



To: Distribution List

From: Faculty Research Development Office (FRDO)
Office of the Vice President for Research

Subject: Limited Competition: NEA American Rescue Plan Grants to Organizations

Date: July 22, 2021

UNM Researchers,

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (“Rescue Plan”) is designed to fuel the nation’s recovery from the devastating economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Funds allocated to the National Endowment for the Arts (“Arts Endowment”) in this historic legislation represent a significant commitment to the arts and a recognition of the value of the arts and culture sector to the nation’s economy and recovery.

The Arts Endowment will competitively award Rescue Plan funds to eligible organizations nationwide. These funds are intended to help support jobs in the arts sector, keep the doors open to arts organizations nationwide, and assist the field in its response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Unlike other Arts Endowment funding programs that offer project-based support, Rescue Plan funds are intended to support specific operating costs only. Cost share/matching funds are not required.

The Arts Endowment intends to make awards that will impact a broad constituency. Applications are encouraged from a variety of eligible organizations including: organizations that serve populations that are underserved, such as those whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by ethnicity, economics, geography, or disability; organizations with small and medium-sized budgets; organizations from rural to urban communities; and organizations that may be applying for federal support through the Arts Endowment for the first time.

Applicants may request a fixed grant amount for: \$50,000, \$100,000 or \$150,000. Applicants must select a grant amount that is reflective of their overall organization size and internal capacity. A grant period of up to two years is allowed. Grants will be made to eligible organizations to **support their own operations**. Unlike other Arts Endowment funding programs that offer project-based support, **Rescue Plan funds are intended to support your organization’s day-to-day business expenses/operating costs, and not specific programmatic activities**. Cost share/matching funds are not required. The deadline for Part 1 Grants.gov is August 12, 2021. Complete program details can be found at: <https://www.arts.gov/grants/american-rescue-plan-grants/american-rescue-plan-grants-to-organizations/program-description>

This is a limited competition. An organization is limited to **one** application under the Rescue Plan’s Grants to Organizations guidelines.

If you are interested in *submitting a proposal*, please **follow this required two-step process**:

1. By noon on **Thursday, July 29, 2021**, please submit a **required statement of interest** to limited@unm.edu; **with the subject line indicating: NEA ARP - your name**; that contains:
 - a) Name and departmental affiliation of the Principal Investigator (PI);
 - b) Name(s) and departmental affiliation(s) of the Co-PI(s) and others composing the core participants.

c) A tentative project title and brief description of 200 words or less.

Only PIs who have submitted a statement of interest by the deadline will be eligible to submit a pre-proposal.

2. By noon on **Monday, August 2, 2021**, please submit a **required 3-page preliminary proposal** (plus budget and CV for PI; all documents in a SINGLE PDF file, 11 point font) to limited@unm.edu; **with the subject line indicating: NEA ARP - your name.**

The body of the 3-page pre-proposal must contain the following components:

- **Arts Programmatic History:** Include up to 3 representative examples of arts programming per year for three recent years/seasons prior to the application deadline. Provide examples that emphasize how your previous work is connected to the review criteria. This list should demonstrate eligibility (i.e., your three-year history of arts programming), as well as the artistic excellence and artistic merit of your programming.
 - For each example include:
 - Date/Year
 - Title/Work/Event/Program
 - Venue and City/State, if applicable
 - Key Artists/Personnel, if applicable
 - # of Classes, Performances, Exhibitions, Residencies, etc., if applicable
 - # of Participants or Audience, if applicable
- **Activities:** Description of your request and activities to be supported. Address any of the following, as relevant to your request:
 - **Staff positions:** Funds may be used to support existing jobs, new jobs, or to restore jobs that were furloughed or eliminated due to the pandemic. Note the job position(s) for which you are seeking full or partial support. For each position, provide the job title, brief position description, and annual salary. Discuss the significance of the position to the mission and work of your organization. Describe the impact on your organization if the position has been or would be furloughed or eliminated. Note that staff positions funded may not conduct work independent of the organization receiving funds.
 - **Artists/contractual personnel:** Describe the artists and/or contractual personnel to whom you propose to pay fees/stipends. Briefly describe the services for which these individuals would be paid, and the position(s) and fees/stipends for these individuals. Discuss the significance of the provided services to the mission and core work of your organization. Describe the effect on your organization if these services have been or would be curtailed or eliminated. Note that artists/contractual positions may not conduct work independent of the organization receiving funds.
 - **Facilities and other costs:** Describe any costs that are requested to support your organization's facility (e.g., mortgage principal, rent, utilities), costs associated with health and safety supplies for staff and/or visitors/audiences (e.g., personal protective equipment, cleaning supplies, hand sanitizer, etc.), and/or marketing and promotion costs.
- **Other Details:** Describe the audience, participants, and community served, as well as any plans to reach these beneficiaries. Be as specific as possible when describing the communities you plan to engage, and clearly explain how you plan to reach these communities. Where appropriate, describe how participants from underserved communities will be engaged or impacted. Include demographic information. You may also describe the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on your audience, participants, and community served.

Your budget (limited to 2 pages) should include the following:

- Amount Requested from the NEA: Select either \$50,000, \$100,000, or \$150,000.
- Description of how you plan to spend the requested Arts Endowment funds
- A budget that includes the following expenses:
 - **Salaries, wages, and fringe benefits** for personnel, administrative and artistic, who are paid on a salary basis. List each staff position separately.
 - **Fees/stipends** for artists and contractual personnel to support the services they provide for specific activities. List each position separately, combine similar positions if needed.
 - **Facilities costs** such as mortgage principal, rent and utilities.
 - Costs associated with **health and safety supplies for staff and/or visitors/audiences** (e.g., personal protective equipment, cleaning supplies, hand sanitizer, etc.).

- Costs for **marketing and promotion**.
- **Indirect costs**

Please note:

Your Budget should reflect only those activities and associated costs that will be incurred during the "Period of Performance," i.e., the span of time necessary to plan, execute, and close out your proposal. REMINDER: The earliest allowable grant start date is January 1, 2022. NOTE: Organizations cannot receive more than one Arts Endowment grant for the same expenses. While you may apply for other federal funding opportunities in general, **the specific items in this budget cannot include costs that are supported by any other federal funds or their cost share/match, including costs that may be included in applications submitted, or grants received, by partner organizations or presenters.**

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact us at limited@unm.edu.

Please distribute this notice to departments and individuals whom you believe would be interested.

If you are affiliated with HSC, please contact Corey Ford (CFord@salud.unm.edu) or Cassandra Misenar (CMisenar@salud.unm.edu) for more information.