

New York City Department of Cultural Affairs

BUILDING COMMUNITY CAPACITY 2016

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The New York City Department of Cultural Affairs' new **Building Community Capacity (BCC)** initiative takes a collaborative and comprehensive approach to building cultural capacity in targeted low-income neighborhoods. The 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. *To learn more: cbinfo@culture.nyc.gov*

OBJECTIVES

The initiative employs a variety of strategies designed to:

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

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

BCC provides:

- *Dedicated staff* to support a community's efforts to advance and implement its cultural vision and strategies identified during community development planning.
- *Support to building 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' critical capacities, ensuring they have leadership and effective operations to function as a stable and vital presence in their community.

BENEFITS

- More local residents and employees active in arts and cultural activities as audience members, artists, students, and more.
- New 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 communications systems designed to inform the public about cultural activities, opportunities, and arts-related resources.
- Increased local support of the arts through volunteers, donations, and local representatives on cultural boards.
- Activation of underused spaces with cultural activities.
- Targeted outreach to underserved audiences.

TIMELINE

- Through December 2017

