

# **Federal Grants Workshop for Arts and Cultural Institutions**

**January 2015  
Austin, TX**



**National  
Endowment  
for the Arts**  
arts.gov

# Who We Are

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is an independent federal agency dedicated to advancing artistic excellence, creativity, and innovation for the benefit of individuals and communities.



# NEA Funds

- Arts organizations
- Arts service organizations
- Local arts agencies
- Official units of state or local government
- School districts
- Colleges & universities
- Federally recognized tribal communities
- Other non-profit organizations

# Does NOT Fund

- General operating support
- Individuals
- Individual schools
- Facility construction, purchase, or renovation
- Commercial, for-profit enterprises
- Creation of new organizations
- Academic degrees
- Re-granting
- Projects that replace arts instruction provided by a classroom teacher or an arts specialist

# NEA Supports

- Artist communities
- Literature
- Opera
- Presenting/multidisciplinary works
- Arts education
- Local arts agencies
- Dance
- Media arts
- Theater & Musical theater
- Museums
- Design
- Music
- Folk & traditional arts
- Visual Arts



# Direct Grants: Requirements

- Non-profit
- 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



# Grants Review Process

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

Artistic Excellence  
& Artistic Merit

# Funding Streams

- Grants for Organizations
  - Arts Works
  - Challenge America
  - Our Town
  - Research: Art Works
- Grants for Individuals
  - Creative Writing Fellowships
  - Translation Projects
- Partnership Agreements



# Art Works

- Creating art that meets the highest standards of excellence
- Public engagement with diverse and excellent art
- Lifelong learning in the arts
- Strengthening of communities through the arts
  - Matching grants range from \$10,000 to \$100,000
  - Deadline: February 19, 2015
  - Notification: November 2015
  - Earliest Start Date: January 1, 2016



# Challenge America

- Support to small and mid-sized organizations
- Reach underserved populations limited by geography, ethnicity, economics, or disability
- At least one of these underserved characteristics must be present
- Engaging the public with diverse and excellent art, and strengthening communities through the arts
  - Matching grants are \$10,000
  - Deadline: April 16, 2015
  - Notification: December 2015
  - Earliest Start Date: January 1, 2016

# Our Town

- Creative placemaking projects contribute to the livability of communities and place the arts at their core
- Applicants must be partnerships and must include: a nonprofit design or cultural organization, and a local government entity
  - Matching grants range from \$25,000 to \$200,000
  - Deadline: August, 2015
  - Notification: April, 2016
  - Earliest Start Date: July, 2016



# Creative Writing Fellowships

Fellowships in fiction, poetry, and creative nonfiction enable recipients to set aside time for writing, research, travel, and general career advancement.

- Non-matching grants are for \$25,000
- Deadline: March 11, 2015
- Notification: December 2015
- Earliest Start Date: January 1, 2016



# State and Regional Partnerships

By supporting the state arts agencies (SAAs) and regional arts organizations (RAOs) through Partnership Agreements, the Arts Endowment makes the arts available in more communities than it could through direct grants.



# Application Process

arts.gov

The screenshot shows the homepage of arts.gov. At the top left, the text reads "NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS". To the right of this text are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, RSS, and iTunes U, along with a "Subscribe" button and a search icon. Below the social media icons is a paragraph: "The National Endowment for the Arts is an independent federal agency that funds and promotes artistic excellence, creativity, and innovation for the benefit of individuals and communities." To the right of this paragraph is the "ART WORKS." logo, which consists of three triangles (red, blue, yellow) above the text. A navigation bar below the header contains the following items: HOME, ABOUT, GRANTS (circled in red), NEWS, LIFETIME HONORS, PUBLICATIONS, ARTISTIC FIELDS, and CONTACT. Below the navigation bar is a large image of a concert. The text "National Heritage Fellowships Concert" is overlaid on the image, along with "Webcast Archive" and "Sept 27, 2013 Concert". At the bottom of the image are navigation arrows and the numbers 1, 2, and 3. Below the image is a footer with three sections: "ARTISTIC FIELDS" with a right arrow, "NEWS" with a right arrow, and "ART WORKS BLOG" with a right arrow.

grants.gov

The screenshot shows the homepage of grants.gov. At the top left is the "GRANTS.GOV" logo with a red and blue swoosh above it. Below the logo is the tagline "FIND. APPLY. SUCCEED.™". A navigation bar below the header contains the following items: HOME, ABOUT (with a dropdown arrow), SEARCH GRANTS, APPLICANTS (with a dropdown arrow), GRANTORS (with a dropdown arrow), and SYSTEM-TO-SYSTEM. Below the navigation bar is a large section titled "Find Grants". The text in this section reads: "SEARCH Grants.gov for your federal grants by keywords or more specific criteria. All discretionary grants offered by the 26 federal grant-making agencies can be found on Grants.gov. You do not have to register with Grants.gov to find grant opportunities." Below this text is a red button that says "Search Grant Opportunities » ». To the right of this section is a large image of the Washington Monument. Below the "Find Grants" section is a section titled "Find Open Grant Opportunities". This section contains four buttons: "NEWEST OPPORTUNITIES", "BROWSE CATEGORIES", "BROWSE AGENCIES", and "BROWSE ELIGIBILITIES". Below these buttons is a table with two columns: "Funding Opportunity Number" and "Opportunity Title".

# grants.gov

- Submit at least 10 days before the deadline.
- Obtain a DUNS number.
- Register with SAM (System for Award Management). SAM must be current to apply through the grants.gov system.
- Select a Point of Contact who will be accessible and monitor e-mail. Grants.gov sends e-mail notifications for errors and application validation.

**GRANTS.GOV HELP DESK**

**1-800-518-4726**

# NEA-GO



NEA-GO is where you'll submit application material and work samples electronically. Prepare your material and work samples in advance and have them ready to upload once NEA-GO opens.

# Helpful Hints

- Contact NEA discipline specialist with questions
- Complete your grants.gov registration now
- Read the NEA grant guidelines
- Review previously awarded grants
- Decide on an appropriate category and deadline and make note of the earliest project start date
- View an example application
- Choose appropriate work sample
- Watch a webinar

# What else is the NEA doing?

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**Blue Star Museums:** Free admission for active duty military families from Memorial Day to Labor Day

**Walter Reed Healing Arts:** Partnership with Walter Reed to support arts therapy for patients

**The Big Read:** Grants to support community reading programs

**Poetry Out Loud:** National high school poetry recitation contest

**Shakespeare in American Communities:** Grants for Shakespeare theater productions

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