

MEDIA ADVISORY: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FRACC Announces New Grant Program and Opportunities for Fall River

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(FALL RIVER, MA – January 3, 2023) – The Fall River Arts & Culture Coalition (FRACC) is proud to introduce a new grant program to support and fund Fall River's creative sector. The Ignition Fund is a pilot grant program that brings a multifaceted approach to advancing the City's creative economic recovery and accelerated growth from the pandemic to "build back better".

Artists and culture bearers can now apply for the grant and register for free technical assistance workshops led by professional artists and creative entrepreneurs. This program targets underserved artists who have historically not been eligible or able to secure grant funds on their own.

The Ignition Fund grant application is available today at thefracc.org. The eligibility application deadline is before 11:59 PM on January 20, 2023. FRACC will be hosting in-person and zoom information sessions:

- Evening Information Session: January 10th at 6 PM – Virtual – [Register to attend](#)
- Daytime Information Session: January 13th at 12 PM – In person at Groundwork, 2 Bank St, Fall River – [Register to attend](#)
- Morning Information Session: January 14th at 9 AM – Virtual – [Register to attend](#) OR in person viewing option available at 90 Pond St, Fall River – text 401-225-6273 to join!

FRACC's Ignition Fund will train and uplift ten artists with \$2,500 awards. The artists will divide the award amongst working capital and implement a proposed placemaking/placekeeping project as they see fit, with the restriction that no more than thirty percent may go to the project. This grant's cash award encourages recipients to be entrepreneurial.

FRACC seeks to broaden and diversify the range of persons benefiting from grant programs. To that end, it will seek to attract and provide funding under this program to persons that may not have been or had a fair opportunity to be beneficiaries of local or state programs. Eligibility of the applicants will be based on their negative financial circumstances caused by the pandemic and their readiness to benefit from the opportunity.

In collaboration with Practice Best Practice, The Ignition Fund will deliver technical assistance through four free virtual workshops led by professional artists and creative entrepreneurs, and registration is open to all. These workshops will address the current needs of artists recovering from the ongoing pandemic and inform placemaking projects - including project planning, grant writing, marketing, and handling taxes/grants. Enrollment is now open online. Visit thefracc.org for more info or to sign up.

Facilitated by FRACC, a committee of the One SouthCoast Chamber, and the Bristol County Chamber Foundation (501c3) is the fiscal agent for the Coalition; funding has been provided by

the TDI Creative Catalyst Grant Program administered by MassDevelopment. This program reflects the goals from the 30-year Fall River City Plan done more than 8 years ago and puts into action the City's first-ever strategic arts and culture plan called the Viva Arts & Culture Creative Economy Plan, which FRACC is tasked with implementing. The Ignition Fund addresses three of each Plans' major goals by developing and enhancing Fall River as a tourist destination with an emphasis on the arts, culture, and history; continuing to improve the physical appearance of Fall River, particularly visitors' first impressions including its entrances, historic downtown and Government Center area.; strengthening and improving the capacity of historical, arts and cultural institutions and organizations in the city; supporting and growing a vibrant creative economy, supporting the creation of publicly accessible art across the City; and creating long-term, sustainable support and infrastructure for arts, culture, and the visitor economy.

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