



ArtistYear Receives National Endowment for the Arts Grant to Train Citizen-Artists

NEWS-- PHILADELPHIA (February 13, 2019) – ArtistYear, the recently-founded national service organization that enables artists to commit a year of service to their country, has been awarded a \$15,000 Art Works grant from the **National Endowment for the Arts** for the training of 55 Citizen Artists. ArtistYear, a national AmeriCorps program, recruits, develops, and supports recent higher education arts graduates across disciplines to serve as dedicated teaching artists – **ArtistYear AmeriCorps Fellows** – in Title 1 schools, to ensure every student experiencing poverty in America has arts education through a national service arts corps. Partnering with schools and Districts to make all schools “arts-rich” over time, ArtistYear’s programming is designed to yield positive changes for students, schools, and the Fellows themselves. The Grant will support over 250 hours of professional development for 55 **ArtistYear Fellows** serving in 51 low-income schools, who will collectively deliver over 93,000 hours of arts instruction to 11,000 non-duplicated students at least twice per-week during a school year.

Fellows are trained to deliver student-centered and standard-aligned art education to 11,000 K-12 grade vulnerable students (economically disadvantaged students, students of color, and English Language Learners), designed to improve school attachment, increase civic engagement, and develop student artistry. Through this intensive training, evaluation, support, and connections to administrators, teachers, artists, and community arts leaders, ArtistYear Fellows hone their 21st century and creative skills to become effective teaching artists, productive work-force leaders, and engaged Citizen-Artists.

National Endowment for the Arts Acting Chairman Mary Anne Carter has approved more than \$27 million in grants as part of the Arts Endowment’s first major funding announcement for fiscal year 2019. Art Works is the Arts Endowment’s principal grantmaking program.

“The arts enhance our communities and our lives, and we look forward to seeing these projects take place throughout the country, giving Americans opportunities to learn, to create, to heal, and to celebrate,” said Mary Anne Carter, acting chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts.

“ArtistYear is honored to receive its first grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to deepen our professional development program as we cultivate a new generation of Citizen-Artists, individuals who positively contribute to our society through their art form and national service,” said Margo Drakos, Co-founder and CEO of ArtistYear.

ArtistYear currently serves Philadelphia in partnership with the **School District of Philadelphia**; in New York City’s Borough of Queens, in partnership with the **New York City Department of Education’s Queens School District**; and in the **Roaring Fork Valley School District, Colorado**, in partnership with the **Aspen Music Festival and School**.

For more information on this National Endowment for the Arts grant announcement, visit [arts.gov/news](https://www.arts.gov/news).

For more information about ArtistYear, visit [artistyear.org](https://www.artistyear.org).

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