

3. Vibrant and Creative Cultural Ecosystems

3.2 Support Arts and Creative Culture

Complete at least three of the following eleven activities. (10 POINTS for completion of 3 activities, and an additional 5 POINTS for each additional activity, plus an additional 5 points if sub-action #11 supports artists that identify as marginalized or underserved, maximum of 25 total points for this action).

Support Arts and Creative Culture (Up to 25 points)

1) ~~Establish a Poet Laureate through ordinance.~~

Submit: A copy of the ordinance.

2) ~~Include arts and culture in all publicly available municipal marketing (printed or web-based).~~

Submit: ~~Links to online marketing materials and/or samples of printed marketing materials.~~

3) Commit dedicated funding to the arts (during the twelve-months prior to application submission). Funding may be directed at an Arts Office, as part of the municipal budget, through grants, or to outside services. Funding cannot be directed towards another Sustainable CT action, nor can it be directed at Subpart #5, listed below.

Submit: A description of amount of funding allocated and what was funded.

- The Greenwich Art Council rents from the Town the entire second floor of the municipal building located at the prime real estate spot at 299 Greenwich Avenue for a symbolic amount of \$1. This very affordable rent allows the Council to be located in the heart of Greenwich and divert more funding towards the art programs.
- The Town funds a permanent art program at Greenwich High School which offers twenty eight classes at the introductory, honor and advanced placement levels using traditional and contemporary materials
https://www.greenwichschools.org/uploaded/high_school/Teaching_and_Learning/Academics/Art/Sequencing_Guide_for_Art_Courses_at_GHS.pdf . Student participants exhibit and compete locally and nationally, visit museums, and build own portfolios. “Spring Into Art” is one of the art shows concluding the school year.
<https://www.greenwichschools.org/greenwich-high-school/academics/teaching-learning/art>
<https://greenwichfreepress.com/around-town/arts/greenwich-high-school-art-student-unveils-photography-portfolio-86573/>
- Annual Town Party featuring the music festival is partially sponsored and organized by the Town <https://greenwichtownparty.org/>.
- Events and film showings at the Greenwich Library are facilitated by the Town of Greenwich. The Town provided the Auditorium and staff, while the movie is paid for by Friends of Greenwich Library. <https://www.greenwichlibrary.org/friends-friday-films/>
The amount of funding is not provided, because it is hard give a fair estimate of the staff involvement and the market value of the facilities provided for the above events.
- Flinn Gallery, located at the Greenwich Library is owned and operated by the Town of Greenwich. The Gallery attracts over 10,000 visitors annually
<http://flinngallery.com/about/>

4) Establish a percent for art/public art program (at least 1% of project cost must be spent on art, municipality can adjust the % requirement in excess of 1%).

Submit: A description of the program you established.

In Greenwich the total budget approved for the fiscal year 2017-18 is 427.8 million dollars. The Department Operating Cost (DOC) is almost half, \$277.6 million dollars. One percent of the total budget is 4.29 million dollars. It appears that the above examples of Town's financial support to the art program may not meet this amount, but it is estimated to be very close to the one percent of the DOC which is roughly 2.78 million dollars.

5) Establish a Cultural Office or Arts and Culture Department/Council which includes:

Submit: Proof you established the Cultural Office or Arts and Culture Department/Council (for example, a signed letter from the Department Head or Chief Elected Official).

The Greenwich Art Council was established in 1973. It was formed as a direct outcome of the 1971 Development Action Plan of the Town of Greenwich which identified the need to develop greater encouragement of, and access to, the arts in the town and surrounding area. The Town's engagement in this organization is well portrayed in the attached proclamation letter:

<https://www.greenwichct.gov/DocumentCenter/View/2745/Greenwich-Arts-Council-Month-PDF>

An email informing the office of the First Selectman of the nomination of the new Executive Director of the Greenwich Arts Council is copied below:

The Board of Directors of the Greenwich Arts Council of Greenwich, Ct are unanimously pleased to announce that Tatiana Mori has contractually accepted the position of

Executive Director of the Greenwich Arts Council, effective July 1st, 2018.

