



**New Jersey State Council on the Arts  
FY26 Creative Aging Initiative  
Grant Program Rubric**

*Este documento también está disponible [en español](#).  
Please read the [guidelines](#) thoroughly, in conjunction with the rubric.*

	<b>EXEMPLARY</b>	<b>STRONG</b>	<b>DEVELOPING</b>	<b>LIMITED</b>	<b>NO EVIDENCE</b>
<b>SCORE</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
1. Assess the proposed project in relation to the audience reached. Do the proposed projects address community need for each year of the project?	The applicant includes clear, specific, and thorough details of the project and the audiences engaged. The applicant includes clear, specific, and thorough details of the community impact in relation to the defined community's needs for each year of the project.	The applicant includes clear explanation of the project, which includes evidence of the audiences engaged. The applicant includes an explanation of community impact in relation to the defined community's needs for each year of the project.	The applicant includes an overview of the proposed project, which includes some evidence of the audience reached. The applicant includes an overview of community impact in relation to the defined community's needs for one or both years of the project.	The applicant includes an unclear overview of the proposed project and who the target audience will be. The applicant includes unclear evidence of community impact for each year of the project.	
<b>SCORE</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
2. Assess how the project will be accomplished for each year of the project. Detail how the allotted resources (i.e.: staffing, existing/planned	The applicant includes clear, specific, and thorough details of how the project will be implemented for each year. There is clear and specific evidence of key personnel as it relates to project support and management. There are clear, specific, and thorough resources	The applicant includes a clear plan for implementing the project for each year. Evidence of key personnel as it relates to project support and management are identified. Adequate resources are in place to	The applicant includes an overview of how the project will be accomplished for one or both years. Some information is provided on key personnel at the host organization as it relates to project	The applicant includes unclear evidence of how the project will be accomplished for each year. Host organization personnel as it relates to project support and management is unclear.	

partnerships) are appropriate.	in place to complete the proposed activities.	complete the proposed activities.	support and management.		
<b>SCORE</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
3. Assess the proposed learning goals of the project.	The applicant includes clear, specific, and thorough details of the learning goals for each year of the project. Learning goals are specific, measurable, arts-based, and aligned with the proposed audience.	The applicant includes a clear explanation of the learning goals and how they relate to the proposed audience for each year of the project.	The applicant includes an overview of learning goals and how they apply to the proposed audience for one or both years.	The applicant includes unclear evidence of learning goals and how they align with the proposed audience for both years of the project.	
<b>SCORE</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
4. Assess the host organization's ability to provide an equitable, accessible project, including a barrier-free location and programmatic accommodations.	The applicant provides clear, specific, and thorough details of the location and its accessibility to the community. There is specific and clear evidence that there are no barriers to the program and/or any barriers which may impede access to and participation in the program will be addressed.	The applicant includes a clear explanation of the location and its accessibility to the community. There is evidence of how barriers which may impede access to and participation in the program will be addressed.	The applicant includes an overview of the location and its accessibility to the community. There is some evidence of how barriers which may impede access to and participation in the program will be addressed.	The applicant includes unclear evidence of an accessible, barrier-free location and programmatic accommodations.	
<b>SCORE</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
5. Does the teaching artist(s) and/or arts organization partnership have experience with the older adult population?	There is clear and specific evidence of experience with programming that serves older adults.	There is evidence that the selected teaching artist(s) and/or arts organization has experience working with older adults.	The applicant includes some information regarding experience with programming that serves older adults.	The applicant includes unclear information regarding experience with programming that serves older adults.	

SCORE	1	2	3	4	5
6. Assess the appropriateness of the project budgets. Please consider the quality of financial planning and budgeting.	The applicant includes clear and complete details about the project budget for each year of the program. The budget charts clearly describe adequate resources to support the proposed work.	The applicant includes complete details about the project budget for each year of the program. The budget chart describes adequate resources to support the proposed work.	The applicant includes some evidence regarding resources to support the proposed work. Some aspects of the budget are unclear or inadequate.	The applicant includes unclear details about the project budget. The budget does not provide adequate resources to support the work proposed.	