

# STATE OF NEW YORK

6296

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

March 3, 2025

Introduced by M. of A. R. CARROLL, DeSTEFANO, REYES, TAGUE, WILLIAMS --  
Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. COOK, SAYEGH, SIMON -- read once and  
referred to the Committee on Tourism, Parks, Arts and Sports Develop-  
ment

AN ACT to amend the arts and cultural affairs law, in relation to the  
establishment of regional arts, cultural affairs, and parks grants

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assem-  
bly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. The arts and cultural affairs law is amended by adding a  
2 new article 6 to read as follows:

### ARTICLE 6

#### REGIONAL ARTS, CULTURAL AFFAIRS, AND PARKS GRANTS

##### Section 6.01. Definitions.

6 6.03. Establishment of arts, cultural affairs, and parks  
7 regions.

8 6.05. Regional arts, cultural affairs, and parks competitive  
9 grants.

10 § 6.01. Definitions. For the purposes of this article, the following  
11 terms shall have the following meanings:

12 1. "Regions" shall mean the arts, cultural affairs, and parks regions  
13 established in section 6.03 of this article.

14 2. "Regional councils" shall mean the councils which issue grants  
15 under section 6.05 of this article.

16 § 6.03. Establishment of arts, cultural affairs, and parks regions.  
17 Ten arts, cultural affairs, and parks regions shall be established with-  
18 in the state, one for each of the following regions:

19 1. Long Island (which consists of Suffolk and Nassau counties);

20 2. the city of New York (which consists of Bronx, New York, Queens,  
21 Kings, and Richmond counties);

22 3. the Mid-Hudson region (which consists of Sullivan, Ulster, Dutch-  
23 ess, Orange, Putnam, Westchester, and Rockland counties);

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 4. the Southern tier (which consists of Steuben, Schuyler, Tompkins,  
2 Chemung, Tioga, Chenango, Broome, and Delaware counties);

3 5. the Capital region (which consists of Warren, Washington, Saratoga,  
4 Schenectady, Rensselaer, Albany, Columbia, and Greene counties);

5 6. the Mohawk valley (which consists of Oneida, Herkimer, Fulton,  
6 Montgomery, Otsego, and Schoharie counties);

7 7. the North country (which consists of Clinton, Franklin, St.  
8 Lawrence, Jefferson, Lewis, Hamilton, and Essex counties);

9 8. the Central region (which consists of Oswego, Cayuga, Onondaga,  
10 Madison, and Cortland counties);

11 9. the Finger Lakes region (which consists of Orleans, Monroe, Wayne,  
12 Genesee, Wyoming, Livingston, Ontario, Seneca, and Yates counties); and

13 10. the Western region (which consists of Niagara, Erie, Chautauqua,  
14 Cattaraugus, and Allegany counties).

15 § 6.05. Regional arts, cultural affairs, and parks competitive grants.

16 1. The governor shall, in each region, establish a council who shall  
17 issue competitive grants within the region. The members of each regional  
18 council shall be local experts and stakeholders from arts and cultural  
19 affairs organizations and parks organizations within the region. Each  
20 regional council shall have seven total members appointed to such coun-  
21 cil. Five members of each regional council shall be appointed by the  
22 governor and shall serve at the pleasure of the governor, one member of  
23 each regional council shall be appointed by the speaker of the assembly  
24 and serve at the pleasure of the assembly, and one member of each  
25 regional council shall be appointed by the temporary president of the  
26 senate and serve at the pleasure of the senate. All members of the  
27 regional councils shall be subject to the provisions of section seven-  
28 ty-three-a of the public officers law.

29 2. The regional councils shall, with approval from the governor, issue  
30 competitive grants to arts and cultural affairs organizations and parks  
31 organizations within their region for capital projects such that:

32 (a) in the city of New York region, an equal amount of grant money is  
33 issued to organizations with operating budgets of ten million dollars or  
34 more as is issued to organizations with operating budgets of less than  
35 ten million dollars; and

36 (b) in all other regions, an equal amount of grant money is issued to  
37 organizations with operating budgets of five million dollars or more as  
38 is issued to organizations with operating budgets of less than five  
39 million dollars.

40 3. The regional councils shall determine which organization shall  
41 receive a competitive grant based on criteria established by the gover-  
42 nor for such purpose.

43 4. No regional council shall issue a grant to an organization which  
44 has received a grant under this article within the prior three years.

45 5. No regional council shall issue grants totaling more than fifty  
46 percent of such council's grant money issued in a calendar year to parks  
47 organizations.

48 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.