



NYS Canal Corporation and Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor

News Release

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Grants Support NYS Canal System Tourism Infrastructure, Visitor Amenities, and Events

WATERFORD, NY- The Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor and the New York State Canal Corporation, through the *Reimagine the Canals* initiative, are pleased to announce that **38 non-profit organizations and municipalities** will receive grants in 2022 totaling \$259,300. The grants will support 11 tourism infrastructure and amenity improvements and 27 events along the NYS Canal System.

The grants range **from \$500 to \$24,000** and will leverage an estimated \$1.2 million in additional support.

Canal Corporation Director Brian U. Stratton said, “*Reimagine the Canals* is an initiative built on showcasing the New York State Canal System’s grandeur through a 21st Century lens. With these grants, community organizations and local municipalities will be afforded the opportunity to contribute to the revitalization of the canalway, enhancing the programs and infrastructure that attract guests to this landmark each year. We look forward to supporting the awardees of these grants and the continuous improvement of this historic piece of New York State’s legacy.”

“Combining federal, state, and local resources in support of community-based projects and events will benefit residents and visitors to New York’s iconic canals. We look forward to working with grantees to bring these innovative projects and exciting events to fruition,” said **Bob Radliff, Executive Director of the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor.**

Infrastructure funding support is intended to facilitate recreation and tourism by improving the visitor experience. Projects include new docks and rest areas, park improvements, and additional signage.

Event support will contribute to a lively season of activities, from large canal festivals to bike tours to arts and cultural offerings. Events are aimed at attracting diverse audiences, celebrating canal heritage, and showcasing the canal's recreational opportunities.

[SEE ATTACHED FOR A FULL LIST OF GRANT RECIPIENTS.](#)

ABOUT NEW YORK STATE CANAL CORPORATION

The **New York State Canal Corporation**, a subsidiary of the New York Power Authority, oversees the operation and promotion of the New York State Canal System. The Canal Corporation's mission is to operate and maintain a premier waterway and trail system that honors the historic legacy of the Erie Canal and offers unique recreational and tourism opportunities, while also promoting sustainable economic development throughout the canal corridor. For more information on the New York State Canal System and the Canal Corporation, please visit www.canals.ny.gov.

ABOUT THE ERIE CANALWAY NATIONAL HERITAGE CORRIDOR

Nearly 200 years after its construction, the Erie Canal remains an iconic symbol of American ingenuity and determination. The Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor works to preserve the Nation's extraordinary canal heritage, promote the Corridor as a world-class tourism destination, and foster vibrant communities connected by more than 500 miles of waterway. It achieves its mission in partnership with the National Park Service, New York State agencies, non-profit organizations, local residents, and more than 200 communities across the full expanse of upstate New York.

www.eriecanalway.org

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Attached:

Grant award list

Photo: Cyclists on the waterfront at Little Falls Canal Harbor. (Courtesy Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor)