

holding our own

feminist philanthropy, politics, power

HOLDING OUR OWN 2016 GRANTS

Holding Our Own's mission is to incite and support feminist social justice in the Capital Region.

Holding Our Own envisions a world free from oppression based on race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, class, and ability. Since its founding in 1982, *Holding Our Own* has provided nearly a million dollars in grants and loans to women's organizations and projects, including funds that purchased and supported the Women's Building, a multi-use community center that served the Capital Region for more than 30 years. *Holding Our Own* has a commitment to identifying and undermining the causes of oppression in the Capital District, rather than simply dealing with symptoms.

The foundation supports initiatives that build and strengthen women's communities, develop and promote the leadership of girls, enhance the ability, leadership, and interests of lesbian, trans, and gender nonconforming individuals (GNC) of all races to live more open lives.

Holding Our Own's Principles

The following values guide and inform Holding Our Own's board and staff as we make the difficult decisions about which projects to fund. Projects requesting support from Holding Our Own should describe in their applications how their proposed programs uphold and/or demonstrate these principles.

- ♦ *Holding Our Own* defines feminist social justice as the presence of structures, policies, and practices within a community that empower women, girls, trans, and gender nonconforming (GNC) individuals and recognizes that every person is equally and infinitely precious. Feminist social justice work involves challenging those structures of power and privilege in society that cause harm to and destroy the life chances of individuals, families, and communities.
- ♦ *Holding Our Own* believes that the leadership of those most affected by violence and oppression, particularly women, girls, trans, and GNC individuals, is essential to effectively demanding resources and changing the power structure in our communities, in our society, and across the world.
- ♦ *Holding Our Own* is committed to supporting projects that would not typically be supported by mainstream funding sources, especially those initiatives that are radical, risk-taking and non-traditional.
- ♦ *Holding Our Own* believes collaborations and coalition building across communities are central to successful and sustainable change. We are especially committed to multigenerational efforts.
- ♦ *Holding Our Own* supports cis-men and boys as partners with women, girls, trans, and GNC individuals in combating violence and ending sexism.

2016 Grant Guidelines

1. Priority will be given to projects focusing on women, girls, trans, and GNC individuals who are affected by poverty, violence, racism and disability.
2. Projects must be designed and led by whose identity and experience are similar to those of the potential participants.
3. Priority will be given to programs that do not have access to traditional funding sources. Eligibility to receive HOO funding is not restricted to organizations holding nonprofit status; informal organizations and collaborations are encouraged to apply. Successful applicants will be asked to demonstrate or establish appropriate bookkeeping procedures and fundraising and long-term sustainability.

Examples of projects/organizations that HOO will NOT fund include:

- a) Projects tackling problems of an individual nature, rather than those designed to produce a collective impact.
- b) Individuals, business enterprises, and for-profit ventures.

Examples of projects/organizations that HOO MAY fund:

- a) Providing seed-funds to help organizations get off the ground.
 - b) Contributing to operating expenses for existing organizations that serve as change agents for the designated priority population, and that are at risk of losing vital services.
4. Projects by and for cis-men and boys will be considered if they a) focus on teaching men and boys to partner with women, girls, trans, and GNC individuals in combating violence and ending sexism and b) demonstrate strong involvement of the aforementioned groups in the design and implementation of the project goals.
 5. Projects must include a plan for evaluating the impact of events and activities both in relation to specific project goals and in relation to feminist social justice in general.
 6. In order to be considered for funding, projects must sign the following statement and, if funding is provided, agree to include it in all project publicity and outreach materials, "This project opposes racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, discrimination based on age, disability or income and all other forms of oppression and discrimination."
 7. Funded projects must agree to hold public events, such as presentations, workshops, lectures, support groups and shows in wheelchair accessible space and agree to offer additional accommodations for people with disabilities.
 8. Projects must be located in Albany, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady and/or Columbia counties.
 9. Projects will be funded for a period of one year. Grants decisions will be announced January 2017.

Past grants have ranged from \$500-\$5000. Average grant size is \$2000.

10. **Grant applications must be submitted electronically via an online application or as an attachment via email.**

HOLDING OUR OWN 2016 GRANT APPLICATION CHECKLIST

*The following checklist is to assist you in preparing your application.
It is not part of the application form; you do **not** need to return it to Holding Our Own.*

General Instructions:

Your application must be submitted electronically to crau@holdingourownonline.org and received by *Holding Our Own* by midnight, Friday, November 11th in order to be considered for this Grant Program.

The application must be completed using the online form or filled out via the downloadable .pdf, typed, computer printed in black and white. Use 12-point type.

Limit your application to the form provided. Do not include any additional pages or attachments.

Make a copy of the application for your own records before sending it to us.

You are encouraged to attend the [Grants Networking and Technical Assistance Event](#) on **Wednesday, October 19th** in Carmichael Hall at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church (where our office is located), 10 N. Main Ave, Albany. RSVP on [Facebook](#) or email crau@holdingourownonline.org. Board members and staff will be available to answer your questions and help you with your application. You may also email questions to crau@holdingourownonline.org. If you need immediate assistance, text or call 518-810-9403 between the hours of 8am and 9pm. Call the office at 518-462-2871, if you want to leave a message.

Specific Instructions:

- List the name of the project, the specific population(s), and the geographic area(s) to be served.
- Provide the names and information for each group collaborating in the project, including your own group.
- A representative of each collaborating organization must sign the grant application. If these signatures are not on the application, the application will not be considered.**
- Complete all eight questions of the proposal clearly and concisely.
- Complete both expense and income sections of budget. **If a complete budget is not included, the application will not be considered.** The grant period will be February 2017 through January 2018.