



**NYC Fund for Girls and Young Women of Color
Grant Guidelines
FALL 2017**

PLEASE READ THESE GUIDELINES CAREFULLY TO DETERMINE WHETHER TO APPLY

APPLICATION PROCESS & TIMETABLE

<p>Letter of Inquiry</p> <p>A template is provided and must be completed and sent via email to: FundGYWC@nywf.org.</p>	<p>Must be received before <u>Monday, June 19, 2017 at noon</u></p>
<p>Notification of Status</p> <p>If your Letter of Inquiry is selected to advance to the full application stage, you will receive further instructions for submitting a full application. Only organizations invited to submit full proposals will be considered for a grant award.</p> <p>Submissions will be reviewed on a rolling basis, but a final determination will be made no later than Monday, June 26th.</p>	<p>By Monday, June 26th</p>
<p>Full Proposals Due</p> <p>Groups invited to submit full proposals will have a limited amount of time to complete their applications, so please account for this in order to submit a timely full application. Only organizations that are invited to submit full applications will be reviewed and only those whose applications are received by the deadline will be reviewed.</p>	<p>Must be received before <u>Monday, July 17th at noon</u></p>
<p>Site Visits</p> <p>A limited number of organizations submitting full applications will result in a Fall site visit and a limited number of site visits will result in a grant award.</p>	<p>Site visits will be held during the weeks of September 25, October 2, and October 10th. Specific days will be scheduled in September.</p>
<p>Grant Period</p>	<p>Jan. 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018</p>

About The NYC Fund for Girls and Young Women of Color:

The NYC Fund for Girls and Young Women of Color is a collaboration of a diverse and growing group of funders coming together to expand philanthropic investment for young women of color in NYC and indigenous young women in the surrounding Tri-State area. The first of its kind in the United States, The Fund envisions a

city that offers every opportunity for all girls and young women of color, inclusive of two-spirited, transgender and gender non-binary youth, to succeed economically and socially. It pools money to invest in non-profit efforts that promote the well-being and leadership of young women of color as change agents, and partners with communities and other allies to advance equity. Managed and housed at The New York Women's Foundation, The Fund's goal is to shift philanthropic practices by increasing sustained investments for girls and young women of color and sharing knowledge on effective strategies and approaches to:

- Grow and sustain resourced organizations led by/for young women of color in NYC toward long term generational shifts
- Advance life outcomes of girls and young women for successive generations through structural change efforts while also addressing individual immediate harms and historical trauma

About Girls & Young Women of Color in NYC:

According to the 2010 census, New York City is home to approximately 800,000 girls and young women, ages 9-24.¹ Nearly 75% in that group are girls of color (Black, Asian, Latina, and Native American). Nearly 40% are immigrants or the daughters of immigrants.² And a significant segment lives in absolute or near poverty, without yet accounting for undocumented residents. Subject to multiple systems of public scrutiny that punish rather than support, these girls and young women often face cumulative disadvantages, inheriting multiple and compounded generations of harm. The New York Women's Foundation's *Blueprint for Investing in Girls and Young Women*, reports that more than 40% of NYC's low-income Black and Latina girls are not provided with the support they need to finish high school³ and Black girls are 10 times more likely to be suspended than their white peers in the city's public schools.⁴

Among the most vulnerable are young transgender women of color. Epic advancement in LGBTQ rights have also come with the highest murder rate of transgender and gender non-binary people in recorded history along with recent backlash such as bathroom legislation eliminating anti-discrimination protection for LGBTQ individuals. The National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs' 2014 report on hate violence documents multi-year trends of anti-LGBTQ hate violence disproportionately impacting transgender women for whom the average life expectancy is under 35.

Our success as a vibrant, participatory and just democracy hinges on how we invest in the future of all girls and young women of color (cisgender and transgender alike). The focus is on girls and young women of color (ages 12- 24, particularly from low- and moderate income families) including those who identify as African American, Afro-Caribbean, Afro-Latina, Latina, Asian American/Pacific Islanders (AAPI), Arab, Middle-Eastern, Muslim, South Asian (AMEMSA), First Nations Native American, multi-racial, immigrants from developing countries; as well as female-identified two-spirited, transgender, intersex, queer and gender non-binary youth). It is time to make girls and young women of color a bold philanthropic priority in New York City.

The Current Context & Opportunity

¹ See Citizens Committee for Children New York: <http://data.cccnewyork.org/data/map/98/child-population#10/16/1/16/14/a>

² See: *ibid*: <http://data.cccnewyork.org/data/map/98/child-population#11/17/2/18/14/a>

³ Kemple, James J.; *The Condition of New York City High Schools: Examining Trends and Looking Towards the Future*; Research Alliance for New York City Schools; NYU Steinhardt; March, 2013; http://steinhardt.nyu.edu/research_alliance/publications/condition_of_nyc_hs; and Shih, Howard and Peiyi Xu; *The State of Asian American Children*; Asian American Federation; NYC, 2014.

