



2022

**Bronx Recognizes Its Own  
(BRIO)**

**Guidelines**

*Deadline: Monday, January 10, 2022 at 11:59 PM*

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For Bronx-based  
**Individual Artists**

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*This program is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.*

# Bronx Council on the Arts

## Bronx Recognizes Its Own

*recognizing outstanding artists in the Bronx for 33 years*

BCA's BRIO Award has been recognizing artistic excellence across a wide range of creative disciplines for 34 years. Annually, Bronx Recognizes Its Own (BRIO) provides direct support to individual Bronx artists who create works in the literary, media, visual, and performing arts, via awards of \$5,000 each. Artists who have received a BRIO award – notably early career artists – represent the vast diversity of Bronx residents, inclusive of a large array of ethnicities, ages and genders that mirror the diversity of our borough. Over the years, BRIO has emerged as one of the most coveted distinctions amongst artists residing in the Bronx.

The Bronx Council on the Arts now highlights BRIO's core emphasis: having distributed over \$1,725,000 in support to 526 artists over more than three decades. Adjudication panels are comprised of seasoned artists and arts professionals from outside the borough who, guided by discipline specific criteria and experience, review submissions anonymously and select awardees for distinction, whose work demonstrates the following:

- An innovative approach to the discipline
- Probing and pushing of boundaries
- Technical expertise and high level of skill
- Ingenuity and rigor in its production
- An awareness of the medium within a historical context
- Compelling vision and original voice

In addition, winners are required to complete a one-time public service activity known as Artists for Community Enrichment (ACE) within a year of receiving the award. ACE events (ranging from performances with Q&As to workshops and classes) provide artists with additional visibility and demonstrate to the community the wealth of artistic talent available in our borough.

BCA is proud to continue the BRIO tradition into the future, offering this invaluable honor in the Bronx that

- Boosts early career artists
- Highlights previously unknown voices
- Recognizes quality artistic practice
- Fosters connection between Bronx artists and their communities

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## **SELECTION OF AWARDS**

BRIO is adjudicated on a blind submission process. New panels of arts professionals are convened each year to select awardees. All materials and information involved in the process are kept confidential and are viewed anonymously by the panelists. When the application is received, a code number is assigned to each application and its corresponding material. The applicant's coded work sample is the only identifying information available to the panelists for review. Materials not meeting the submission guidelines will render an application ineligible.

## **AWARD NOTIFICATION**

Decisions will be e-mailed to all applicants in approximately May of the grant year. Winners will then be invited to a ceremony that following June, at which they will be honored and receive the award. BRIO winners are subsequently required to complete a one-time community service activity known as Artists for Community Enrichment (ACE) within a year.

## **ABOUT ACE (ARTISTS FOR COMMUNITY ENRICHMENT)**

An important and integral component of BRIO is ACE which requires each awardee to present a one-time public service activity within the one-year period after the award. This initiative was created to provide artists with additional visibility, and to provide Bronxites with the opportunity to experience the wealth of talent available in the community.

All BRIO awards are subject to verification of information submitted and proof of Bronx residency.

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## **Who can apply?**

- You must be 18 years old or older.
- You must be a resident of the Bronx. Applicants must provide 2 proofs of Bronx residency. (See instructions below)
- You must have an e-mail address
- You must have a Social Security number

## **Who is not eligible to apply?**

- Full time graduate or undergraduate students enrolled in any degree program.
- Recipients of 2021 BRIO awards.
- Individuals who work for Bronx Council on the Arts.

## General submission information

- Work samples must be from work created in the last 5 years (between 2016 and 2021).
- BRIO awards are adjudicated in a blind submission process. Panelists will evaluate submissions based on the materials they are viewing/hearing/reading. Applicants are advised to be highly selective and intentional in choosing work samples to submit. Poor quality work samples and materials will affect the panel's evaluation.
- In order to submit an application you must create an account online at [Submittable.com](https://www.submittable.com).
- Eligible applicants can submit only **one** application in **one** discipline.
- Only submit materials necessary for the discipline in which you are applying.
- Any required information missing at the time of panel review will render the application ineligible.
- Work samples must not contain any identifying information (name, email etc.) in any part of the application, including file names; such information will render the application ineligible.
- Application links are available on-line at [www.bronxarts.org](http://www.bronxarts.org) beginning November 15, 2021.

**NOTE: Detailed guidelines for each category are available on the Submittable application forms for each category.**

## CATEGORIES:

### Literary Arts:

Fiction, Non-Fiction, Poetry, Playwriting, Screenwriting, Illustrated Text

### Media Arts:

Digital Arts, Film or Video (Narrative/Documentary/Experimental), Film Animation

### Performing Arts:

Acting, Choreography, Dance, Instrumental and Vocal Music Performance (Audio only!), Music Composition, Performance Poetry, Spoken Word, Storytelling

### Visual Arts:

**2-D:** Artist book, Drawing, Illustration Painting, Photography, Printmaking, Mixed Media, Street Art

**3-D:** Installation Art, Mixed Media, Performance Art, Sculpture, Architecture, Crafts, Graphic Design, Environmental and Interior Design

**A COMPLETED APPLICATION WILL INCLUDE:**

- ✓ **Online application.** All fields of the Submittable application with an asterisk (\*) must be filled out.

**Please Note: All of the items below must be uploaded in order to apply:**

- ✓ **Your (Literary, Visual, Performing, or Media Arts) work sample(s).** detailed descriptions of work sample requirements are available on the online application in Submittable.

*None of the information below will be shared with panelists for review*

- ✓ **Current resume** citing your artistic, professional, and educational background.
- ✓ **Proof of Bronx Residency** - (submit **2**) any of the following are considered acceptable:
  - NYS Driver's license
  - New York State or New York City ID
  - Voter Registration Card
  - Mortgage, rent receipt or lease agreement
  - Utility bill (e.g., electricity, cable, gas, etc.)
  - Credit card or bank statement (first page only; social security number/financial information blacked out)
  - NYS or Federal tax return
  - Bursar's receipt (required for part-time students)
- ✓ **Applicant Bio** (150 words)
- ✓ **Head shot** (jpeg 300 dpi) (used for website and promotional purposes)
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**BCA will offer 6 "Information Sessions" in November, December and January. First time applicants are encouraged to attend.**

Go to <https://www.bronxarts.org/grants/bronx-recognizes-its-own> for upcoming dates and to RSVP.

**QUESTIONS?** Contact Bryan E. Glover | [bryan@bronxarts.org](mailto:bryan@bronxarts.org) | 718-931-9500 ext.22

*Note: Applicants CAN apply to BRIO and Arts Fund, but must choose only ONE Grant if awarded both. An artist may not accept money from BRIO and Arts Fund because both grants are funded through the same source. Eligible applicants CAN receive money from BRIO, New Work, and Community Arts in the same year.*