



## AGENCY ARTS PARTNERSHIPS

Agencies can – and do – engage with artists or arts and cultural organizations in many different ways. Below is a sample list of partnership types for your consideration.

The Department of Cultural Affairs (DCLA) looks forward to discussing with you what your agency’s needs are and helping you develop plans for arts integration, as appropriate.

### I. ENHANCED SERVICE DELIVERY

#### 1. Contracted Direct Cultural Services

Artists or cultural organizations can be contracted to provide services that support agency mission such as promoting physical or mental health well-being, workforce development, literacy, etc.

*Example: The Office of Children and Family Services contracts Mark Morris Dance Company to provide parent/toddler dance classes for teen parents and children in foster care.*

*Example: The Department of Correction contracts the Horticultural Society of New York to provide “jail-to-job” programs at Rikers Island, i.e. paid skills training in the food and building industries.*

#### 2. Cross-Agency Funded Initiatives

Agencies can partner together to support existing cultural initiatives or launch customized programs that benefit each agency’s mission in distinct ways.

*Example: The Departments of Education, Sanitation, and Cultural Affairs provide funding to Materials for the Arts to leverage the city’s reuse operation to benefit the agencies’ goals of free art materials for schools, less waste in landfills, and materials to arts organizations.*

*Example: The Department for the Aging and the Department of Cultural Affairs launched Seniors Partnering with Artists Citywide (SPARC), which recruits 50 artists each year to provide custom-made programs at senior centers that promote physical and mental health well-being.*

#### 3. Agency Staff Training and Support

Cultural organizations can provide training to staff requiring specific skill sets, such as cultural sensitivity training, dealing with stress of emotionally challenging jobs, etc.

*Example: The Department of Education’s Island Academy at Rikers Island contracted Queens Museum’s art therapists to offer art-making workshops to Academy staff that served to provide emotional support and boost morale among a staff with a high turnover rate.*

### II. PROGRAM COORDINATION

#### 4. Program Coordination

Agencies can contract cultural organizations like other CBOs to develop and administer entire initiatives.

*Example: The Department of Probation contracted Carnegie Hall to identify, contract, and manage its arts programs for court-involved youth at their community centers.*



### III. FACILITY ENHANCEMENT

#### 5. Physical Space Transformation

Cultural organizations and artists can help reimagine or beautify spaces to promote sense of purpose or enhance user experience.

*Example: The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene contracted the Children's Museum of Manhattan to activate facilities in a way that promotes critical child development.*

#### 6. Co-located Facilities

As tenants of larger City-owned buildings, cultural organizations can raise the profile of a facility that provides municipal services and seeks to attract more visitors.

*Example: Spaceworks outfitted an underutilized second floor of a Brooklyn Public Library with affordable artist rehearsal spaces and studios, and a Spaceworks resident artist now provides a 100+ hours a month of free arts instruction to library patrons.*

### IV. MESSAGE AMPLIFICATION

#### 7. Culturally-Driven Short-Term Program Campaigns

Artists or cultural organizations can be called upon to help deepen connections to particular communities or amplify campaign messages in creative ways.

*Example: The Office of Immigrant Affairs is considering contracting a socially engaged artist with strong ties to undocumented workers in Corona, Queens, to develop a community-specific campaign to recruit more IDNYC registrants in the area.*

#### 8. Agency Messaging

Artists' creative capacity can be leveraged to deepen public understanding of agency mission and operations.

*Example: The Department of Sanitation hosts an artist in residence Mierle Ukeles to create exhibitions and performances to foster greater understanding of and appreciation for sanitation work.*

#### 9. City-Wide Cultural Resources, Leveraged

By connecting to DCLA's network of cultural organizations, agencies can access significant cultural resources that can incentivize a call to action among targeted constituents.

*Example: The Office of Immigrant Affairs and the Mayor's Office of Operations worked with DLCA to recruit 33 cultural institutions across NYC to expand the functionality and desirability of the IDNYC card with an offer of comprehensive cultural benefits.*

For more information about these programs or to discuss potential arts integration at your agency, please contact: [REDACTED]