



Over the past five months, **Cullen Foundation** implemented its newest “**Sector Initiative**” for performing arts grantees in partnership with **New York Council on Nonprofits, Inc. (NYCON)** through a series of customized workshops to address the most frequently cited governance and financial challenges facing the local sector.

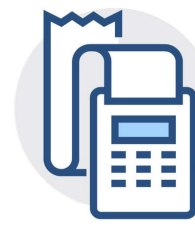
Featured topics were based on Cullen grantees’ input on priority needs as informed by grant applications, site visits, and a Q1 2023 survey.



Designed for both staff and Board members, the **six (6) free workshops** were offered exclusively to **41** current and recent performing arts grantees.



Four (4) governance workshops focused on the duties and responsibilities of nonprofit boards, recruiting and retaining a motivated board, and how to be an effective board officer.



Two (2) financial workshops focused on financial resiliency, improving accounting practices, and financial infrastructure assessment.

Thank you to the **57** individuals representing **25** grantee organizations who invested their time and energy toward growing their expertise in these vital governance and financial topics.

25 Participating Grantee Organizations:

- Alleyway Theatre
- Artpark
- Buffalo Opera Unlimited
- Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus
- Buffalo String Works
- Burchfield Penney Art Center
- Colored Musicians Club of Buffalo NY Inc.
- D’Youville Kavinoky Theatre
- Hispanic Heritage Council of Western New York, Inc.
- Irish Classical Theatre Company
- Kenan Center
- Lancaster Opera House
- MusicalFare Theatre
- Neglia Ballet
- Nusantara Arts
- Opera-Lytes
- Second Generation Theatre Company
- Shakespeare in Delaware Park
- Shea’s Performing Arts Center
- Springville Center for the Arts
- Theatre of Youth
- Torn Space Theater
- Ujima Theatre Company Inc.
- Vocalis Chamber Choir
- West Falls Center for the Arts



Organizations that attended at least 3 sessions (3 different session topics):	Organizations that attended at least 4 sessions (4 different session topics):	Organizations that attended all sessions (all 6 session topics):
Hispanic Heritage Council of WNY D’Youville Kavinoky Theatre Lancaster Opera House Ujima Theatre Company Vocalis Chamber Choir	Buffalo Opera Unlimited Irish Classical Theatre Company Shakespeare in Delaware Park Springville Center for the Arts	Nusantara Arts Second Generation Theatre Company Inc. Torn Space Theatre

Many thanks to our partners at **NYCON** for creating and delivering the thought-provoking, interactive trainings, right here in Western New York:

Susan Weinrich
Senior Vice President for Nonprofit Capacity Building

Barbara Paxton
Director of BoardStrong

Kelly Mathews
Chief Operating Officer and Senior Vice President for the Financial Management Group

We plan to build-off this sector-building initiative with additional capacity-building trainings and are open to your suggestions on future topics.

Provide your feedback by emailing Nick Schifano, Grants Manager, at nschifano@thecullenfoundation.org