



**Council on
the Arts**



Rural and Traditional Arts Fellowship Application 2023

FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT IS MADE POSSIBLE WITH SUPPORT FROM THE NEW YORK STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS WITH SUPPORT FROM THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE AND THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE.

Application

Eligible applicants are individual artists that live and work in rural communities in New York State, are at least 18 years of age, and will complete the project in the rural community chosen and designated by them, in the 2023 calendar year. Please consult the Rural and Traditional Arts Fellowship Guidelines for more eligibility requirements. For further information, contact Linda Franke, ACWC Grants Coordinator, at (585) 237-3517 ext 102 or at franke@artswyco.org

Application Deadline: Monday, February 16, 2023. Application must be received at ACWC's office by 4 PM.

Artist: Angelica Palmer

Legal Mailing Address: PO Box 114

City: Cherry Valley State: NY Zip: 13320

Phone: 607-431-8422 Email: angelica@dzeli.com

NYS Assembly District #: 102 NYS Senate District #: 51 US Congressional District #: 21

Application Checklist:

1. Attend an application seminar or set up an appointment for a meeting with the ACWC Grant Coordinator - while this is not a requirement to apply, it is highly recommended
2. Complete the application form, narrative and timeline. Be sure to sign!
3. Update your resume or CV
4. Collect samples of previous work that supports your proposed project (5-10 images – photos or images, labeled, with separate title sheet; 7-10 pages of manuscripts; 5-10 examples or pages of poems; OR link to 3-5 minute presentations)
5. Show proof of residency with ONE of the following dated no earlier than 2 years prior to an application:
 - a. Telephone Bill
 - b. Credit card statement (first page only; social security and financial information should be blocked)
 - c. Current lease or mortgage agreement listing the artist's name and address
 - d. NYS Drivers License or ID card
 - e. Voter registration card
 - f. If you are working in a different community than the one you live in, contact Linda Franke for more information at franke@artswyco.org
6. Get a letter of endorsement or cooperation from proposed site and/or community involved in project if necessary
7. Include a stamped, self-addressed envelope for return of work if applicable
8. Submit your application and the accompanying materials to:

**Linda Franke, Grants Coordinator
Arts Council for Wyoming County
31 South Main Street
PO Box 249
Perry, NY 14530**

Or email to: franke@artswyco.org

Narrative:

Please answer the following questions sequentially, numbering the corresponding responses. If you must submit your application in hard copy format, your narrative should be no more than two single sided pages in size 12 font.

1. Give a description of your project – be as specific as you can be in the space allotted.
2. Describe how the community will be engaged in your project.
3. Budget for the project – all funds may be allocated as you see fit but must be listed in the budget section. Describe any other funding source here and how you anticipate the division of any funding you receive
4. Timeline of completion milestones

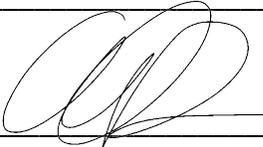
Timeline:

Include a timeline of completion milestones throughout the proposed project (for example: all interviews will be completed by May 31, 2023; all photos will be printed by October 15; 5 of 15 poems will be completed by April 10).

Applicant’s Signature and Date:

I certify that all statements made in this application are true to the best of my knowledge. I have read the guidelines of the Rural and Traditional Arts Fellowship Program and certify that this application complies with and is made subject to said guidelines. I certify that I reside in New York State and have done so for at least six months prior to the application deadline. I certify that I am at least 18 years of age. I acknowledge that the Arts Council for Wyoming County is not liable for damage or loss of materials submitted.

Name (print): Angelica Palmer

Signature:  _____

Date: February 7, 2023

Narrative:

1. Give a description of your project that is concise and clear and that addresses the following:

What will you be doing? Why did you choose this project for this community or place? What is the significance of this place for you? How will the community be involved?

My project is entitled The Cherry Valley Water Project: a year-long series of interviews and public workshops that will culminate in a community-sourced and community-performed evening of poetry, music, theater and puppetry. I will also create a detailed and creative map of the watershed and an online presence for the project through a website (<http://dzeli.com/cherryvalleywater/>) and social media posts ([#cherryvalleywater](https://twitter.com/cherryvalleywater)).

I was born and raised in the small village of Cherry Valley, NY with a population of about 500 people. I have lived in many places but I always knew I'd return to my hometown to raise my family. We lead a quiet life in a beautiful community with very clean air and water. It is this water that I am inspired to explore, learn from and help my community connect with. The Cherry Valley Creek, its tributaries and waterfalls, are the source of our drinking water and our well-being. As I watch water wreak havoc throughout the world through droughts, floods and tidal waves, I am so very grateful for our gentle creek. In time our creek could dry up or turn into a raging river and this makes it all the more important for our community to develop a relationship and deep knowledge of its ways.

