Two Limited Submission Funding Opportunities

National Endowment for the Arts

Please read both opportunities carefully to find out which aligns better with your projects.

Opportunity #1: Art Works FY 2015 (FOA#: 2015NEA01AW1)

[Link to grant program description]

Art works by enhancing the value of individuals and communities, by connecting us to each other and to something greater than ourselves, and by empowering creativity and innovation in our society and economy. The arts exist for beauty itself, but they also are an inexhaustible source of meaning and inspiration.

The NEA recognizes these catalytic effects of excellent art, and the key role that arts and design organizations play in revitalizing them. To deepen and extend the arts' value, including their ability to foster new connections and to exemplify creativity and innovation, we welcome projects that:

• Are likely to prove transformative with the potential for meaningful change, whether in the development or enhancement of new or existing art forms, new approaches to the creation or presentation of art, or new ways of engaging the public with art;
• Are distinctive, offering fresh insights and new value for their fields and/or the public through unconventional solutions; and
• Have the potential to be shared and/or emulated, or are likely to lead to other advances in the field.

Under Art Work guidelines, funding is available for projects only:

• A project may consist of one or more specific events or activities; it may be a part of an applicant's regular season or activities.

• Organizations may apply for any or all phases of a project, from its planning through its implementation.

• A project does not have to be new. Excellent existing projects can be just as competitive as new activities.

• Projects do not need to be large. The Arts Endowment welcomes small projects that can make a difference in a community or field.

Grants generally will range from $10,000 to $100,000. In the past few years, well over half of the agency's grants have been for amounts less than $25,000.

Disciplines for Art Works:
• Artist Communities
• Arts Education
• Dance
• Design
• Folk & Traditional Arts
• Literature
• Local Arts Agencies
• Media Arts
• Museums
• Music
• Opera
• Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works
• Theater & Musical Theater
• Visual Arts

**Opportunity #2: Challenge America Fast Track (FOA#: 2015NEA01CAFT)**


The Challenge America category offers support primarily to small and mid-sized organizations for projects that extend the reach of the arts to underserved populations -- those whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, ethnicity, economics, or disability. Age alone (e.g., youth, seniors) does not qualify a group as underserved; at least one of the underserved characteristics noted above also must be present. Grants are available for professional arts programming and for projects that emphasize the potential of the arts in community development.

This category encourages and supports the following two objectives:
• Engagement: Engaging the public with diverse and excellent art.
• Livability: The strengthening of communities through the arts.

Challenge America grants are for a fixed amount of $10,000 and require a minimum $10,000 match.

**LIMIT ON NUMBER OF PROPOSALS PER ORGANIZATION**
An organization may submit only one application to either Fast Track or Art Works.

**KEY DATES**
Internal Letter of Intent Due: January 7, 2015 (by midnight)
Sponsor Proposal Due (Fast Track): April 16, 2015
Sponsor Proposal Due (Art Works, except Artist Communities): July 23, 2015

**SUBMITTING A MANDATORY LETTER OF INTENT**
Faculty members interested in applying for either Art Works or Fast Track are required to submit a letter of intent (LOI). An LOI is required but not binding.
1. Please click [here](#) to access the LOI form.
2. Name the LOI as follows: “LastName-FirstInitial-LOI-NEA-Art-Work-201-2015” or “LastName-FirstInitial-LOI-NEA-Fast Track-2015” replacing “LastName” with your last name and “First Initial” with your first initial. Include “Art Work” or “Fast Track”, as appropriate, in the name.
3. Click on the appropriate Vault ticket:
   a. Art Works: [https://vault2.northwestern.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-e6068717_1-t_aQ4bwBql](https://vault2.northwestern.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-e6068717_1-t_aQ4bwBql)
   b. Fast Track: [https://vault2.northwestern.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-e6068716_1-t_M0PnWGaQ](https://vault2.northwestern.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-e6068716_1-t_M0PnWGaQ)
4. Click the Upload button.
5. Click the Browse button and navigate to your file on your hard drive or network.
6. Click the OK button.

*Note:* You will get a tiny confirmation message upon upload. If you do not see it, you may contact Karen Cielo [k-cielo@northwestern.edu](mailto:k-cielo@northwestern.edu) for a confirmation.

**COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES**
The Office of Research Development offers assistance in identifying and facilitating collaborations, putting together interdisciplinary teams, programmatic and administrative development of large, cross-school proposals, and leveraging institutional resources for outreach and education. Contact Fruma Yehiely ([yehiely@northwestern.edu](mailto:yehiely@northwestern.edu)), Director of ORD, for more information.