



BE A PANELIST

CNY ARTS DECENTRALIZATION GRANTS

CNY Arts Grants funding decisions are made by process of peer review. All panels are selected, trained and administered by CNY Arts staff.

CNY Arts panelists are experienced cultural professionals with a commitment to the development of the arts and culture in Cortland, Herkimer, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, or Oswego counties. Knowledge of Central New York and Mohawk Valley communities, and expertise in an artistic discipline, arts administration, or community arts programming are key.

CNY Arts strives to create a fair and impartial panel environment that is representative of the diversity of the region, and therefore seeks to craft panels that are diverse in terms of ethnicity, gender, age, culture, geographic representation, and artistic focus.

PROCESS

Panelists receive an online panel packet that includes applications submitted by applicants, a panel handbook and other required paperwork.

Panelists review and pre-evaluate each application prior to their deliberation meeting. Panels then meet to deliberate on funding decisions with their peers. Panels have three rounds of discussion prior to settling on a complete awardee list.

Panel meetings occur from Mid-November– December. CNY Arts hosts between 10 – 15 panel meetings a year, and can recruit up to 70 volunteer panelists, depending on number of applications.

RESPONSIBILITIES

Panelists are required to:

- Attend/Participate in one panel orientation meeting, either online, via phone, or in-person.
- Read all applications in their category prior to the panel review meeting and complete a preliminary evaluation of the applications. Depending on discipline category, panelists are usually asked to read between 10 and 40 applications.
- Attend their panel review meeting(s)
- Attend one or more funded events in the following year
- Panel service requires a 15-20 hour commitment, depending on number of applications per panel. A modest honorarium of \$50 is provided.

SELECTION

CNY Arts solicits panelist nominations from the CNY Arts community on an ongoing basis. If you would like to nominate yourself, or another community leader or arts professional whom you believe would be a valuable addition to a CNY Arts panel, please complete the panelist nomination form [here](#).

Because of the need to form well-balanced panels, we may not be able to consider all the qualified people who are nominated. However, it is very helpful to have a pool of candidates for future years.