



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

County Board Agenda Item
Meeting of September 25, 2010

DATE: September 1, 2010

SUBJECT: Grant Award – National Endowment for the Arts

C. M. RECOMMENDATION:

1. Authorize the County Manager to accept \$35,000 in federal funds from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to conduct folklore research, do photographic documentation, and present exhibitions and performances, all representing the arts and culture of Arlington's Mongolian community.
2. Appropriate \$35,000 in grant fund revenue from the NEA to the Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources (PRCR) (101.424000.86024) for personal services fees and supplies associated with conducting the above-mentioned activities and programs.

ISSUES: The County Board's authorization for the County Manager to accept this funding will enhance the capacity of the Cultural Affairs Division of PRCR to present programs of artistic excellence that raise awareness of the cultural heritage of Arlington's diverse citizenry. No issues have been identified.

SUMMARY: The Cultural Affairs Division will undertake a range of activities, including public programs, an artist residency, workshops, performances, and meetings aimed at raising awareness of the Mongolian cultural heritage as represented by Arlington's Mongolian community. Activities will take place at the Artisphere, and also at the Madison and Lee Community Centers.

BACKGROUND: The Cultural Affairs Division has been successful in securing eight (8) federal NEA grants since Fiscal Year 2000 for programs that recognize and expand art opportunities in the County to include diverse populations, and to recognize traditional art forms and diverse cultural viewpoints:

Fiscal Year 2008 – \$38,000 (two grants)

Fiscal Year 2007 – \$20,000

County Manager: 

County Attorney: 

Staff: Joan M. Lynch, PRCR

41.

Fiscal Year 2004 – \$55,000
Fiscal Year 2003 – \$20,000
Fiscal Year 2001 – \$20,000
Fiscal Year 2000 – \$40,000

DISCUSSION: An estimated 1,200 Mongolian immigrants live in Arlington County, and most have immigrated to the United States within the past ten years. A large proportion of Arlington's Mongolian community resides in the Rosslyn neighborhood at River Place, a 1950s era mid-rise apartment/condominium complex located just four blocks from the Artisphere. Proposed activities will introduce the public to the Rosslyn that exists beyond the neighborhood's central cluster of office buildings, provide substantive educational programming through the arts, and recognize the artistic excellence of Mongolian artists who reside in Arlington.

The NEA does not require that the County enter into any written agreement with the NEA regarding the County's use of the grant funds. The County is bound by its grant application.

FISCAL IMPACT: No new net tax support is required to accept this grant. PRCR will provide the required in-kind match of \$50,544 through the services of existing personnel.

To support Dutch-Hop Polka, a tri-state project documenting and presenting a regional tradition. The organization will research this unique form of music and dance and present its findings through a symposium and a series of performances.

Angkor Dance Troupe, Inc.

Lowell, MA

\$10,000

To support the Outreach to Communities Project. The project will present a full performance of classical and folk Cambodian dance to underserved communities in Massachusetts.

Arhoolie Foundation

El Cerrito, CA

\$40,000

To support the digitization of the Strachwitz-Fronterria Collection of Mexican and Mexican American recordings. The project will preserve the collection of vernacular music and make these recordings accessible online through a searchable bilingual website.

Arkansas State University

State University, AR

\$30,000

To support the Arkansas Folklife Program. The project will document traditional arts and artists in the state and present the information through publications, recordings, and public programs.

Arlington County Cultural Affairs Division

Arlington, VA

\$35,000

To support the Mongolian Cultural Heritage Program. The project includes a series of public presentations that will raise awareness of traditional Mongolian culture.

Blue Ridge Traditional Arts, Inc. (aka Blue Ridge Music Center)

Galax, VA

\$40,000

To support the Roots of American Music Tour. The project will present a concert tour of traditional musicians, in conjunction with an exhibit at the Blue Ridge Music Center and the 75th anniversary of the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Bowery Arts and Science, Ltd.

New York, NY

\$35,000

To support The Wor(l)d in New York: Poetry and Community. In partnership with Rattapallax, the project will celebrate ethnic poetry traditions in New York City with a series of readings, a web-based directory, and a bilingual anthology.

Brooklyn Arts Council, Inc.

