

## 2022 Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission Local Arts Program Re-grantees

**American Theatre Group, Basking Ridge** **Award: \$37,640**

Funding will support the 2022 season of artistic productions, providing a diverse range of theatre productions and arts education programs. Projected programming includes three mainstage shows, one outdoor concert which will be free to the public, the ATG PlayLab for emerging playwrights of color and queer playwrights, and six arts education and development programs for high school and college students. Find out more at: <https://www.americantheatergroup.org/>

**The Arc of Somerset County, Manville** **Award: \$2,000**

Funding will assist the “Accessing Music Promoting Success” program by paying local musicians to provide monthly music classes for individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities. This program will also feature two to three music performances that will be open to the public, and a peer reviewed journal article will be written based on the experience of the music group. Find out more at: <https://www.thearcofsomerset.org/>

**Bernards Township Parks and Recreation, Basking Ridge** **Award: \$3,500**

Funding will allow the annual Plays in the Park program to provide two free public shows by local theatre companies. A musical and a classical play will be performed for the 2022 season (six performances of the musical and five performances of the classic). Find out more at: <https://www.bernards.org/departments/recreation>

**Bound Brook Cultural Arts Committee, Bound Brook** **Award: \$3,500**

Funding will help support the visual and performing arts elements of Riverfest 2022, an annual event featuring high quality artistic performances that is free and open to the public. Participating artists include Latin Jazz musicians, Spanish Flamenco Dancers and Peruvian Dancers. Find out more at: <https://boundbrook-nj.org/art/>

**EmPoWER Somerset, Somerville** **Award: \$5,500**

Funding will allow EmPoWER Somerset to hire local artists (possibly assisted by RVCC and/or Somerville High School art departments) to participate in two family-friendly events on Division Street in Somerville in the spring and fall of 2022. Find out more at: <https://empowersomerset.com/>

**Friends of the Kennedy Martin Stelle Farmstead, Basking Ridge** **Award: \$52,292**

Funding will be used to increase staff capacity which will allow the organization to continuing and broadening arts programming that is accessible to the public and to increase their marketing efforts. Planned programming for 2022 includes concerts, lectures, literary arts, workshops and classes, art exhibits, community theatre and special events. Find out more at: <https://farmsteadartscenter.org/>

**Light Opera of New Jersey, Inc., Basking Ridge** **Award: \$10,000**

Funding will support three productions of light opera and musical theater and offer education and outreach programs to residents of Somerset County: four performances of *La Boheme*, eight performances of *HMS Pinafore*, and two performances of *In the Heights*. A school based educational touring program is also planned for the 2022 season. Find out more at: <https://lightoperaofnewjersey.org/>

## **2022 Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission Local Arts Program Re-grantees**

**Music in the Somerset Hills, Bernardsville** **Award: \$25,000**

Grant funds will aid Music in the Somerset Hills in achieving its goal of helping to make Somerset County a nationally recognized destination for both artists and audiences. Funding will help provide diverse and innovative musical offerings, reduce ticket prices, and increase operational and administrative support for the 2022 season in which seven public, in-person concerts will be offered. Find out more at: <https://www.musicsh.org/>

**Raag Rang, Bridgewater** **Award: \$6,403**

Funding will support two key projects: Kel-Ke-Kalakar (Artists of the Future) and a summer concert and lecture demonstration. Funding will be used to host the programs at a larger venue, attract top-notch musicians from New Jersey, increase marketing efforts in venues such as libraries, county boards, township schools, and other venues of cultural learning. Find out more at: <https://raagrang.org/>

**Raritan Valley Choral Society, Hillsborough** **Award: \$3,800**

Funding will be used to offset business costs including primary insurance coverage as well as rehearsal and performance space rental costs in perpetration of the organization's first in person concert in two years. Grant funds will also be used to pay key personnel and staff positions. Find out more at: <https://www.raritanvalleychorus.org/>

**Raritan Valley Community College**

**Arts & Design Department, Branchburg** **Award: \$5,000**

Funding will be used to pay musicians performing at the Raritan Valley Community College Mozaika Concert Series. The performers engaged are distinguished musicians with careers of international prominence and winners of highly prestigious awards including acclaimed soloists, chamber musicians, and members of eminent orchestras and ensembles including the New York Philharmonic, Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, and New Jersey Symphony Orchestra. Local musicians and young artists with developing careers are encouraged to apply to appear in the series. Find out more at: <https://www.raritanval.edu/arts>

**Raritan Valley Symphonic Band, Hillsborough** **Award: \$5,000**

Funding will assist with marketing and the purchase of new music rights. Five free public concerts are planned for 2022. Virtual programming will also be expanded to help reach people who may not be able to attend in person events. Find out more at: <http://www.rvsb.org/>

**Somerset County Park Commission, North Branch** **Award: \$3,500**

Funds will help expand, enhance and market the annual summer concert series held at Duke Island Park. Concerts are free, held weekly, and offer something for everyone while ensuring equal access to all people. Find out more at: <http://somersetcountyparks.org/>

**Somerset Valley Players, Hillsborough** **Award: \$15,000**

Funding will help expand marketing efforts to reach new audiences, increase the diversity of offerings, offset select staff salaries and improve the organization's ability to attract top-tier talent from the New Jersey theatre community. Find out more at: <http://svptheatre.org/>

## **2022 Somerset County Cultural & Heritage Commission Local Arts Program Re-grantees**

### **Ukrainian History & Education Center, Somerset**

**Award: \$15,000**

Funding will support the continuation of in-person and online programming (including workshops led by master folk artists and experts), help pay select staff salaries and aid in increased marketing efforts to reach diverse audiences. Events will be recorded for greater accessibility. Find out more at: <https://www.ukrhec.org/>

**Total Funds Awarded: \$193,135**