National Endowment for the Arts

Grants Workshop
October 21, 2011

Who We Are

The National Endowment for the Arts:

- is a public agency dedicated to advancing artistic excellence, creativity, and innovation for the benefit of individuals and communities.

- awards more than $140 million each year to arts organizations of all sizes across all 50 states and U.S. territories.
We Support

- Artist Communities
- Arts Education
- Dance
- Design
- Folk & Traditional Arts
- Literature
- Local Arts Agencies
- Media Arts (Film/Radio/TV/Internet)
- Museums
- Music
- Musical Theater
- Opera
- Presenting
- Theater
- Visual Arts

State & Regional Partnerships

- 50 State Arts Agencies
- 6 Territories & Jurisdictions
- 6 Regional Arts Organizations
Planning & Preparing Your Grant Application

Who May Apply

- Arts organizations
- Arts service organizations
- Local arts agencies
- Official units of state or local government
- School districts
- Federally recognized tribal communities
- 2 and 4-Year Universities
- Other non-profit organizations
Requirements

- Nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3)
- 3-year history of programming
- 1 to 1 match for project budget
- Meet reporting requirements on any previous NEA awards
- Complete interim and final reports on time

We Do Not Fund

- General operating support
- Individuals
- Individual schools (K-12)
- Facility construction, purchase, or renovation
- Commercial, for-profit enterprises
- Creation of new organizations
- Academic degrees
- Re-granting
- Projects that supplant existing in-school arts instruction
Grants Review Process

Level 1: Panel
Level 2: National Council on the Arts
Level 3: Chairman of the NEA

Review Criteria:
Artistic Excellence
Artistic Merit

NEA Funding Streams

Grants for Arts Projects
- Art Works
- Challenge America: Fast Track

Arts in Media

Our Town
Grants for Arts Projects: Art Works

- Deadlines in March and August
- Projects must have a start date 10 months after the application deadline.
- Some outcomes in some disciplines are only eligible at a specific deadline
- Generally, grants range from $10,000 to $100,000

The next deadline is March 2012.

Grants for Arts Projects: Challenge America Fast Track

- Applicants are notified of awards within 6 months
- Emphasis on underserved communities
- All grants are $10,000

The next deadline is May 2012.
**Arts in Media**

- Projects that make the arts widely available through media platforms like television, radio, the internet, etc.
- Media projects that are works of art themselves and not necessarily focused on the arts or artists.
- Grants range from $10,000 to $250,000.

*The next deadline is September 2012.*

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**Our Town**

- Our Town is a new funding stream that focuses on creative placemaking.
- Applicants must be partnerships and include:
  - A nonprofit design or cultural organization
  - Governmental entity
- Projects will emphasize 1 of 3 areas:
  - Planning
  - Design
  - Arts Engagement Activities

*The next deadline is March 2012.*
Art Works: Research Grants

- For the first time, the NEA’s new strategic plan released last year identifies Research as a mission-critical goal.

- To support this goal, the NEA will make grants for research projects that use existing datasets to mine data for analyses of the value and impact of the U.S. arts sector on the nation.

- Approximately 25 grants of $10,000 to $30,000 will be awarded.
  - Projects are to have a start date after May 1, 2012 for a one-year period of support.
  - These grants are non-matching.

The deadline is November 8th.

Navigating www.arts.gov
Apply for a Grant
Select your discipline.

Select your funding stream.
Electronic Submission

- Grants.gov is an online, government-wide electronic application system where all applications are submitted.
- All applicants must complete registration with Grants.gov before applying.
- **WWW.ARTS.GOV SHOULD BE YOUR FIRST STOP**

Helpful Hints

- Complete your grants.gov registration now
- Read the NEA Grant Guidelines
- Review previously awarded grants
- Flesh out your project
- Decide on an appropriate category and deadline
  - Make note of the earliest project start date
- Contact discipline specialist or director with questions
- Double check the math on the project budget
- Choose an appropriate work sample
- Send work samples with a commercial delivery service
Contact Information

www.arts.gov

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