Brooklyn, NY

\$35,000

To support Once Upon A Time in Brooklyn: Traditional Storytellers and Their Tales. The project will identify, document, and present traditional storytellers practicing their art in a natural context.

California Indian Storytelling Association

Fremont, CA

\$30,000

To support the Storytelling Festival: Following Ancient Trade Routes 2011. The project will facilitate a cultural exchange between Native storytellers from California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Hawaii, and New Zealand.

Cambodian-American Heritage, Inc.

Fort Washington, MD

\$10,000

To support dance and music instruction in the Cambodian traditional arts. The project



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE ARTS

The Nancy Hanks Center
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20506-0001
202/682-5400
www.arts.gov

March 29, 2010

Ms. Mary Briggs
Arlington County Cultural Affairs Division
3700 South Four Mile Run Drive
Arlington, VA 22206-2304

RE: Application # 09-908693

Dear Ms. Briggs:

We are happy to inform you that your application to the National Endowment for the Arts was recently reviewed by an advisory panel and has been tentatively recommended by the National Council on the Arts for funding in the amount of \$35,000. Please see the enclosed sheet for details on your grant recommendation and the steps that you must now take.

Congratulations on reaching this point in the review process. We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrice Walker Powell".

Patrice Walker Powell
Deputy Chairman for Programs and Partnerships

Enclosure

PS: We want to remind you that future applications to the Arts Endowment **must** be submitted electronically through Grants.gov. If you have not yet done so, we recommend that you **renew** your registration with Grants.gov now. For more information, visit www.arts.gov.



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE ARTS

REQUEST FOR APPLICATION UPDATE

RESPOND WITHIN 21 DAYS OF THE DATE BELOW OR THIS TENTATIVE
FUNDING RECOMMENDATION MAY BE WITHDRAWN

Date: March 29, 2010

To: Arlington County Cultural Affairs Division

Re: Tentative Funding Recommendation of \$35,000 for Application # 09-908693

Project Description: To support the Mongolian Cultural Heritage Program

Please follow the 4 steps listed below.

Step 1: Can you still undertake the project? If not, please advise us immediately. If yes, proceed to Step 2.

Step 2: Check a. OR b. below:

- a. The project description and total project costs will remain essentially the same as in our application. All costs will be incurred within the period of support specified in the application or as indicated below. My organization will increase its cash match toward the project to cover the difference between the amount that we requested and the Tentative Funding Recommendation shown above. I understand that Arts Endowment staff will adjust our Project Budget to reflect this change. [Cash match can include cash donations (including items or services that the grantee organization provides), non-federal grants, and/or revenues expected or received for the project.] Note: If you elect this option, you do not have to submit a Revised Project Budget form* or a Revised Project Information form*.

New period of support: Start date: 1/15/11 End date: 6/30/11
Month/day/year Month/day/year

- b. The project can still be undertaken but will require changes (e.g., in participants, impact, objectives, products and/or the budget). Note: If you elect this option, you must submit a Revised Project Budget form* and a Revised Project Information form*.

Step 3: Have an Authorizing Official (AO) of your organization sign here:

Norma Verges Kaplan Cultural Affairs 4/6/2010
Signature of AO Typed/Printed Name of AO Title of AO Date Signed

Note: If the AO and/or Project Director has changed since the submission of your application, include a letter to that effect, with signatures of the new personnel, when you return this form.

Step 4: Within 21 days of the date at the top of this form, return:

- This completed and signed form.
- If you checked b. in Step 2, a Revised Project Budget form* and a Revised Project Information form*.
- Where relevant, a letter outlining any change in the AO and/or Project Director, with signature(s).

To ensure timely receipt, please FAX all material to William Mansfield, Folk & Traditional Arts Specialist, at 202.682.5512. If you have any questions, contact William at 202.682.5678.

IMPORTANT: Remember that this recommendation is tentative and your application is still subject to further review. Do not make any financial or legal commitments until you receive an official grant award letter or other authorization to do so. Also, please do not make any public announcement of this recommendation until the Arts Endowment issues a press release, planned for April 22, 2010, that includes this grant.

*Available on our web site at www.arts.gov/manageaward

