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TWELVE NEW YORK CITY NONPROFITS MAKE SHORT LIST FOR IMPACT 100 NYC INNOVATION GRANTS

Women's Philanthropic Giving Circle to Conduct Site Visits in Next Round of Selection Process to Bestow \$214,000 in Grants

NEW YORK, NY – March 7, 2022 – [Impact 100 NYC](https://www.impact100nyc.org/) announced 12 New York City nonprofits are moving on to the next round in its annual awarding of grants to organizations helping residents and communities across the five boroughs thrive.

In its mission to make a lasting impact through the power of collective grant-making and collaborative action, the all-women all-volunteer philanthropic giving circle aggregates individual donations into high-impact grants. This year, Impact 100 NYC will bestow \$214,000 in grants, selecting two of the 12 to receive Innovation Grants of at least \$100,000, double the number of grants from its inaugural year in 2021.

“In our second year, we continue to be overwhelmed by the number and caliber of organizations applying for our grants, and even more so by the work they do,” said Hope Buerkle, Impact 100 NYC Founding Board Member and Grants Committee Chair. “At the heart of the rigorous application process are proposals, either for new programs or projects or significant expansions of existing ones, with the powerful potential to transform these organizations and lives of New Yorkers.”

Member-comprised grant review committees (GRCs) determined the 12 shortlisted nonprofits for virtual or in-person site visits: **Brooklyn Children's Theatre, Children of Promise, Drama Club, Educational Video Center, Futures and Options, Hot Bread Kitchen, NY Sun Works, The Arthur Project, The ArtsConnection, Trail Blazer Camps, Writopia Lab, and You Gotta Believe!** Following the site visits, the GRCs whittle the list down to four finalists, which the entire membership votes on to select the two nonprofits to each receive a \$100,000 grant.

“It is evident from the applications,” says Buerkle “that these organizations face unprecedented demands for their services along with fundraising challenges. Our goal is to provide high-impact grants that reach underserved populations and meet unmet needs throughout the city; raise the profiles of deserving but lesser-known initiatives; and help organizations dream big.”

Additionally, Impact 100 NYC's newly-launched high school initiative, [nextgen](https://www.nextgen.org/), gives teens hands-on social impact experience. Modeled on Impact 100 NYC's collective approach to philanthropy, nextgen teen members are learning and practicing grant-making, fund-raising, taking part in community service, and meeting like-minded do-gooders from across the city. They intend to give a \$10,000 grant to their own set of applicants in May, 2022.

In its inaugural year, Impact 100 NYC, announced \$147,000 in grants in May 2021 to four New York City nonprofit organizations, awarding its first-ever Innovation Grant of \$102,000 to Fiver Children's Foundation, a comprehensive youth development organization that makes a 10-year commitment to children from underserved communities throughout New York City and central New York. Additionally, three finalists, George Jackson Academy, Reaching Out Community Services, and Youth Represent,

were recognized for meeting critical needs and providing vital services, and each awarded a \$15,000 general operating grant to help further their missions.

Complete information on [becoming a member](#) or [applying for grants](#), including eligibility criteria, key dates and FAQs, are located on the IMPACT 100 NYC website. Online submissions for 2023 grants will open in October 2022.

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About Impact 100 NYC

By harnessing the power of collective giving and collaborative action, Impact 100 NYC unites women across the five boroughs to fund transformative change that helps the people and communities of NYC overcome adversity and thrive. An all-volunteer organization, Impact 100 NYC empowers diverse women to be change-makers by working and giving together to transform NYC communities through lasting impact. By aggregating individual giving into high impact grants, we connect members to each other, to NYC nonprofits and the communities they serve. Together, through collaborative giving, decision-making and volunteering, we each become transformational forces in our own communities and in our own lives.

Founded in 2019, IMPACT 100 NYC is a 501(C)(3) charitable women's giving circle dedicated to awarding high-impact grants totaling \$100,000 or more to at least one nonprofit in the five boroughs of New York City. Impact 100 NYC is a chapter of Impact100, a global organization with 60 chapters in more than 60 cities and four countries. By the end of 2021, Impact100 will have collectively granted more than \$100 million dollars during its first 20 years.

About the Shortlisted Nonprofits

Brooklyn Children's Theatre, Gowanus, Brooklyn; Serving Brooklyn

Through the arts, we have the potential to empower and uplift those who are often unheard and neglected. Our mission at the Brooklyn Children's Theatre is to bring together children from diverse backgrounds to learn and grow through the collaborative art of musical theatre. We envision a world where all children--including NYC's most vulnerable and under-served communities--have access to the arts and opportunities to discover and hone their talents.

Children of Promise, Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn; Serving Bronx and Brooklyn

Children of Promise supports children and families impacted by parental incarceration. Our mission is to reimagine a just society that values the purpose of every child impacted by mass incarceration and removes barriers to create opportunities for children to thrive and achieve their human potential.

CPNYC is a community-centered nonprofit that partners with children and families impacted by mass incarceration to dismantle the stigma and heal from the trauma plaguing Black and Brown communities.

