

New London Arts Council – NLAC

NLAC mission is to encourage & serve a vibrant, inclusive Arts Community.

Guiding Principles

- Create a unified voice for all artists within the New London City community.
- Create an open dialogue for communication and collaboration between artists, arts organizations/businesses, and the city.
- Facilitate a single point for information, provide equal access to opportunities for all local artists, develop initiatives which aid, support, highlight, and protect the New London Arts Community, and help to attract great artistic and creative talent to our City.

New London Arts Council structure:

Anyone in New London is welcome to participate on the New London Arts Council, NLAC. The NLAC structure includes the general Arts Community, seven Art Groups and an Arts Council. Members of the Arts Community join an Art Group which best aligns with their interests. There are seven groups; Visual Arts, Performance Arts, Music Arts, Literary Arts, Small non-profit arts organizations, Large non-profit arts organizations and Arts businesses. Each Art Group selects a Councilor, a member to represent them on the Arts Council.

The Arts Council is the central body of the New London Arts Council. The Arts Council consists of ten Councilors: 7 voting Councilors from the New London Arts Community and 3 non-voting Councilors from other agencies.

Seven voting seats:

Visual Arts
Performance Arts
Music Arts
Literary Arts
Small non-profit arts organizations
Large non-profit arts organizations
Arts businesses

Non- voting seats:

City of New London Liaison – Sybil Tetteh
Southeastern Connecticut Cultural Coalition re Liaison -
Public Relations/Media representative – Eddie Long

Arts Council Responsibilities:

- Election of officers
 - Elect a Chair and Chair-elect in year one. Each fall thereafter elect a Chair-elect. Chair is a one year term with the Chair-elect becoming the next Chair. The Chair shall be the face of the NLAC and serve as spokesperson and liaison to City Council or other organizations as needed.
 - Chair-elect chosen each year. Chair-elect works closely with Chair to be groomed for Chair position as well as do the work required of the Councilors. Chair-elect will be chosen from a different group than the Chair.
 - Select a Secretary to serve a one year term. The Secretary need not be a Councilor. The Secretary will take minutes and work with Councilors and Chair to write agenda. Secretary will also take charge (for now) of data management until a better solution can be found. If the secretary is not a Councilor, the secretary will attend meetings without participating nor have a vote.
- Data Management
- Advance projects based on how they line up with the mission

Councilor Criteria:

- Be an active contributor to the New London Arts Community
- Be chosen by the members of their respective Art Group

Councilor Term Limits:

- Councilors will serve a two year term with half of the Council seats up for election each year. If there is no other volunteer within the Art Group to fill the seat, a Councilor may continue serving up to 4 years maximum.
- Elections will happen every year and be completed by the 3rd Tuesday of September.
- First election will replace half of the councilors and will be complete by Sept. 21, 2020

- A Councilor who wishes to step down during their term shall give a minimum 2 month notice.

Councilor Responsibilities:

- Organize and lead meetings of their Art Group as needed or requested by group members.
- Attend Arts Council meetings and report information from their Art Group.
- When unable to physically attend Arts Council meetings, arrange digital representation or select an informed representative to attend in their place.
- Outreach and form partnerships as needed to accomplish the work of the arts council.
- Non-voting Councilors serve as liaisons for the arts and a conduit between the Arts Council and their sending group. They are responsible for communication and sharing information between the two.

Conflict of Interests:

- A conflict of interest exists when there is a potential that an individual may obtain a direct or indirect financial benefit, or any other improper gain or advantage as a result of activities conducted on behalf of the New London Arts Council or when actions advance a person's interest or those of another rather than the interests of the New London Arts Council or when actions are adverse to the best interest of the New London Arts Council.
- Councilors will sign a conflict of interest policy agreement at the beginning of their term.

Calendar:

Arts Community

- There will be a bi-annual gathering of entire arts community in spring and fall for membership participation in annual planning.

Art Groups

- Members will meet in their art groups/committees to discuss needs, projects etc. Their Councilors will bring the information to the Arts Council for discussion.

Arts Council

- An Arts Council year is fall to fall.
- Arts Council meets once a month except December and July; dates and time determined by the seated Council.
- Arts Council meetings are open to the public for observation but not for public comment
- If the public wishes to address an issue, they must submit their topic in writing to the Council or their rep to be added to the next agenda.