NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS ANNUAL REPORT

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The Chinyakare Ensemble performed at the San Francisco Dance Festival, which was supported by a 2016 Art Works grant. Photo by RJ Muna







National Endowment for the Arts arts,gov

Dear Mr. President:

It is my pleasure to submit the Annual Report of the National Endowment for the Arts for Fiscal Year 2016.

Since it was established by Congress in 1965, the NEA has awarded more than \$5 billion to strengthen the creative capacity of our communities by providing all Americans with diverse opportunities for arts participation. The NEA extends its work through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector.

The activities highlighted in this report illustrate the Arts Endowment's continuing commitment to making the arts a vital part of the lifeblood of this nation. I am confident that as we continue to invest in the arts, we are investing in the very things that make this country great: creativity, inspiration, and hard work.

Jane Chu

Jane Chu Chairman

National Endowment for the Arts



FISCAL YEAR 2016

Throughout fiscal year (FY) 2016, the National Endowment for the Arts celebrated its 50th year as the federal agency dedicated to funding, promoting, and strengthening the creative capacity of our communities and ensuring that every American benefits from engagement with the arts.

The fiscal year began prestigiously with a special event at the White House to celebrate the creation of the NEA and National Endowment for the Humanities, which formed the basis for a PBS special, A Celebration of American Creativity: In Performance at the White House. The event, held on October 14, 2015, featured performances by musical artists such as Buddy Guy, Smokey Robinson, Trombone Shorty, and Esperanza Spalding and readings and remarks from Carol Burnett. "That quintessentially American creative spirit—sowed in our soil, defined by our our experience, flavored by each new wave of immigrants that reaches our shores—that may be our greatest export," President Obama noted at the event, which was broadcast nationally on January 8, 2016.

As part of the 50th anniversary, the NEA created special <u>milestone videos</u> to highlight arts organizations and artists that the agency has supported over its lifetime, such as Sundance Institute, Appalshop, Maya Lin, and Edward Villella. In addition, the NEA collaborated with state arts agencies and regional arts organizations to create videos of the special role the arts play in their communities. The videos, which were nominated for a Primetime Emmy Award, were part of the United States of Arts project that included stories from people across the country about how the arts are important to them.



The year also saw the NEA receive a 2016 Special Tony Award for its "unwavering commitment in paving the road" between regional theater throughout the country and Broadway. For example, between 1996 and 2015, the NEA awarded more than \$13 million in new play development, and since its creation has supported theater productions that received 100 nominations and 33 wins for Tony Award for Best Play and Best Musical.

Two new initiatives that were created as part of the anniversary celebration began in earnest in FY 2016. The Musical Theater Songwriting Challenge for High School Students, created by the NEA in partnership with Playbill and the Disney Theatrical Group, held a pilot competition in three localities: St. Paul/Minneapolis, Minnesota; Dallas County, Texas; and Seattle and King County, Washington. The winner of the competition—Angel Rodriguez from Puget Sound Adventist Academy High School in Seattle—received a \$5,000 scholarship and his winning composition, "Bleeding," will be published by Sony/ATV. The Songwriting Challenge is scheduled to be competed nationwide in 2017.

The other initiative, Creativity Connects, had a three-pronged focus. The first component was a new category of grants. The guidelines for Creativity Connects grants, which support projects between arts organizations and non-arts organizations, were released in December 2015 and awards were made in FY 2017 (and will be discussed in next year's Annual Report). The second part was the production of a new report addressing the needs of artists in a world of accelerating change. Creativity Connects: Trends and Conditions Affecting U.S. Artists, produced in collaboration with the Center for Cultural Innovation, examines familiar issues such as funding and training, but also looks at the effects of other forces shaping the artistic work environment, such as technology, the gig economy, student debt, and the growth of cross-disciplinary work. The third component of the initiative was the creation of a new interactive page on the NEA website that features successful projects undertaken by partnerships of arts and non-arts organizations, which we call "bright spots," that can be explored by arts sector, non-arts sector, and state.

To cap off the anniversary year, the NEA held a convening on the state of the arts in the United States: "In Pursuit of the Creative Life: The Future of Arts and Creativity in America." The event, held November 18, 2016 at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, brought together more than 200 creative professionals from across the country and across sectors to discuss how creativity manifests itself in different fields and how we can increase access to tools, resources, and opportunities for those who want to pursue a creative life. The convening's keynote was a conversation with musician Questlove, led by NPR's Eric Deggans.





Grants

The NEA's FY 2016 budget was \$147,949,000, an increase of nearly \$2 million from the previous fiscal year specifically allocated to expand the NEA military healing arts program, Creative Forces (detailed in the Partnerships section below). The NEA awarded nearly 2,500 grants in every Congressional district in the country, roughly half intended to reach underserved populations. Through its direct grantmaking, the NEA is projected to support approximately 30,000 concerts, readings, and performances, and more than 3,000 exhibitions of visual and media arts, with annual, live attendance of approximately 20 million. NEA-supported broadcast performances on television, radio, and cable will have additional audiences of at least 300 million. NEA awards generated more than \$500 million in matching support; in our direct grantmaking categories alone, the ratio of matching to federal funds approached 9:1, far surpassing the required non-federal match of at least one to one.