Water is known as a conduit for emotions. There are many aspects of the water in our community that are ripe for exploration and full of creative inspiration. Some of the tributaries have been buried and do not appear on maps. Many local people don't know they're there or where they connect. Connecting with the water in its fullness will provide a guide by which we can connect to our own emotions and stories. Through creative workshops (poetry, music, theater and puppetry) offered by myself and other community members, we will create a body of work inspired by our water. We will assemble this work into an evening performance and an online presence to share our creative efforts with the rest of the community and the world.

The community will be involved at every step of the process. My sponsoring agency, the Cherry Valley Community Facilities Corporation ("The Old School") runs the community center and several arts programs and they are very excited about hosting this project. They are looking forward to supporting the project financially and structurally through community outreach, advising, being a liaison with the local government, and any electricity, sound or building needs I may have. I have already spoken with several local artists that are interested in leading workshops and contributing creatively to the project. I plan to draw material from interviews I will do with community members of a wide range of ages and backgrounds. The community will participate by attending the public workshops, by producing and performing in the final event and by attending the event. Cherry Valley is a small tight-knit community of artists, families,

Angelica Palmer - The Cherry Valley Water Project

farmers and retirees. I regularly engage the community in the events I offer and they have responded to the concept of this project with a lot of enthusiasm.

As a social practice artist and community builder, I have decades of experience creating works of music and dance and hosting events that support and inspire creativity and connection within my community. As a rural artist, I often feel alone in my profession. This grant is inspiring in its nature to support and connect rural artists. By its very existence, it acknowledges the value of my work and pushes me to grow.

2. Describe how you feel the community and/or place is represented in this project OR how you hope it will affect the community in which the program will be presented. We encourage you to be imaginative and creative here!

Cherry Valley is known for its natural beauty, historic heritage and vibrant arts community (<https://www.cherryvalley.com/about>). We have a long history of farming and as a place of retreat, as our resplendent nature creates a perfect respite from the hectic world. Yet the last twenty or so years have been hard for Cherry Valley. Our Main Street dried up, we became a food desert and except for a couple stalwart holdouts and the school, there were no places to gather and celebrate what makes our community unique. These have led to a quickly shrinking population and a general sense of barrenness and desperation.

This is the condition I found my home in when I moved back three years ago. So I drew on my background in the arts, community building and sustainable economic development and got to work actively rebuilding the heart of Cherry Valley as a Creative Placemaker. I founded a group called Rebirth Cherry Valley (now Businesses of Historic Cherry Valley) that has created multiple annual festivals that have brought the community together and reduced our empty storefronts from 90% to 10%. I also started a business called The Telegraph School (<https://www.thetelegraphschool.org>), which hosts many opportunities for creativity and community building.

We have come far in the last three years and have much to show for it. I am now ready to return to my role as a Social Practice Artist and engage the community through interactive creative projects with long-term impact. My hope is that through the Cherry Valley Water Project, my community will slow down and notice the beauty and vitality of their surroundings. By attending a workshop and sitting by the creek for an afternoon, slowly drafting a poem, they will feel less alone and more connected to nature. By building the courage to share that poem in front of an audience and online, they will grow more proud of themselves and their surroundings. Together we will bond in new ways, becoming vulnerable and resilient, all while developing a deep love for the flowing water that surrounds us all.

Budget

Income

\$10,000 – RTAF Project Funds
\$ 1,000 – RTAF Travel Funds
\$ 500 – CVCFC – Sponsoring Agency & grant source

\$11,500 TOTAL

Expenses

\$5,000 – Artist Fees – Angelica Palmer
- project coordination & outreach
- interviews
- movement workshop
- director & producer of final live show

\$3,000 – Artist Fees – others
- \$250 – writing workshop
- \$250 – song-writing workshop
- \$250 – puppet-building workshop
- \$500 – (2) sound bath / nature bathing workshops
- \$250 – children's watershed art workshop
- \$1,000 – photographer/videographer/documentation

\$1,000 Materials
- handheld video-camera/audio recorder
- puppet supplies
- set materials

\$500 Map Creation (supplies & labor)

\$1,000 Marketing
- flyers/posters/website/social media

\$1,000 Travel (to required workshops for the grant, to do the interviews & to pick up supplies)

\$ 11,500 TOTAL

Timeline:

Interviews & Watershed Mapping – April, May

Workshops – June, July, August

Assemble performance – September

Performance – Early October



Dzeli

Social Practice Artist / Community Builder / Dancer / Creative Placemaker / Animal



Search ...



