



NEWS RELEASE

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The Creative Center at University Settlement will receive \$20,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Arts

New York, NY –The Creative Center at University Settlement has been approved for a \$20,000 Grants for Arts Projects award from the National Endowment for the Arts to support the Training Institute for Artists and Administrators in Arts-in-Healthcare and Creative Aging for 2022, the agency announced today.

The Creative Center’s Training Institute, which is celebrating its 20th anniversary, will again virtually gather national leaders in the field of creative aging together with trainees from across the United States, giving participants the opportunity to replicate TCC’s best practices model in a variety of healthcare settings. This year’s Training Institute will be held throughout October 2022.

“The National Endowment for the Arts is proud to support arts and cultural organizations throughout the nation with these grants, including The Creative Center at University Settlement, providing opportunities for all of us to live artful lives,” said **NEA Chair Maria Rosario Jackson, PhD**. “The arts contribute to our individual well-being, the well-being of our communities, and to our local economies. The arts are also crucial to helping us make sense of our circumstances from different perspectives as we emerge from the pandemic and plan for a shared new normal informed by our examined experience.”

The Creative Center’s Training Institute is among 1,125 projects across America totaling more than \$26.6 million that were selected during this second round of Grants for Arts Projects fiscal year 2022 funding.

“The Creative Center is so excited to have once again received funding from the NEA to bring together thought leaders, practitioners, and trainees who are dedicated to bringing innovative and equitable approaches to Arts-In-Healthcare and Creative Aging,” said **Sophia Heinecke, Manager of Arts and Wellness, The Creative Center at University Settlement**. “We’re celebrating 20 years of sharing best practices in the field, and this work couldn’t be more timely! Every session of this year’s Training Institute will be dedicated to helping people living with illness and older adults, as well as their caregivers, discover their own creative resources as they navigate the challenges they live with.”

Training Institute participants will learn to implement and sustain high-quality arts programming that serves people living with illness and their caregivers as well as older adults across the aging spectrum through a series of seminars, presentations, hands-on workshops and virtual “site

visits." Trainees will be given everything needed to create "best practice" arts programming in hospitals, healthcare centers, nursing homes, long-term care facilities, and palliative and hospice settings as well as community and senior centers serving older adults across the aging spectrum.

For more information on other projects included in the Arts Endowment grant announcement, visit [arts.gov/news](https://www.arts.gov/news).

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About The Creative Center at University Settlement

Founded in 1994 on the belief that "medicine cures the body, but art heals the spirit," The Creative Center began as a series of free art workshops for women with cancer. The Creative Center at University Settlement is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to bringing the creative arts to people with cancer, chronic illnesses, and through all stages of life. In 2011, The Creative Center became a program of University Settlement and has begun to expand into the growing field of "creative aging", putting into practice what recent research has shown; that arts activities and experiences provide not only opportunities for artistic and self expression, but also measurable health benefits to seniors at all stages in the aging continuum, enabling them to live better and healthier lives.

Learn more at: <https://www.thecreativecenter.org/tcc/?>

About University Settlement

University Settlement forges partnerships between neighbors on the Lower East Side and in Brooklyn, engaging more than 40,000 New Yorkers in efforts to build stronger communities every year.

Established in 1886 as the first Settlement House in the United States, we bring the values of that movement into the 21st century by fighting poverty and systemic inequality with responsive programs and advocacy; engaging all members of the community from newborns to elders; and joyfully nurturing the whole person by addressing basic needs including food, education, culture, learning, and community.

We infuse a commitment to civic engagement, equity, and communal action into each of our programs, which include early childhood education, mental health and wellness, benefits assistance and eviction prevention, adult literacy and education, healthy aging, community and recreation centers, performing and visual arts, and youth development.

Learn more at www.universitysettlement.org.