

#NYProud

For Cultural Workers:

Creators and promoters of arts, culture, and heritage.

Immigrant New Yorkers have always been essential in shaping the city's cultural world. Whether it be through spreading new music genres, flavors and vibrant art, immigrants have come to NYC and made their mark on our cultural landscape. These vibrant cultures are only made possible in a place like New York City where the melting of cultures and perspectives has allowed arts to flourish.

As cultural workers - folks who help produce and shape the arts and culture - we play a role in shaping the narratives society holds around immigration. In our research, over 40% of survey respondents chose cultural diversity as the top contribution that immigrants make to their communities. The stories that we tell and promote help shape how people understand the importance of immigration and its impact on NYC. With this power, comes the responsibility to uplift immigrants and recognize the unique role that immigration has played in shaping the cultural landscape of New York.

Tips for Honoring the Impact of Immigrant Contributions in Cultural Work

CELEBRATE DIVERSITY:

How can you highlight how diversity is our greatest strength? The cultural diversity present throughout our history of immigration in NYC has always shaped the arts and culture in important ways. While divisive rhetoric is common – artists and cultural workers know better than anyone how central diversity is to our thriving culture.

ACKNOWLEDGE CULTURAL IMPACT:

Recognize the impact that NYC's diverse culture has had on your practice. Maybe you've been influenced by new music styles or culinary flavors? Discussing the ways that immigration has positively impacted our city's culture is an essential method for helping support a pro-immigrant narrative.

CONTEMPLATE THE CONSEQUENCES OF EXCLUSION:

The arts are a fantastic medium for helping people understand the impact of losing diversity or being an unwelcoming city. Tell stories about how immigrants are interwoven into NYC's cultural fabric and are critical to a flourishing culture.