

NEWARK ARTS

# NEWARK ARTS FESTIVAL 2025

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October 8-12, 2025  
INFO SESSION



# ◆ NAF2025: Oct 8th –12th

Founded by Newark Arts in 2001 as Open Doors, the Newark Arts Festival (NAF) is a citywide arts and culture festival that highlights the extraordinarily diverse talent of visual and performing artists in Newark and beyond, promotes vital partnerships, fosters community engagement and development, nurtures health and wellbeing, and prioritizes belonging for all Newarkers.

## NAF's MISSION:

- Provide a platform that fosters collaboration between artists, Newark-based institutions, and businesses
- Facilitate opportunities for artistic expression of all mediums while offering corporate partners valuable engagement with the Newark community
- **Contribute to the continued transformation of Newark into a welcoming, safe and vibrant city for artists, residents and visitors.**







# 2025 Theme: Joy

As Newark's signature cultural event, the Newark Arts Festival (NAF) brings together thousands of artists, innovators, and attendees from across the region to explore the power of art to heal, connect, and ignite new possibilities.

Through dynamic exhibitions, performances, panels, and public art, we center JOY as a revolutionary act — the golden thread that ties us to our shared humanity. For sponsors, this is more than a moment — it's a movement. Join us in championing joy, creativity, and culture at one of the nation's most exciting arts destinations.

Festival **Agenda**



10/8

THE GOLD BALL

10/9

NAF EVENTS, RECEPTIONS & HAPPENINGS

10/10

NAF'S ART NIGHT OUT

10/11

NAF KIDS  
AN EVENING WITH ...?

10/12

OPEN DOORS STUDIO TOUR





# Take a Sneak Peak at some NAF2025 programming



The Gold Ball - Inspired by last years Pink Ball, the Gold Ball will mark the opening of NAF2025 at Newark Museum of Art as we celebrate our communities golden state of creativity and resilience.



FOR THE FELLAS: A Brand new solo exhibition at Newark Arts' new gallery and gathering space located in Vermella Broad with a focus on Men who love the arts.



Art Night Out transforms Friday evening into an exploration of the most electrifying galleries, groundbreaking exhibitions, vibrant murals, and unexpected artistic havens. Prepare to see the city's visual arts scene in an exciting new way.



Our An Evening With series offers an exclusive, up-close experience with a GRAMMY nominated music artist—an intimate conversation and concert designed to uplift, inspire, and fill our hearts and ears with pure joy.



Curated Events throughout the city that offer safe and interactive spaces to build community and explore culture



Other programming that including kids programming, dance, community events and experimental art.





# NAF2025 Open Calls

Four open calls for Newark Arts Festival 2025 participation are now available on Submittable. Each call targets specific applicants (see breakdown below). Apply to the most relevant call; misdirected applications will be automatically routed to the appropriate team. **Apply now!**

## OPEN CALLS:

- **Visual Art:** Individual visual artists.
- **Performing Arts:** Individual artists or small arts collectives.
- **Performances & Programming:** Large performing arts collectives, ensembles, programs, events, panels, films, etc.
- **Open Space:** Owners/managers of free spaces in the greater Newark area willing to host NAF activities (no fee to apply). Please share this call with relevant spaces.





# Submittable Simplified

Submittable is the platform Newark Arts uses for managing Open Calls. Here are a few tips for navigating the platform.

- Once you create your account, save the login credentials for easy access.
- Present Your Materials Clearly and Professionally: Think of your application as your introduction. Ensure all your submitted documents are well-organized, easy to read, and free of errors (typos, grammatical mistakes). Ensure your samples are presented in the best possible light. A polished and professional presentation demonstrates your attention to detail and respect for the opportunity.
- Read Instructions Meticulously: This might seem obvious, but it's where many applicants stumble. Pay incredibly close attention to every detail in the call for submissions and within the application form itself.
- Reach out at [festival@newarkarts.org](mailto:festival@newarkarts.org) with questions or concerns.



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**VISUAL ART – ADRIENNE**

**PROGRAMMING – DELILAH**

**PERFORMING ARTS – DARYL**

**OPEN SPACES, ETC. – CHEYENNE**

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**VISUAL ART – ADRIENNE**



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**PROGRAMMING &  
PERFORMANCES – DELILAH**



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**PERFORMING ARTS – DARYL**  
**AUDITIONS**  
**EPK/SUBMITTABLE**



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**OPEN SPACES – CHEYENNE**



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# NAF2025 Festival Acceptance Day

**All accepted Festival Event Producers and Participants are required to attend a brief virtual or in-person onboarding event.** This is your chance to connect, ask questions in real-time, and get all the information you need for a smooth festival experience and to meet other festival participants. We'll cover everything from submitting your promo photos and agreements to understanding required documentation. There will be at least two options for dates and times to choose from in August.

Thank you for your interest in applying to the Newark Arts Festival 2025 (NAF2025). We are pleased to receive and review your applications. Notwithstanding the shifts in our world and within the festival itself, our core objective remains the same: to provide every possible opportunity to highlight the transformative power of the arts in changing lives. We deeply appreciate your collaboration in this important mission. Should you have any questions, comments, or inquiries, please do not hesitate to contact us at [festival@newarkartsfestival.org](mailto:festival@newarkartsfestival.org).

**THANK YOU**