Drama Club, Jackson Heights, Queens; Serving Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens

Drama Club's mission is to consistently care for youth—especially those who are incarcerated or court involved—by creating space for them to thrive using improv as their guide. Drama Club is committed to providing New York City's most vulnerable and overlooked youth the opportunity to be seen and heard, laugh, play, and to cultivate life skills via mentorship, community building, theatre-making, and performance opportunities. We believe in Love, Respect, Consistency, Creativity, "Yes...and."

Educational Video Center, Soho, Manhattan; Serving Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens, Staten Island

Educational Video Center (EVC) is a youth media arts organization dedicated to teaching social justice documentary video as a means to develop the artistic, critical literacy, and career skills of young people, while nurturing their idealism and commitment to social change. EVC works with middle and high schools across NYC, providing young people from historically excluded communities with the tools they need to create artful and impactful social justice documentary films, interactive websites, and other media projects, using state-of-the-art technology. EVC also works with teachers and youth workers to train them in EVC's culturally responsive pedagogy, providing them with the skills and coaching they need to bring media arts instruction to struggling students.

Futures and Options, FiDi, Manhattan; Serving Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens, Staten Island

Futures and Options empowers New York City's youth, particularly youth of color and students from historically underrepresented communities, to acquire transferable professional skills, pursue higher education, and successfully compete in a global 21st century economy. We collaborate with New York City employers to provide transformative career development opportunities to young people, enabling them to succeed in college and inspiring them to pursue meaningful careers.

Hot Bread Kitchen, Chelsea, Manhattan; Serving Brooklyn, Manhattan

Hot Bread Kitchen's mission is to create economic mobility for people impacted by gender, racial, and socioeconomic inequality in New York City. We seek to expand job skills, entrepreneurship, connections, and life-changing opportunities for immigrant women and women of color and provide multi-faceted, holistic, human-centered support to assist our members (i.e. program participants) in reaching their economic goals. Our model emphasizes meeting people where they are and supporting them in building up the skills, knowledge, resources and self-efficacy to grow and thrive. From our roots in the food industry, we have provided opportunities for members to enter a high-growth sector as bakers, prep cooks, facility managers, and small business owners.

NY Sun Works, Upper West Side, Manhattan; Serving Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens, Staten Island

At NY Sun Works, we believe a more sustainable tomorrow starts in the classroom today. Through the hydroponic farm-classrooms we build in city schools, along with our Discovering Sustainability Science K-12th grade curriculum, we provide a year-round, hands-on, and project-based sustainability science education through the lens of urban farming. We are dedicated to bringing inclusive, high-quality education to the communities where it's most needed and envision a generation of environmental innovators, empowered to create solutions to 21st-century global resource challenges.

The Arthur Project, Midtown East, Manhattan; Serving Bronx, Brooklyn

To create a replicable model that professionalizes traditional mentoring by using clinically-focused mentors to work intensively with youth throughout middle school. Through the science of relationship-based learning, we foster a profound sense of mattering that expands opportunities in the lives of children.

The ArtsConnection, Midtown, Manhattan; Serving Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens, Staten Island

To address the educational challenges of the 21st-century, ArtsConnection's research-based arts programs create socially just learning environments. Our programs support literacy, communication, creativity, collaboration and critical thinking. ArtsConnection's partnerships include and strengthen the diverse voices of NYC's children and youth, cultivating their arts and academic skills for success in a changing world.

Trail Blazers Camp, Prospect Lefferts Gardens, Brooklyn; Serving Brooklyn

Through our portfolio of nature-based programs, Trail Blazers helps young people to learn, grow, and thrive. Our time-tested, research-based, and outcome-informed methodology uniquely integrates social-emotional development with environmental stewardship to help youth step into the world equipped with essential skills and values, our "Four Pillars", which are proven to help them thrive and succeed: Care for Self; Care for Others; Care for Community; Care for Environment.

You Gotta Believe! Coney Island, Brooklyn; Serving Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens

You Gotta Believe! exists for one reason: to work toward the day when no one leaves foster care without a family. We ensure that NYC's most vulnerable youth do not fall through the cracks by aging out alone, because being alone is unhealthy. We use the power of credible messengers and peer-to-peer engagement – former foster youth and adoptive parents of foster youth – to connect youth in foster care to permanent and adoptive families. We do this to provide youth with a disruptive solution to end the cycle of abuse and to provide them with the lifelong system of love and support healthy families provide.

Writopia Lab, Upper West Side, Manhattan; Serving Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens

Writopia Lab fosters joy, literacy, and critical thinking in children and teens from all backgrounds through creative writing. This mission is rooted in our belief that celebrating and sharing stories contributes to the building of stronger, more empathetic young people and societies. In our quest to bring youths together from all walks of life, we dismantle historic barriers to after school specialty programs by utilizing a no-questions-asked, honor-based sliding scale fee platform; we have never turned away a family due to an inability to pay tuition.