

WHAT WE HEARD



HEADLINES

ARTS AND CULTURE ARE FOR ALL. New Yorkers want to see barriers removed and access increased in order to create, present, and enjoy arts and culture regardless of income, race, ethnicity, immigration status, gender, and disability identity.

QUALITY ARTS EDUCATION FOR EVERY STUDENT. Parents, educators, and students themselves want access to arts, culture, and science curricula and programming taught by educators and artists—both in and out of school—that reflects the practices, histories, and cultures of all New Yorkers.

THE STAFF AND LEADERSHIP OF THE CITY'S ARTS AND CULTURE SECTOR SHOULD MORE FULLY REFLECT THE DIVERSITY OF OUR CITY'S POPULATION. New Yorkers want to ensure that their communities are reflected at all levels of the city's cultural organizations—now and into the future.

NEW YORKERS WANT EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF ARTS AND CULTURE ACROSS THE BOROUGHS. Arts and culture have positive effects on individuals, neighborhoods, and regions, but these impacts are not evenly distributed. Residents want to see greater support for culture and artists in New York's under-resourced neighborhoods and historically underrepresented communities.

NEIGHBORHOOD CULTURE MATTERS. Residents want to protect and support local organizations that serve local audiences, local or locally relevant artists, and programming that speaks to local histories and identities.

SPREAD THE WORD. Residents want better, more streamlined ways to access information about cultural programming available across the city.

CREATE NYC PROCESS



MOVING FORWARD

CreateNYC is a call to action, an opportunity for everyone with a stake in the city's cultural life—and that means everyone—to work together to ensure that New York continues to be a leader of arts and culture both nationally and internationally.

CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE
 From the beginning, CreateNYC has been conceived of as a document that would have a real influence on policy direction and advocacy efforts, with milestones established to review progress and evaluate implementation. The Cultural Plan Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC)—whose members were appointed by the Mayor, the City Council Speaker, and Borough Presidents—was established at the start of the planning process. They were charged with assisting in gathering community input and advising the development of CreateNYC. They will continue to be engaged in the implementation process, alongside the Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission.

TRACKING PROGRESS
 In order to ensure that the goals set out in CreateNYC are met, a set of key indicators will be established over the course of the first year that will track progress toward the plan's goals. **The indicators will be both quantitative and qualitative and designed to do four things:**

1. Establish clear benchmarks and milestones that measure progress toward CreateNYC objectives;
2. Evaluate the effectiveness of CreateNYC strategies;
3. Ensure CreateNYC principles and visions withstand political, economic, and other long term changes in the landscape; and
4. Maintain transparent dialogue with the public now and in the long term.

ROLE OF NEW YORKERS
 The best way to work toward these goals is to **STAY ENGAGED** in the following ways:

SHOW UP at Office Hours with the Commissioner, starting up again in Autumn 2017. Office hours – which connected residents with Cultural Affairs leadership to discuss issues that mattered most to them – will continue.

READ regular updates on plan implementation; the first of which will be published in early 2018.

Once the plan is released **PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT** will be essential to developing more specific indicators.

SPEAK UP through www.nyc.gov/culture website and social media using #CreateNYC. Share your thoughts about the plan and its ongoing implementation.

Most importantly, **CONTINUING CONVERSATIONS** among friends, family members, coworkers, and neighbors can ensure that the coalitions brought together by CreateNYC continue to push our cultural community forward.

Our unmatched cultural diversity can be seen everywhere you look – on sidewalks, in storefronts, and in our museums, theaters, and parks. We are proud to be known as the world capital of arts and culture, and if we are going to continue to live up to that title, we must use every available tool, including our extraordinary network of private, civic, and public partners, to ensure that every resident, in every neighborhood, has the same access to cultural opportunities.

– Bill de Blasio, Mayor

CREATE NYC

A CULTURAL PLAN FOR ALL NEW YORKERS

For CreateNYC, we embarked on a remarkable journey. Our planning process has consisted of developing ideas through an intensive listening process. By its nature, we were seeking to identify and solve problems. But along the way we also heard a lot about the incredible vitality, depth, and breadth of the cultural sector.

– Tom Finkelpearl, Cultural Affairs Commissioner

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
JULY 2017

CreateNYC is the first-ever comprehensive cultural plan for the City of New York. It is a roadmap to a more inclusive, equitable, and resilient cultural ecosystem. The objectives and strategies for supporting arts and culture establish roles for stakeholders at all levels—from residents to arts and cultural organizations to private funders and City agencies.

CreateNYC is an opportunity to build on the progress of the past using the power of culture to bring people together and to think critically about the most pressing issues facing society today. It is a living document that is designed to respond to a continually evolving city.

Public input provides a strong foundation for CreateNYC. Over the course of six months, more than 188,000 New Yorkers participated in the development of the plan in person and online.