Tatiana has already been expanding our program collaborations with other cultural, art, and financial organizations and also with the Town. She is working constantly to strengthen our image, and our programs both for youth and adults, as well as our gallery exhibits, trips, events, and visibility throughout the entire area of Connecticut. She has been a force in helping to strengthen our financial picture through innovative cost cutting in certain areas, in working with our treasurer and bookkeeper to reassess expenses, and to ensure that GAC continues with a solid financial future. Tatiana will report to the Board of Directors and will have the day-to-day oversight and responsibility for finance, operations, marketing and management to fulfill the objectives of the Greenwich Arts Council.

In truth, Tatiana Mori has been a strong guiding force and has done the work behind the scenes for many years in so many areas for, which has given her a tremendous background in the operations of the Greenwich Arts Council, how they can be improved, expanded, and can continue to grow.

GAC is in her heart and mind all the time and she truly wants the best future our organization and all we do.

I am proud to have been working with her these past years and I know she will be a wonderful, thoughtful, and effective GAC Executive Director.

Leah Marmon, Board President of the Greenwich Arts Council

- a) Identifying staff to oversee and operate the office;

The GAC Staff

Tatiana Mori

Executive Director

tatianam@greenwicharts.org

Cathie H. Fuhrmann

Assistant to Director

cathief@greenwicharts.org

Geraldine Trippitelli

Social Media

- b) Writing the office's mission and work plan;

It is the Mission of the Greenwich Arts Council to promote the visual, performing and literary arts in our community by encouraging artists, presenting their work and building audiences for the arts.

To fulfill this Mission GAC:

- Offers programs that showcase the vibrancy and broad range of the arts
- Is receptive to new forms of artistic expression
- Provides opportunities to support artists' development
- Recognizes outstanding artistic accomplishment and those who support the arts
- Enhances arts education and outreach for young people
- Collaborates on arts-related projects with other organizations
- Provides studios, exhibition and performance space for individual artists and groups
- Engages in outreach to bring the arts to diverse audiences, seniors and the handicapped
- Promotes the preservation and appreciation of public art
- Serves as a resource for information about area artists and cultural events
- Advocates on behalf of the arts at the local, state and federal levels
- Educates the public about the arts

In addition to organizing and presenting programs and providing low cost rental space for a broad range of visual and performing arts, the Greenwich Arts Council leases administrative and performance space at the Arts Center to the following resident cultural organizations.

Alliance Francaise of Greenwich

www.afgreenwich.org

203.629.1340

Connecticut School of Music

www.ctschoolofmusic.com

203.226.0805

Friendship Ambassadors Foundation

www.faf.org

203.542.0652

Greenwich Choral Society

www.greenwichchoralsociety.org

203.622.5136

Greenwich Symphony Orchestra

www.greenwichsym.org

203.869.2664

In addition to rental income Greenwich Art Council is heavily supported by private donors, fund raising events, profits from the school, events, and fund raising. The requested budget and source of funding disclosure is not provided. Such disclosure may lead to loss of donors due to the high competition for funds between other no-for-profit organizations in Greenwich.

~~6) Establish and designate/appoint an Arts and Culture Liaison or Artist in Residence to your municipality. This includes:~~

- ~~a) Identifying how the services of the liaison will be utilized within municipal operations.~~
- ~~b) Establishing a process to select the liaison and identify the duration of appointment.~~

Submit:

- ~~○ The name of your appointed Arts and Culture Liaison or Artist in Residence and proof of appointment ((for example, a signed letter from the Department Head or Chief Elected Official).~~
- ~~○ A description of the selection process, including duration of the appointment.~~

7) Streamline permitting system for events, performances, etc. in public spaces.

All elements must be completed to receive credit:

- a) Review existing permitting process;
- b) Identify barriers to permitting events, performances, etc.; and
- c) Softening or removing barriers where possible.

Submit: A description of how permitting systems were altered to facilitate permitting for events, performances, etc. in public spaces.

