LCC Fellowship Winners: Please read and retain

About Community Benefit Projects

As a SAC fellowship winner, you are required to fulfill a small community benefit project (CB project). This is a way to give back to the community and a way to let the public and public officials understand the impact of arts funding.

IMPORTANT: CB Proposals must be approved by Rachel Strutt/SAC via email BEFORE YOU START THE PROJECT. YOU MAY NOT RECEIVE YOUR FUNDING IF YOUR CB PROJECT HAS NOT BEEN APPROVED. You also need to complete your CB Project BEFORE APPLYING FOR GRANT REIMBURSEMENT. THANK YOU.

A few of the Arts Council's primary goals relating to CB projects are:
1) broaden residents' perception of the arts in the community
2) reach underserved audiences – beyond an artist' existing audience
3) advertise our LCC grant program to others who might apply

We hope you will see your CB project as an exciting opportunity to work with us to meet these goals. We ask that you develop a small and manageable project that reflects your personality and style and serves a need in the community. **Please note:** a CB project should go above and beyond how you already promote yourself as an artist; for ex., it needs to be more than an exhibit of your work.

Examples of past CB Projects

• Visual artists have painted switchboxes throughout the city; a photographer created a zine that was distributed in libraries and zine libraries throughout the city. An artist gave a presentation at Somerville High School on how to prepare a portfolio to present with college applications.

• A writer conducted a workshop at a local senior center on memory and memoirs.

•A dancer developed a lecture/demonstration for students at the Kennedy School exploring how she creates her choreography.

Other ideas: There are many other opportunities throughout the city. Dancers might perform at our ArtBeat festival; multi-media artists might collaborate with the Nave gallery for performance art installation; musicians might create a busking series in a city park.

Partners & Venues

The City Parks department and the office that oversees the Community Preservation Act (CPA) welcomes projects within their realms. So, please consider parks as venues, as well as CPA supported projects. such as Community Growing Center, Hoyt-Sullivan Playground, Somerville's schoolyards, Somerville Museum, Milk Row Cementery. For other ideas for venues as well as ideas and contacts, please see the included list of suggested collaborators.

Restrictions on exhibits as CB Projects

We have added certain restrictions regarding visual art exhibitions. Artists who want to exhibit their work may do so, but it must be in a location (indoor or outdoor) where artwork is not normally found, like local libraries, an elder center, youth department or another public venue. Group shows featuring other grant winners are also an option. Depending on the scope of the show, you may pair up to organize a group show and it could serve as cb projects for

both of you (visual art fellowship shows, for example, take a lot of time to curate and hang). Exhibits like these may take place in traditional venues like the Somerville Museum or local galleries.

CB Project Process

Contact

To discuss your CB project, brainstorm about ideas, or submit your CB application, contact Rachel Strutt, rstrutt@somervillema.gov or call 617/625-6600, x2986.
If you want to paint a switchbox, go to www.somervilleartscouncil/switchbox and submit an application

Application

The CB Project application is straightforward. Send answers to the following questions to rstrutt@somervillema.gov

1. Describe the type of project you are proposing (workshop, reading, installation, performance, etc.). Please indicate what will happen, where and when it will take place, and who will be served.

2. How does this component draw on your skills, experience, and perspective as an artist?

3. Describe the planning you have done for this project. For instance, who have you contacted for confirmation that the site is willing to host this project?

4. Describe your plans for outreach, publicity, or recruitment of participants. If this will be done by a host agency, please describe their process.

****Again, CB Projects must be approved by SAC via email** and must be completed **BEFORE** applying for grant reimbursement.

Promotion

You must publicly acknowledge both the Somerville Arts Council and the Massachusetts Cultural Council. On your final report, to receive reimbursement, you must include evidence of this, either by printing out a press release, an article, flyer, etc. Find SAC and MCC logos at www.somervilleartscouncil.org/lccgrants/grantforms

Reimbursement

Once your CB project is approved and completed, submit your paperwork to Heather Balchunas: hbalchunas@somervillema.gov A Reimbursement Form called “How do I get paid?” can be found at: www.somervilleartscouncil.org/lccgrants/grantforms