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THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND DEPARTMENT FOR THE AGING ANNOUNCE CALL FOR ARTISTS FOR SPARC: SENIORS PARTNERING WITH ARTISTS CITYWIDE

Competitive Residency Program Will Place 50 Artists in Senior Centers across the Five Boroughs
Deadline September 30, 2014 at 5 PM

The New York City Department of Cultural Affairs today announced a Call for Artists for **SPARC: Seniors Partnering with Artists Citywide**, a community arts engagement program that places artists-in-residence at senior centers across the five boroughs of New York City. Individual artists can apply to the competitive program, which provides selected artists with a stipend in exchange for the creation and delivery of arts programming for older adults. Artists will engage participating seniors in an art project or series of cultural programs over the course of each residency, which will also include a public program component - exhibits, performances, open houses and other cultural interactions open to the surrounding community. Now in its 4th year, this initiative seeks to connect artists with seniors in senior centers and positively impact the well-being of older adults through arts-based activities.

Artists will be selected for SPARC residencies through a competitive application process managed by local arts councils in each borough – Brooklyn Arts Council, Bronx Council on the Arts, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, Queens Council on the Arts and Staten Island Arts. Starting today, application materials and guidelines are available on the arts councils' websites. Previous SPARC artists-in-residence are eligible to reapply but artists are limited to serving no more than two consecutive years in the same senior center. **The deadline for submissions is September 30th, 2014.**

The local arts councils will host a Q&A session in each borough for interested artists to learn more about SPARC and the components of a well-prepared application. The date, time and location of the Q&A sessions can be found on the websites of the local arts councils, linked below.

SPARC is a collaboration among the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, the Department for the Aging and the City's five local arts councils. This initiative was developed as part of Age-Friendly NYC, a citywide effort to make the City more livable for seniors. The 2015 SPARC program is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department for the Aging.

To download the application, please click on the links to the websites of the local arts councils below.

- [Bronx Council on the Arts](#)
- [Brooklyn Arts Council](#)
- [Lower Manhattan Cultural Council](#)
- [Queens Council on the Arts](#)
- [Staten Island Arts](#)

For more information visit www.nyc.gov/culture.

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