⁴ Columbia University, Center for Internationality and Social Policy Studies and African American Policy Forum, *Black Girls Matter: Pushed Out, Overpoliced and Underprotected*, NYC, 2015.

The new federal administration is pursuing sweeping policy changes from immigration, health care, anti-violence, law enforcement, climate change, religion, economy, digital technology/internet access, just to name a few. Any single area has significant impact, and when taken in totality, this policy firestorm halts social progress in cruel ways and fundamentally threatens democracy, with its consequences falling heaviest on young women of color making their way to adulthood.

Through it all, there are also important opportunities to be seized. Leadership of girls and young women of color is essential to achieve long term economic and social equity. We aim to build positive change in self and societal perception of girls and young women of color reflected through cultural narratives and echoed in social/mainstream media. We seek game-changing proposals that dig deeper at the roots of systemic inequities with young women at the helm, telling their own stories and leveraging current and future generations of leadership toward social transformation. Projects may address any number of single or overlapping issue areas through emerging or practiced approaches in supporting and advancing the full power of girls and young women on their own terms and in their own voices. We seek to build the collective power of girls and young women of color for social transformation, creating new opportunities for participation in social, political, and economic decision-making. We move forward with the commitment to the current and future generations of girls and young women in New York City, a pivotal hub to the nation and the world.

Funding Priorities/Selection Criteria:

These funding guidelines should not be viewed simply as a funding opportunity. The Fund works to leverage this collaboration of a diverse and growing group of funders to achieve different results from what we can do individually within our respective funding institutions. Our efforts build visible momentum centered on the collective influence of young women of color. As the Fund continues to grow and evolve, we want to partner with organizations not just to do great work in the short term, but to also be active participants in a vibrant democracy. We seek a networked ecosystem of forward-looking organizations to yield a leadership legacy of long-term broad-based change.

The Fund prioritizes organizations that:

- Are located in and working in the Bronx, Staten Island, or in First Nations within the nearby tri-state region.
- Are led by and for young women of color as active, consistent, visible, and compensated participants at all levels of organizational involvement, not just within the proposed project
- Advance the collective leadership of young women of color toward broad based change around pivotal areas while addressing individual immediate harms and historical trauma
- Use a gender/race/economic justice lens in programmatic work and organizational practices
- Have less access to funding opportunities
- Are committed to building a leadership pipeline of young women, trans, and gender non-binary youth of color, working collaboratively with other organizations as part of a networked ecosystem for change

Strategy Priorities:

Priority will be given to:

- Advocacy, community organizing, and participatory research approaches to broad based change (e.g. policy, institutional practices, etc.) and long term active participation in community and civic life.
- Approaches to amplify narratives centered on young women of color and their communities through social media, arts activism, or other communications strategies

Funding Priorities:

Advancing NYC Council's Young Women's Initiative (YWI) related recommendations, particularly in the areas of:

- Reproductive Justice, fortifying a full range of affordable, quality, and self-determined health care options for young women and transgender/non-binary youth of color in community settings and government operated or regulated youth facilities
- Education and School Safety, including restorative justice approaches, support for pregnant or parenting students, expanded college access
- Anti-violence and criminal justice advocacy, including summons reform, protection of immigrant women
- Gender equity within and across city agencies

Learning and Evaluation:

The Fund is interested in evolving best practices that promote the collective well-being and leadership of young women of color as lifelong civic participants for advancing equity and democracy. Through a networked ecosystem of complementary organizations, we seek to learn how these collective efforts add up to more than the sum of its individual parts for greater long-term impact. A priority for The Fund and its grantees is to create a space to reflect, learn and evaluate its work so that both The Fund and its partners can become effective in achieving its goals. The evaluation and learning component of this initiative will go hand in hand with its grantmaking. This will provide The Fund an opportunity to better understand how it is engaging in its work and how to help its grantee partners get better results.

Grant Awards:

We anticipate awarding approximately \$2.5M for new and returning applicants in this cycle. Grant amounts will vary within the general range of \$40,000 - \$100,000, although some grants may fall outside of that range under certain circumstances. A limited number of new applications will result in a grant and a limited number of grants will be awarded at higher amounts. The Fund does NOT provide support for:

- Campaigns to elect candidates to public office
- Capital fund projects or endowments
- Fundraising events
- Individuals
- Organizations that do not comply with federal, state, or local equal employment statutes
- Organizations that promote religious activities or agendas
- Public or private schools, colleges or universities
- Real estate purchases
- Scholarships
- Summer-only programs.

Grant awards will cover the period January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018.

How to Apply:

Please review our funding guidelines carefully in deciding whether to apply. Multiple applications from the same organization will not be accepted. If you feel that your proposed activity closely matches the funding priorities and criteria outlined, the first step is to complete the Letter of Inquiry Form provided. A limited number of applicants will then be invited to the full application stage. If your organization advances to the full application stage, you will receive further instructions for completing the process. Please note that a limited number of organizations submitting full applications will result in a Fall site visit and a limited number of site visits will result in a grant award.

If you have any questions regarding these dates or the guidelines below, please email FundGYWC@nywf.org.