Public safety and wellbeing is always the priority for any public space in Town. Therefore, larger events and performances require a permit from the Department of Parks and Recreation. Before the final sign off is obtained, the event has to be reviewed and accepted by several other entities. The list includes, but may not be limited to:

- Fire Marshal for space capacity and access, this requirement is needed to ensure public safety
- Health Department when food is involved
- Building Department for electric connections and tent use
- Liquor license if alcohol is offered for purchase

- Parking Service if parking is needed

In addition, to the application filed with Parks and Recreation and forms filled out for other entities the applicant must have proper insurance and pay required fees. Smaller events such the annual “Art to the Avenue” offered by the Greenwich Art Council in May does not require a permit

<http://www.greenwichartscouncil.org/Art-to-the-Avenue.html>

The permitting process with Parks and Recreation is guided by the coversheet which consist of a check list of departments/entities which the applicant should contact to obtain a sign-off and/or a permit.

- Building Department – requires an application and fee to be submitted (for tents, use of electric and gas appliances). The review is usually conducted within 2 to 3 days.
- Parking Services (parking availability). Sign off is obtained at the time of the visit.
- Greenwich Health Department (food venues). An application and fee is required. The license is issued at the time of the inspection at the event.
- Greenwich Fire Department
- GEMS (Greenwich Emergency Medical Service) - A sing-off is obtained at the time of the visit (fee for the ambulance or any other form of involvement)
- Greenwich Police Department – Traffic Division requires notification about the event. One week prior to the event, the applicant has to call the Police Desk to ensure, the availability of the staff. Additional call should be made one day prior to the event to double check the availability.

After the process of completing the checklist is done the final permit is issued by Superintendent of Recreation Division of the Department of Parks and Recreation. The applicant has to fill out an application, provide prove of insurance, and pay fees (application fee and fee per ach day of the event). The application has to be filed more than 90 days before the event otherwise a late fee applies.

The process is very complicated and time consuming. There are no office hours designated for public visits at the Greenwich Fire Department, and GEMS. The listed departments/organizations are located in four different buildings which are in more than walking distance apart. In most places a single person is assigned to process the application, which provides additional difficulties in reaching them in person.

Redesigning of the website was the first step the Town took to make the access to information more user friendly. Several of the departments/organizations took advantage of this new opportunity.

Building Department posted their Special Event Application on their website

http://www.greenwichct.org/public_documents/greenwichct_dpw/greenwichct_bldingdocs/forms/

Environmental Services, Heath Department posted Guidelines for Food Service at Temporary Events and Application for a Temporary Food Service Operation. This information allows the applicant to familiarize him/herself with the process and fill out the application in advance to the office visit.

<https://www.greenwichct.gov/645/Food-Establishments>

EMS accepts applications via fax so no visit to the office is required.

~~8) Establish an Arts District.~~

~~**Submit:** Documentation proving the new Arts District exists. Describe how the district was created and how the area was selected.~~

~~9) Establish an annual recognition program for local artists.~~

~~**Submit:** A description of the components included in the recognition program, include selection process and award criteria, outreach and marketing, etc.~~

10) Support arts and cultural activities offered at the local library:

Choose One:

Option 1: Promoting, through municipal outlets, events offered at your local library; or

~~**Option 2:** Partnering with your local library to create an arts and culture program and promoting it through municipal outlets.~~

Submit:

- If selecting **Option 1:** List all arts and culture programs offered by your local library for the current year, noting which you will promote. Provide one example of how a program was promoted.
- ~~If selecting **Option 2:** Describe the program created and how it was promoted (include a url, copy of printed materials, or other).~~

The Flinn Gallery, which is a part of the Greenwich Library, is a non-profit, volunteer-run, education oriented exhibition space that presents art in all mediums from a wide range of periods, visions and techniques. <https://www.greenwichlibrary.org/flinn-gallery/> The programs are promoted by the library which is owned and operated by the Town of Greenwich <http://flinngallery.com/> . The Gallery Committee, displays on average six (6) exhibitions a year from September through June. Each exhibition features an opening reception and related events.

Past exhibits

May 3 – June 13, 2018

Art Students League Revisited

Since 1875 the Art Students League, based in the same historic building in New York City, has been training artists in a variety of mediums in hands on classes. There is hardly an American artist of note of the late 19th or 20th century who has not been part of that vibrant artistic community. This exhibit, complementing a similar popular exhibit ten years ago, seeks to highlight several current League students and one instructor, and their varied and interesting work. All are award winners at the Art Students League. Curated by York Baker and Linda Butler.

