award?
- What is their ability level and their potential for improvement?

Parent or Guardian Letter (optional)

The parent or guardian letter should respond to the following questions:

- How would you describe the student's progress in their artistic field?
- What are their special talents, abilities, and artistic goals?
- Why should they receive this award?

Accommodations & Application Support

CNY Arts seeks to deliberately and continuously address systemic barriers to opportunity and is committed to promoting diversity, equity, inclusion, and access for all Central New York and Mohawk Valley residents. We believe that impact is enhanced when people from different backgrounds with unique perspectives are engaged in our grantmaking activities and decision-making processes. We strive to increase equitable opportunities and outcomes by building a board, staff, panel, and grantee pool that reflects the communities we serve. We are committed to taking the actions required to eliminate disparities in access to the arts and arts funding, and advance equity in our organization and in our community.

CNY Arts provides extensive, free technical assistance and support to all interested applicants. Application guides, video tutorials, and panel feedback summaries will be given to all applicants. Additional accommodations to facilitate your participation in this program include but are not limited to interpretation or translation services, computer or technical support, budgeting, grant writing, or project development. For more information, please contact the Re-grants Program staff.

Panel Process

Scholarship awards will be determined through a competitive peer review process conducted by a panel of artists, arts administrators, and community leaders. The panel will review each application against the application pool and on the student's own merits. Because funds are limited, scholarship applications must meet the specific criteria as published within these guidelines. The panel's funding recommendations will then be submitted to the CNY Arts Board of Directors for approval.

Responsibilities of Grant Recipients

By applying to the Senator Rachel May Young Artist Scholarship Program, you agree to fulfill the following responsibilities if you are awarded:

- Sign and complete a Project Registration Form on Submittable;
- Conduct all funded activities as described in the project narratives in the application;
- Immediately notify CNY Arts in writing regarding any changes to the scholarship (all changes to funded projects are subject to approval by CNY Arts);
- Provide CNY Arts with any requested information about the scholarship program and the student's involvement; and
- Send a "thank you" note to Senator Rachel May and a copy to CNY Arts.