

REHEARSAL SPACE SUBSIDY

2025-2026 Grantees Past Programs

NYC Dance Rehearsal Space Subsidy Program
For NYC dance rehearsal spaces
Providing affordable and accessible space rentals



New York City Dance Rehearsal Space Subsidy Program Past Iterations

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NEW YORK CITY DANCE REHEARSAL SPACE SUBSIDY PROGRAM

Administered by Dance/NYC and made possible by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the purpose of the New York City Dance Rehearsal Space Subsidy Program is to make affordable rehearsal space available to dance makers whose dance work has been publicly presented and are in critical need of space for the creation and development of their work, while also fostering a more inclusive and fair dance field, with a focus on accessibility, geography, and the demographics of artists served. By addressing financial barriers to accessing artistic development space, this program aims to advance artistic development and delivery and contribute to the field's overall diversity, sustainability, resilience, and health.

2022-2024 Grantees

In May 2022, Dance/NYC announced the following recipients of funding:

- [Abrons Arts Center, Henry Street Settlement](#)
- [Ballet Hispánico](#)
- [Cora Dance](#)
- [CPR - Center for Performance Research](#)
- [Dance Theatre of Harlem](#)
- [Dancewave](#)
- [Fourth Arts Block](#)
- [Gibney Dance](#)
- [Green Space](#)
- [Hi-ARTS](#)
- [Mark Morris Dance Group](#)
- [Mind-Builders Creative Arts Center](#)
- [Movement Research](#)
- [National Dance Institute](#)
- [New York Live Arts](#)
- [Open Jar Studios](#)
- [PMT House of Dance](#)
- [Snug Harbor Cultural Center & Botanical Garden](#)
- [The Floor](#)
- [Topaz Arts](#)

Grantees received funding to subsidize dance rehearsal space throughout the course of the grant period, May 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024. In addition to the grant funds that will provide subsidized dance rehearsal space throughout the course of the grant period, grantees will receive fees to support administrative costs to run the program; in-kind marketing, communications, and outreach annually through Dance/NYC platforms; and professional development support in the form of grantee cohort meetings and annual site visits to drive individual and collective learning about artists' needs and the landscape of rehearsal space. Total grant amounts range from \$17,240 to \$269,040. Each recipient will provide 200 to 2,000 hours of subsidized space annually to dance makers, collectively offering more than 69,000 hours over three years in all five boroughs. All applicants of the New York City Dance Rehearsal Space Subsidy Program full application phase were provided an application honorarium of \$2,500 in recognition of the labor and resources required to participate in the application process.

The complete application process consisted of three phases. In the first, Dance/NYC invited artists and choreographers, administrators, producers, managers, and other members of the community that use rehearsal space to nominate studios for consideration in the program. Any studio could be nominated, regardless of size, location, or business structure.

Nominated spaces were provided with more information on the program and invited to respond to a Request for Expressions of Interest during Fall 2021. Artist nominations served to highlight rehearsal space facilities that might not have otherwise pursued participation in the program and further functioned as recommendations of a venue's effective service to the field.

For the second phase, the Request for Expressions of Interest, spaces could apply regardless of whether they had received artist nominations. Applications received during the second phase were reviewed by a panel of individual dance artists and workers across the sector, and based on the review panel's deliberations, 31 venues were invited to participate in the third phase, the full application.

Applications received through the third phase were once again reviewed by a panel of individual dance artists and workers across the sector. Grantees were selected by this review panel based on key evaluation criteria which included: financial health and sustainability that indicates an ability to remain in operation for the duration of the grant period; full Cost Analysis for the provision of rehearsal space; demonstration of staffing capacity to administer all aspects of the program; proof of 501(c)(3) status and/or operational business license if a for-profit entity.

Grant amounts were calculated based on the subsidy needed by venues to cover the gap between the low rental fee charged to dance makers and the total cost for operating and maintaining the space made available through the RSS program, as well as the total number of hours the venue commits to providing annually. Selection as a grantee includes participation in ongoing research informed by grantee cohort meetings and annual site visits which collectively serve to capture lessons learned and inform future iterations of the RSS program and the landscape of dance rehearsal space more broadly.

2019-2021 Grantees

In January of 2019, Dance/NYC announced the following recipients of funding:

- [Abrons Arts Center/Henry Street Settlement](#)
- [Ballet Hispanico](#)
- [Baryshnikov Arts Center](#)
- [Center for Performance Research](#)
- [CUNY Dance Initiative](#)
- [Green Space](#)
- [Dancewave](#)
- [Dance Theatre of Harlem](#)
- [Fourth Arts Block](#)
- [Gibney](#)
- [Mark Morris Dance Center](#)
- [Movement Research](#)
- [New York Live Arts](#)
- [RIOULT Dance NY](#)
- [Snug Harbor Cultural Center](#)
- [Topaz Arts](#)

Grantees received funding to subsidize rehearsal spaces from January 2019 through December 2021. Amounts range from \$36,800 to \$178,500. Each recipient will offer 650 to 2,000 hours of subsidized space annually to dance makers, collectively offering more than 65,000 hours over three years across all five boroughs. Following a series of site visits conducted by Carrie Blake of Webb Management Services at 42 facilities from May to July 2018, these 16 grantees were selected by an internal review process of an invitation-only application in Fall 2018. The cohort was chosen on their merits as leading contributors of rehearsal space for the creation and development of dance works, while prioritizing spaces that represent aesthetic and cultural diversity across all five boroughs, ADA compliance, and the demographics of artists served. Key evaluation criteria included quality of rehearsal space; ability to provide 1,000 hours of subsidized space annually with the majority of those hours taking place at peak times; expressed commitment to the values of diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice; and commitment to subsidizing rehearsal space for small-budget dance groups (with budgets of less than \$1 million).

Related Resources:

2022-2024

- [Announcement of New York City Dance Rehearsal Space Subsidy Program 2022-2024 Grantees](#) (May 26, 2022)
- [Dance/NYC Opens NYC Dance Rehearsal Space Subsidy Program Requests for Expressions of Interest](#) (November 16, 2021)
- [Dance/NYC Announces the 2021 New York City Rehearsal Space Subsidy \(RSS\) Program - Nomination and Request for Expression of Interest](#) (November 2, 2021)
- [Review Panel and Panelist Guide](#)

2019-2021

- [SpaceFinder NYC Dance Space Directory](#), powered by Fractured Atlas
- [Directory of New York City Dance Rehearsal Space Subsidy Program Grantees](#)
- [Announcement of New York City Dance Rehearsal Space Subsidy Program Grantees](#) (January 15, 2019)
- [Invitation Only, Request for Proposals](#) (October 5, 2018)

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