

You are here > Home **Livable Communities Capacity Grant Program**



News

Home

Services

About Urban Council

Urban Council Board

Links

Livable Communities Capacity Grant Program

Grant Application

Livable Communities Capacity Grant Program

We Live NY Announces Round 2 Grant Awards and Third Round of Funding Availability *Six Organizations Receive Support for Projects Designed to Enhance Their Communities*

SYRACUSE, NY – Announcements were made today in the second round of grant awardees for the We Live NY (WLNY) Livable Communities Capacity Grant Program, which is a matching grant program funded by Empire State Development Corporation (ESD) and administered through the New York State Urban Council (NYSUC). This unique partnership was formed as a way to engage young professionals in urban revitalization activities and to encourage partnerships between downtown and young professional organizations.

The Livable Communities Capacity Grant Program provides matching funds to organizations and projects that are committed to developing, attracting, and retaining young talent in New York while at the same time working to foster a vibrant downtown environment. We Live NY announced the following second round awardees for this program:

- **Ignite Auburn** – For their Ignite the Vote Campaign
- **Southern Tier Young Professionals** – For their Curb Appeal and Maintenance Project
- **Young Professionals of the Hudson Valley** – For their “Request the Energy – Christmas in August” project
- **Northside Urban Partnership** – For the Uptown Street Fair
- **Tompkins Connect** – For their Downtown Mural Project
- **40 Below: Public Arts Task Force** -- For their ArtErie project

We Live NY also announced Round 3 of the Livable Communities Capacity Grant Program. Applications for Round 3 of funding are due by the close of business on Friday, October 14th.

"We are continuously impressed by the creativity and commitment to progress expressed by young professional groups in communities across the state," said Jeremy Cooney, chair, We Live NY. "Round two funding for this grant will extend We Live NY's support of projects that are conceived, planned, and implemented by young professionals who are directly engaged in making their communities better places to live."

For more information and a copy of the grant application, please visit the New York State Urban Council's website at www.nysurbancouncil.com.

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About We Live NY

We Live NY (WLNY) is a coalition of emerging leaders, representing diverse backgrounds, dedicated to improving quality of life in New York State and promoting New York as an attractive place to live, work and learn. WLNY serves as a convener of young professional organizations across the State, collaborating to provide a statewide voice among young professionals; create a culture that fosters innovation among different geographic regions through communication and strategic partnerships; and addresses issues of importance to the emerging leader community.

About Empire State Development

Empire State Development is New York's chief economic development agency and administrator of the statewide business resource portal New York First (www.NYfirst.NY.gov). ESD is committed to being recognized on a global scale as the economic development engine driving job growth, strategic investment and prosperity in New York State. ESD is intent on paving the way for New York State to become the leader of the innovation economy and one of the most business friendly, productive and competitive economic development climates in the world. ESD also oversees the marketing of "I LOVE NY," the State's iconic tourism brand. For more information on Empire State Development, visit www.esd.ny.gov.

About the New York State Urban Council

The New York State Urban Council is a statewide not-for-profit organization created to facilitate and encourage the revitalization and development of central business districts in cities, towns and villages across New York State. With assistance from the Empire State Development Corporation, the New York State Urban Council was created in 1991 as a unique forum for downtown practitioners and economic development professionals. Today, its membership has grown into an organization of more than 400 members, representing those who are directly involved in the revitalization of communities and downtowns throughout the state. For more information on the New York State Urban Council, Visit www.nysurbancouncil.com



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