



2026 Art & History Grants



Commissioner Robert S. Arace is happy to announce a total \$240,000 in grant funding will be awarded to 29 (16 arts and 13 historical) Ocean County arts and heritage organizations in 2026 through a highly competitive, peer reviewed application process. Each year, the Ocean County Cultural & Heritage Commission offers funding to Ocean County based non-profit arts and heritage organizations, units of local government, and institutions of higher education seeking to provide quality arts and history programming and services to the public.

The following organizations received a total of \$90,000 in grant awards from Ocean County Cultural & Heritage Commission's County History Partnership Program Grant towards General Operating or Special Project Support in FY 2026:

Barnegat Bay Maritime Museum (\$7,400)
Barnegat Historical Society (\$7,000)
Berkeley Township Historical Society (\$ 9,400)
Borough of Ship Bottom (\$5,000)
*John F. Peto Studio Museum (\$10,800)
Lakewood Historical Society (\$5,300)
*LBI Historical Association (\$9,500)
Museum of NJ Maritime History (\$5,000)
Navy Lakehurst Historical Society (\$8,100)
Stafford Township Historical Society (\$7,500)
Toms River Business Development Corp. (\$5,000)
Toms River Township (Senior Center) (\$5,000)
Tuckerton Historical Society (\$5,000)
* Citation of Excellence

These organizations will receive funding this year from a grant administered by the Ocean County Cultural & Heritage Commission from funds granted by the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State.

The following arts organizations received a total of \$150,000 in grant awards from the Ocean County Cultural & Heritage Commission's Local Arts Program Grant towards General Operating or Special Project support in FY 2026:

Arc of Ocean County (\$5,000)
Borough of Ship Bottom (\$2,500)
*Brick Children's Community Theatre (\$17,200)
Island Singers (\$8,000)
Jewish Federation of Ocean County (\$5,000)
*John F. Peto Studio Museum (\$17,600)
Laurelton Art Society (\$5,500)
LighthouseInternational Film Festival (\$13,100)
NJ Rising Stars, Inc. (\$5,000)
Ocean County Artist's Guild (\$14,000)
Ocean Professional Theatre Company (\$12,900)
Pine Shores Art Association (\$16,000)
Stafford TownshipHistorical Society (\$2,500)
Toms River Artist Community (\$15,700)
Toms River Business Development Corp. (\$5,000)
Toms River Township (Senior Center) (\$5,000)
* Citation of Excellence

These grants are given to local groups in order to support, promote, and develop the arts in Ocean County. The Local Arts Program Grant is made possible in part by a grant administered by the Ocean County Cultural & Heritage Commission from funds granted by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts.

For more information regarding the grant program, contact the Ocean County Cultural & Heritage Commission at 732-929-4779, visit their website at www.co.ocean.nj.us/cultural/index.htm, or email culturalheritage@co.ocean.nj.us.