ARTIST CV

Angelica Dzeli Palmer

Social Practice Artist / Community Builder / Dancer / Creative Placemaker / Animal

EDUCATION

[Non-Linear Movement Method Embodiment Teacher Certification](#), Michaela Boehm, 2020

[Journey of Young Women](#), Mentoring Girls Training, 2019

Experimental Performance Institute, New College of California, Master of Arts, focus in Social Activism, 2004

Cornell University, Bachelor of Science in Sustainable Economic Development, 2001

RECENT TEACHING / FACILITATING

Red Tents Women's Gathering, [The Telegraph School](#), Cherry Valley, NY, monthly March 2022 – current

Open Mic Community Performance Evening, [The Telegraph School](#), Cherry Valley, NY, monthly February 2022 – current

Stretching & Relaxation Classes, [The Telegraph School](#), Cherry Valley, NY, April 2022 – current

Keening Over The Bones Grief Ritual Workshop, [The Telegraph School](#), Cherry Valley, NY, \ October 2022

Improvisation Dance classes, [West Kortright Center](#), East Meredith, NY, June 2022

Ballroom Dance Classes, Cotillion, Cooperstown Central School, Cooperstown, NY, 2020-2022

Grief Ritual, A Time For Healing Retreat, [Helios Care](#), The Uplands Center, Walton, NY, October 2021

"The Flowing River, A Grief Ritual," [Institute of Spiritual Development Oneonta](#), Oneonta, NY, July 2021

"Mindfulness Through Motion Workshop" and Ecstatic Dance, Equinox Festival, Origins Cafe, Cooperstown, NY, September 2019

Grief Ritual, [The Art Garage](#), Cooperstown, NY, June 2019

"Meditation in Motion" Classes, [Clark Sports Center](#), Cooperstown, NY, 2018 -2019

Nourish Consent Workshops, Cooperstown, NY, 2018 – 2019

Parlor Nights, "An evening of fun, food, creativity and community", Cooperstown, NY, monthly 2018 – 2019

"Healing Rituals for Wild Animals," [Touch & Play Montreal](#), Montreal, Quebec, Canada, 2018

"Peeling the Onion: An introduction to Shadow through Authentic Movement and Contact Improv," [Stanley-Wade School of Dance](#), Oneonta, NY, 2018

"Growling, Climbing & Flying: Intro to Contact Improv for Littles and their Grownups, " [Stanley-Wade School of Dance](#), Oneonta, NY, 2018

Ritual, Bare Souls Retreat, Montreal, Canada, 2018

Contact Improv Dance Classes, Brookwood School, Cooperstown, NY, 2017

Contact Improv Dance Classes, Oneonta Art Gallery, Oneonta, NY, 2017

Community Clothes Swaps, Earth Festival, [Otsego County Conservation Association](#), Milford, NY 2014-2017

PERFORMANCES

Dancer for "Land Body Translation", Artistic Director Catherine Wright, [NYS Choreographers Initiative 2022](#)

"Unwilding," [Klinkhart Arts Center](#) Performing Arts Series, June 2021

Living Sculpture Interactive Installation, [Secret City Art Revival](#), Woodstock, NY, July 2019

Post-Nature Living Sculpture Interactive Installation, [The Art Garage](#), May 2019

"Unraveling: To Come Undone," [Secret City Art Revival](#), Woodstock, NY, July 2018

FUNDING / GRANTS / AWARDS

Guaranteed Income for Artists, [Creatives Rebuild New York](#), 2022-2023

CO-FOUNDED PROJECTS

[Wild Women Retreat](#), 2015 – present

Full Moon Women’s Circle, 2010 – present

[WillowGrove](#) – coming of age program for young women, 2019 – present

[Businesses of Historic Cherry Valley](#) (formerly Rebirth Cherry Valley), we host two annual festivals and monthly First Fridays, 2020 – present

[LocalMotive Sustainable Business Network](#), 2013 – 2016

BUSINESSES FOUNDED

[The Telegraph School](#), Home for the Healing & Performing Arts, 2022 – present

[Green Circle Consulting](#), Accounting and Sustainable Business practices consulting, 2004 – present

BOARD POSITIONS

Board Treasurer, Cherry Valley Community Facilities Corp, 2020 – present

Board Treasurer, [Earthdance](#), 2018 – 2019

Board member, [Cherry Valley Artworks](#), 2020 – 2022

PRESS

[“Can Cute Windows Resurrect a Depressed Town in Upstate New York?”](#) NY Times, January 2021

[“Volunteers bring rebirth to Cherry Valley”](#) The Daily Star, February 2021

[“Intentional Reemergence: dreaming the aftertime”](#) by Nicole Bindler in ThinkingDance.net, January 2021

Rural and Traditional Arts Fellowship Application

Angelica Palmer - The Cherry Valley Water Project

Samples of Previous Work



A still of me dancing in a music video filmed in Cherry Valley, NY. This was a project I collaborated on with my late sister, Vanessa Bley. She was an amazing musician and human and it gave us great pleasure to create beauty together, in the natural environment we grew up in.