March 15 – August 24, 2018:

Hazardous Beauty

Hazardous Beauty features artists Alejandro Durán and Willie Cole as they use their creativity to interpret the environmental problems of plastic pollution and explore the impact from our increasing disposable culture. Through aesthetically beautiful works and educational programming, the viewer reflects on the collision of consumer culture on the natural world. Curated by Ellen Hawley.

February 1 – March 7, 2018

Beyond Street Art

Beyond Street Art is an exciting multimedia art exhibition that encompasses the work of 5 iconic street artists who have evolved their careers into becoming globally recognized contemporary artists. Artists include: Billy the Artist, Paul Deo, Blake Jamieson, Lady Pink, and Swoon. Curated by Ruth Sutcliffe-Heagney.

December 14, 2017 – January 24, 2018 **Venus Fly**

Venus Fly features new abstract work by three female artists each working in different media: large-scale paintings, mixed media wood carvings, and ceramics. Super fresh and super fly! Artists are Becca Lowry, Lauren Mabry, and Alyse Rosner. Curator: Tracy McKenna.

October 26 – December 5, 2017 **The Art and Craft**

What defines Craft versus Art – and does that division have meaning? Nine artists display creations of glass, clay and fiber, substances traditionally considered “craft materials,” but worked with such talent, imagination, and skill that the resulting pieces are unquestionably works of art. Co-Curators: Leslee Asch + Barbara Richards

September 7 – October 18, 2017 **Memory of Place: Thomas Doyle & Frank Poor**

Memory of Place is a show based on the concept of time, place and memory. A place has different meanings for different people. Our existence and our identity are shaped by the geography of where we were born and where we live. The associations we create with a certain place give a specific meaning to it in our imagination. Our remembrances and our experiences create layers of meaning that is only significant to us as an individual. This show explores the meaning of a place, its effect on our memories and our imagination and the unsettling effect of displacement. Co-Curators: Fereshteh Priou + Claudia Schipper

Hazardous Beauty is one of the examples of a recent exhibit presented between March 15 and August 24, 2018 which was promoted by the Greenwich Library website and Facebook <https://business.facebook.com/FlinnGallery/>, but also by:

- The Conservation Commission website featuring the Earth Day Month Event Calendar
http://www.greenwichct.org/News/Conservation_Commission/earth_month_calendar_of_events/
- Greenwich Sentinel: <https://www.greenwichsentinel.com/2018/03/12/flinn-gallery-opens-hazardous-beauty/>
- Greenwich Free Press: <https://greenwichfreepress.com/around-town/hazardous-beauty-at-the-flinn-gallery-examines-collision-of-consumerism-and-natural-world-103671/>
- Posted on the community board located at the first floor near the main entrance
- Through other non-profit organizations

In addition to the Flinn Gallery, the library partners with the Friends of Greenwich Library <https://www.greenwichlibrary.org/greenwich-library/friends-of-greenwich-library/> in providing a free access to an eclectic mix of new releases, classics and foreign films via Friends Friday Film

program. To complete the cultural experience, the Cole Auditorium offers an annual music concert also organized by the Friends of Greenwich Library.

11) ~~Support artists. 5 additional points will be added to your total score if you support artists that identify as marginalized or underserved (for example, young and emerging, veterans, seniors). Select one support activity from the following options:~~

- ~~a) Develop professional development services for artists, art administrators, and arts presenters/curators (they may be virtual).~~

~~**Submit:** A description of the professional development services developed. Description of how administered and number of participants.~~

- ~~b) Develop municipal internship opportunities (paid or unpaid) or an apprenticeship program.~~

~~**Submit:** A description of the internship/apprenticeship program created. Link to the website hosting information on program.~~

- ~~c) Develop workshops and discussion opportunities for artists, art administrators, and arts presenters/curators.~~

~~**Submit:** Workshop/discussion opportunity flyers, agendas, photos.~~

- ~~d) Develop municipal professional artist networks and peer sharing opportunities.~~

~~**Submit:** A description of the artist professional network and peer sharing opportunities. Describe events, number of members, outreach and engagement plan, mission statement of network, description of oversight process.~~

- ~~e) Develop an artist mentoring program.~~

~~**Submit:** A description of the mentoring program, include number of participants, oversight plan, budget, schedule, and outreach.~~