97% of New Yorkers value Arts and Culture
 — CREATE NYC PUBLIC OPINION POLL

188,000 PEOPLE ENGAGED

“আরো সঙ্গীত এবং”
 “শিল্প সর্বত্র”
 “More music and art everywhere.”
 — ZAID, RESIDENT, QUEENS

THE ISSUES



EQUITY AND INCLUSION

Equitable access to opportunities, services, and resources across New York City's diverse populations and neighborhoods.



SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT

Support the role of arts and culture in an equitable economy and healthy communities.



AFFORDABILITY

Live, work, and presentation space must be affordable relative to income for artists and cultural organizations.



NEIGHBORHOOD CHARACTER

Prevent displacement of culture and communities through participatory planning and community development.



ARTS, CULTURE, AND SCIENCE EDUCATION

Support and increase culturally-relevant, diverse and inclusive arts and science education in and out of school.



ARTS AND CULTURE IN PUBLIC SPACE

How public art, artists, and programming are implemented and supported.



CITYWIDE COORDINATION

Arts and cultural funding, collaboration, and coordination across City agencies.



HEALTH OF THE CULTURAL SECTOR

Create conditions to support individual and organizational members of the arts, culture, and science fields to achieve their full potential.

FIRST YEAR STRATEGIES AND ACTION

Even as CreateNYC looks to the future, the Department of Cultural Affairs has been seeking concrete ways to put the lessons of the plan into practice immediately. If we work together, the spectrum of new ideas that emerged from this process can make lasting change in New York's cultural community.

1 Increase support for the cultural life of low-income communities and underrepresented groups.

ACTION: DCLA is committing to increased funding for cultural programming in low-income communities and for underrepresented groups. This will be implemented directly in grants from DCLA and through increased support to re-grant partners—for example local arts councils and New York Foundation for the Arts.

2 Continue to invest in the Cultural Institutions Group (CIG), increasing support for those in low-income communities.

ACTION: In response to the findings of CreateNYC, DCLA will increase support for under-funded members of the CIG, helping to grow their role as anchors for communities citywide.

3 Support increased language access for communications and cultural programming to reach a broader, more inclusive audience.

ACTION: Following recommendations in Equity and Inclusion, DCLA will establish a fund to support translation services—including for print and online communications and live programming translation—at cultural organizations across the city.

4 Increase support to individual artists.

ACTION: Following the strategies in the Health of the Cultural Sector, DCLA will increase support for individual artists through its re-grant partners.

5 Expand cultural access for people with disabilities and for disability arts.

ACTION: Following the findings of the Equity and Inclusion chapter, DCLA is increasing its considerations of disability and disability artistry through its grant programs, and will create a new fund to support people with disabilities as cultural workers, artists, and audiences. In addition, DCLA will set a goal in its capital spending to create spaces that are accessible.

6 Expand diversity and inclusion in the cultural workforce.

ACTIONS: Following recommendations in the Equity and Inclusion and Social and Economic Impact chapters of CreateNYC, DCLA will continue support for CUNY Cultural Corps, placing students in paid internships at cultural organizations.

To help junior level staff grow into the next generation of cultural leadership, DCLA will pilot a professional development program for cultural workers, accelerating advancement and cultivating leadership.

These efforts will focus on promoting greater inclusion of people with disabilities and transgender and gender non-conforming individuals.

7 Work with cultural organizations to achieve the City's sustainability goals.

ACTION: DCLA is creating a new position specifically to work with cultural organizations to help them to reduce carbon emissions. This energy specialist will work with cultural organizations and DCLA's Capital Projects Unit to expand the use of available resources to reduce energy consumption.

8 Coordinate and promote engagement between the City and New York City's cultural community.

ACTION: Across New York, cultural groups are already collaborating with City agencies in a number of dynamic and fruitful ways. The City will further this vital work with a new fund that will enable agencies to pilot or scale up programs that engage underserved or underrepresented populations through cultural programming.

"If you can afford space, then everything flows from there."
— ADAN, IMMIGRANT ARTISTS FOCUS GROUP PARTICIPANT, BROOKLYN

"Art can be used as a tool to create connections between people, bringing them together, fostering healthy communities."
— MARINA, CULTURAL WORKER, BRONX

"My big idea for arts and culture in New York City is...promoting the economic, educational, and quality of life impact of arts & culture in the city to encourage participation."
— JULIA, RESIDENT, QUEENS

"Art se you form d'expression li te permet zanset nou yo comminike."

"Art is a form of expression that has allowed our ancestors to communicate."
— JENNIFER & PERLE, CARIBBEAN CULTURAL PRODUCERS, BROOKLYN



35 CULTURAL AGENDA FUND GRANTEE AND PARTNER EVENTS



115 PRESENTATIONS AND MEETINGS



32 INFORMATION AND FEEDBACK DISPLAYS IN 6 LANGUAGES

418 events

99% zipcodes reached

1,215 CreateNYC surveys completed at libraries

62,000 library patrons reached

137,000 New Yorkers reached on social media