A moment from the monthly First Friday Open Mic I've run since March 2022. It is a well-loved community event for all ages.



The title image for the Cherry Valley Water Project's website. Many of my photos of the beautiful natural waterways around my village are on the website and once the project begins, I'll add photos submitted by the community.



This is a photo of me from a workshop I led in Montreal, Quebec called "Healing Rituals for Wild Animals". It was part of the Montreal Touch & Play Festival.

Angelica Palmer - The Cherry Valley Water Project



The giant puppet "Gaia" that I built with the group Positive Action Cherry Valley. I led the construction & creative design. We won Best Community Group in the Springfield 4th of July Parade. She was in multiple parades and climate-action marches.



A belly dancing workshop I led for young women as part of the WillowGrove Coming of Age summer program that I started in 2020 with two collaborators.

Angelica Palmer - The Cherry Valley Water Project



The Wild Women Retreat is an annual gathering I founded and have run collaboratively since 2015. It is a weekend of workshops, music, dance, camping and potlucks focused on creating community and the divine feminine.



I enjoy creating beautiful spaces, whether they are the setting of a workshop or an interactive site-specific performance. The felt environment is a key piece of integrating all five senses. This image is from within a chill space at a dance party I hosted.

Angelica Palmer - The Cherry Valley Water Project



Supporting emotional release and somatic integration are key components of a weekly class I teach: Stretching and Relaxation. It gives me great pleasure to share my skills with my community so that together we can all be healthier.



A happy group of dancers following a Hagg Dancing workshop led by local artists that I hosted.



January 2023 Statement

Open Date: 12/09/2022 Closing Date: 01/10/2023

Account: [REDACTED]



Visa Signature® Bonus Rewards Card
ANGELICA PALMER

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New Balance	\$6.39
Minimum Payment Due	\$6.39
Payment Due Date	02/06/2023
Late Payment Warning: If we do not receive your minimum payment by the date listed above, you may have to pay up to a \$41.00 Late Fee.	

Reward Points	
Earned This Statement	8
Reward Center Balance as of 01/09/2023	284
For details, see your rewards summary.	

Activity Summary		
Previous Balance	+	\$227.12
Payments	-	\$227.12 ^{CR}
Other Credits		\$0.00
Purchases	+	\$6.24
Balance Transfers		\$0.00
Advances		\$0.00
Other Debits		\$0.00
Fees Charged	+	\$0.15
Interest Charged		\$0.00
New Balance	=	\$6.39
Past Due		\$0.00
Minimum Payment Due		\$6.39
Revolving Line of Credit		\$ [REDACTED]
Revolving Line Available		[REDACTED]
Days in Billing Period		33

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ANGELICA PALMER
PO BOX 114
CHERRY VALLEY NY 13320-0114



Automatic Payment

Account Number: [REDACTED]

Your new full balance of \$6.39 will be automatically deducted from your account on 02/01/23.

Project support letter

From **richard saba** <rwsaba@hotmail.com>
To **Angelica Gosiewska Palmer** <angelica@dzeli.com>
Sent Friday, January 27, 2023 at 12:30 PM
Replied **Yes**
Encrypted **No**
Signed **No**

Angelica,

I just read through your Water Project proposal and gladly lend my support:

For the past 38 years, after moving from NYC, I have resided in Cherry Valley. The Cherry Valley creek wends its way through the tapestry of the village like a thread tying together its disparate parts, as well as linking Cherry Valley with its neighboring towns before it flows into the Susquehanna River. Its poetry speaks to the joy of shared experience while connecting us to the timelessness of nature's rhythms.

The Cherry Valley Community Facility Corporation is an organization that 28 years ago took possession of and rehabilitated the former old school building. Its mission is to provide services and programs that will enrich the area. As chairperson of the corporation I can speak on behalf of our board members in lending our wholehearted support to Angelica Palmer's project. Through the vehicle of the arts her project, like the creek itself, will bring the community together in a meaningful and enlightening way. This project, coming at a time in our history when so much is being done to violently show what separates us, Ms. Palmer's project strikes me as urgently important.

