



**NYC Department of Cultural Affairs
Building Community Capacity | January 2016**

The New York City Department of Cultural Affairs' new initiative, **Building Community Capacity** (BCC), takes a collaborative and comprehensive approach to building cultural capacity in targeted low-income neighborhoods. The 18-month program brings together local stakeholders for intensive training sessions, workshops, public programs, and other activities designed to enhance the role that arts and culture play in developing a healthy, thriving community.

OBJECTIVES

- Strengthen the organizational capacity of community-based cultural providers in targeted neighborhoods.
- Foster robust networks that contribute to a vibrant, shared cultural life.
- Support cross-sector relationships that allow our cultural community to play an active role in community development decisions and efforts.
- Elevate public awareness and expand opportunities for community members to meaningfully engage in local cultural activity.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

BCC will provide:

- Dedicated staff to support local efforts to advance and implement its cultural vision and strategies identified during community development planning.
- Support to build cohesive, community-focused teams equipped with the abilities to set strategic community goals and to drive action toward those goals.
- Technical assistance to strengthen nonprofit arts organizations' capacities, ensuring they have leadership and effective operations to function as a stable and vital presence in their community.

BENEFITS

- More local residents active in arts and as audience members, artists, students, volunteers, and more.
- Forged relationships between cross-sector leaders resulting in mutual respect, resource sharing, and collaboration for the betterment of the community.
- Capable arts leaders equipped with essential tools and skills for effective operations.
- Improved data systems designed to inform the public about cultural activities, opportunities, and arts-related resources.
- Increased local support of culture through volunteers, donations, and community representatives on cultural boards.
- Activation of underused spaces with cultural activities.
- Targeted outreach to underserved audiences.



TIMELINE

- Building Community Capacity begins in **January 2016** will conclude **June 2017**