



News from the Office of  
**Adam J. Bello**  
Monroe County Executive



**For Immediate Release:  
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**County Executive Adam Bello Unveils JumpstARTS Initiative**  
*Grant program utilizes CARES Act funding to support local arts organizations*

**Rochester, NY** – Today, County Executive Adam Bello announced that Monroe County is allocating up to \$2 million in CARES Act funding to support the JumpstARTS program. This initiative is aimed at providing financial assistance to the arts and cultural sector that has been negatively impacted throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and has often been ineligible for other relief funds.

“The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted nearly every aspect of our lives, the fallout of which will be felt for many years to come. Modeled after our successful Fast Forward Monroe small business grant program, JumpstARTS will provide one-time funding to help our local arts and cultural organizations as they begin to reopen. Our community actively supports our local arts programs and artists, and as a region known for the arts it’s important that we support those who have been so significantly impacted over the last year,” said Bello.

“We are blessed to have such a vibrant and talented arts community here in Monroe County, and they need our support now more than ever,” said **Congressman Joe Morelle**. “I’m proud to have helped secure funding through the CARES Act to provide relief to these critical arts and cultural programs and ensure they can continue to enrich our community for years to come. I’m grateful to Monroe County for their partnership as we work to reinvigorate our local economy in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The grant program will fund our many small to mid-sized arts and cultural organizations that have been hit the hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic. This funding is critical as many of these organizations have been ineligible for past grant programs.

Eligible arts and cultural organizations must be located in Monroe County, be either non-profit organizations or limited liability companies, and they cannot have already received grants through Fast Forward Monroe. A full list of frequently asked questions and eligibility criteria is available at [www.monroecounty.gov/jumpstARTS](http://www.monroecounty.gov/jumpstARTS)

The JumpstARTS program will offer three levels of grants:

- Organizations with a 2019 Operating Budget Below \$50,000 can receive a maximum grant amount of \$5,000
- Organizations with a 2019 Operating Budget Between \$50,000 and \$99,999 can receive a maximum grant amount of \$10,000

- Organizations with a 2019 Operating Budget Between \$100,000 and \$2,000,000 can receive a maximum grant amount of \$20,000
- Organization with a 2019 Operating Budget over \$2,000,000 are not eligible for this funding

Funds received may be used only to cover expenses incurred between March 20, 2020, and June 18, 2021 because of COVID-19. These expenses are to be detailed through an itemized list of lost revenues and costs of operating through the pandemic.

Applications for the JumpstARTS grant program are available at <https://www.monroecounty.gov/jumpstarts#resources> . The deadline to apply is 5:00PM on June 18, 2020.

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