Richard Saba

Re: Cherry Valley Water Project Timeline

From **richard saba** <rwsaba@hotmail.com>
To **Angelica Palmer** <angelica@dzeli.com>
Sent Monday, February 6, 2023 at 12:53 PM
Encrypted **No**
Signed **No**

Angelica,

The timeline for your Cherry Valley Water Project sounds realistic and good. Beginning in early spring, running through the summer, and concluding with the final performance in early autumn strikes me as perfect.

Looking forward to seeing it unfold.

Richard

From: Angelica Palmer <angelica@dzeli.com>
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2023 12:46 PM
To: rwsaba@hotmail.com <rwsaba@hotmail.com>
Subject: Cherry Valley Water Project Timeline

Hi Richard,

Another requirement for my application is that my sponsoring agency signs off on my timeline. Please let me know if you have any questions about my proposed timeline and/or if you think it is viable.

Interviews & Watershed Mapping – April, May

Workshops – June, July, August

Assemble performance – September

Performance – Early October

Thanks,
Angelica



February 1, 2023

NYS Rural and Traditional Arts Fellowship Committee
Arts Council of Wyoming County
31 South Main Street
Perry, NY 14530

Dear Fellowship Committee,

I am writing this letter in enthusiastic support of artist Angelica Palmer's application for the New York State rural and Traditional Arts Fellowship. After reviewing both the Fellowship criteria and Angelica's proposed work, I am certain that the two are a perfect match.

I have known Angelica for over a decade –at first, as a passionate advocate for clean water when Otsego 2000 led the fight to protect our lands and waters from the dangers of fracking for natural gas, and more recently as she has poured her energy and imagination into reviving community in the village of Cherry Valley through song, dance, poetry, theater, and public art projects and events. Angelica is a multi-faceted creative force and a resourceful grassroots community builder. As proprietor of The Telegraph School, which offers innovative programming, Angelica provides a welcome creative hub in the small, close-knit village of Cherry Valley. From Red Tent gatherings to yoga to spoken word open mic nights, music and dance sessions, The Telegraph School is at the heart of Cherry Valley's rebirth.

The project Angelica proposes – The Cherry Valley Water Project – is particularly timely in these times of climate change and upheaval. The Cherry Valley Creek is a tributary to the Susquehanna River, which in turn wends its way from Lake Otsego in Cooperstown all the way to the Chesapeake Bay. The waters that begin in Cherry Valley touch thousands upon thousands of lives before they reach the Atlantic. Angelica's project will explore the symbolic and real world importance of this water to our world, and her multi-disciplinary approach will ensure a rich and varied final product of music, poetry, and performance with a strong message.

My organization, Otsego 2000, was founded over 40 years ago to protect and preserve the rich natural and cultural resources of the Otsego region. We see the continuing vibrancy of our communities as critical to protecting the environmental assets that make Otsego County such a special place to live, work, play, and retire. Angelica's project would continue the strong connection between art and environment that has been a hallmark of our region for the past few hundred years. I strongly encourage you to support her in her work!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ellen F. Pope". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ellen Pope
Executive Director

February 7, 2023

Dear Fellowship Committee,

I am writing in support of Angelica Palmer's application to the ACWC's Rural and Traditional Arts Fellowship, describing *The Cherry Valley Water Project*. I see great value in the goals of this project, as Angelica seeks to foster community connection to our headwater stream, the Cherry Valley Creek. I write as a community member, but also as a professional in the field of environmental science and education.

My professional work revolves around lake and watershed science, educating and sharing scientific research with the communities that are drawn to waterfronts, primarily lakes and ponds. People with a direct connection to the waters are often the most passionate about the stewardship of them. When I read about *The Cherry Valley Water Project* I knew instantly that I wanted to get involved in some way; I have committed to working with Angelica to generate maps of the watershed for use in workshops and as online resources.

A major draw of this project is the very creative way that it seeks to reach individuals, through poetry and storytelling, to establish emotional connections in a positive atmosphere – so often our scientific reasons for conservation are rooted in negativity – this approach allows people to contemplate their connections to this waterway with a sense of wonder and hopefulness.

I have worked for many years in support of organizations across New York State as they attempt to protect the waterbodies they cherish, but never in my own community. In my experience, connection and awareness of the creek can lead to active conservation efforts. I also hope that an additional outcome of this project will be to inspire a sense of stewardship with downstream communities in mind. The water leaving our rural headwater community flows onward to become the waters of downstream communities, eventually to the Chesapeake Bay.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Holly Waterfield". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Holly Waterfield

Research Support Specialist
SUNY Oneonta Biological Field Station

Town Councilperson
Town of Cherry Valley, NY

Certified Lake Manager
North American Lake Management Society