As part of the grants awarded in FY 2016 for arts education projects, the NEA supported 11 collective impact projects, which are longer term, larger in scale, and use a systemic approach to provide arts education for students across entire neighborhoods, schools, school districts, and states—in communities of every size. Since 2015, the agency has awarded \$2.1 million for collective impact projects nationwide.

Artist Zach Medler signs the finished mural *Idislconnected* with after school art student Sara Loper awaiting her chance to place her name on the finished mural, part of the Tippecanoe Arts Federation's Art in Rural Places project, supported by a 2016 NEA grant, to take on arts activities in a 14-county region of North Central Indiana. Photo courtesy of Tippecanoe Arts Federation

In FY 2016, the NEA awarded 37 NEA Literature Fellowships in Creative Writing for prose and nonfiction, totaling \$925,000, out of 1,763 eligible manuscripts. Since the agency's beginning, the NEA Creative Writing Fellowship program has awarded more than \$45 million to more than 3,000 writers, many of them at the start of their careers.

In addition, the NEA awarded 23 NEA Literature Fellowships in Translation to support new translations of fiction, creative nonfiction, and poetry from 13 different languages into English. Since 1981, the NEA has awarded 433 Translation Fellowships to 383 translators on works representing 67 languages and 81 countries.

The NEA granted 64 <u>Our Town</u> grants to support creative placemaking around the country in FY 2016. More than \$4 million was awarded in grants in 36 states to strengthen communities by engaging with the arts and artists. Three of the projects receiving grants are located within Promise Zones, which are high-poverty communities designated for increased collaboration and investment by the federal government. The Promise Zone initiative is led by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and Department of Agriculture.

Related to the Our Town initiative, the NEA partnered with the Kresge Foundation, in collaboration with Local Initiatives Support Corporation, National Creative Placemaking Program (LISC) and PolicyLink, to launch a pilot technical assistance program to support creative placemaking. Specialized technical assistance will be given to 14 organizations and their partners (including seven previous Our Town grantees) with the goal of advancing each



organization's ability to lead successful projects that result in positive shortand long-term outcomes for their community. In addition, the program will clarify standard practices in creative placemaking by sharing lessons learned.

All grants for FY 2016 can be found through our <u>online grant search</u>, which allows users to search with various criteria for any NEA grants from 1998 to the present. For grants earlier than that, users can find listings of grants in <u>Annual Reports</u> from 1965 to 1997.

Katherine E. Young, one of the 23 translators awarded an NEA Literature Fellowship in Translation in FY 2016, is translating a trilogy of novellas by Azerbaijani writer Akram Aylisli from Russian to English. Photo by Samantha Hancock Collins



Partnerships

Forty percent of the NEA's funds are awarded to longstanding partners: the state arts agencies (SAAs) and regional arts organizations (RAOs). With these grants, the SAAs/RAOs are able to fund arts educations programs, regional touring projects, and arts activities in underserved communities, among many other activities. In recent years, more than 4,500 communities have been served each year through grants made possible by these agreements.

In 2016, the NEA partnered with the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies to host a professional development institute for state arts agency arts education managers in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The content focused on inclusion, diversity, equity, and access (IDEA) as a framework to use within agencies, states, and the larger arts sector.

The SAAs also facilitate the statewide contests for the NEA initiative, <u>Poetry Out Loud (POL)</u>. The event culminates with semi-finals and national finals held in Washington, DC, which are webcast live. In May 2016, Virginia State POL Champion Ahkei Togun, a high school senior from Virginia Beach, was named the national champion. Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation, a regional arts organization, and the Poetry Foundation are also important partners on this initiative.

<u>Southern Exposure</u>, a public-private program by the NEA with the Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation and the Robert Sterling Clark Foundation, awarded grants in 2016 to 39 U.S. organizations to bring five performing arts companies from Argentina, Chile, Colombia, and Mexico to tour in 20 states in 2016-17. The goal of the program is to build greater appreciation and understanding of Latin America by presenting exemplary performing artists to audiences across the United States who might not have access to this work.

Regional arts organization Arts Midwest plays an important role in two NEA initiatives: NEA Big Read and Shakespeare in American Communities. For 2016-17, **NEA Big Read**, the initiative that broadens our understanding of our world, our communities, and ourselves through the joy of sharing a good book, awarded grants totaling more than \$1 million to 77 organizations nationwide. In addition, to celebrate the tenth year of the initiative in 2016, NEA Big Read took a new direction, focusing on contemporary authors and books written since the founding of the NEA in 1965. Available for programming in fall 2017, the book list includes 28 books, 13 of which were new to NEA Big Read, providing a wide range of voices, perspectives, and writing styles to choose from.

<u>Shakespeare in American Communities</u>, which introduces middle and high school students to live Shakespeare productions, awarded grants to 40 theater companies in 26 states and the District of Columbia to produce plays and accompanying educational material for at least ten schools each during the 2016-2017 season. Since its inception, 106 theater companies have taken part in the program, benefitting 9,100 schools in 3,900 communities in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

In addition to partnerships on the state and regional levels, the NEA collaborates with other agencies on the federal level. One such partnership was with the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to sponsor a National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine study on the integration of education in the sciences, engineering, and medicine with the arts and humanities. The study will examine the evidence behind the assertion that educational programs that mutually integrate learning experiences in the humanities, arts, and STEM lead to improved educational and career outcomes for undergraduate and graduate students. A report will be produced to summarize the results of this examination.

<u>Blue Star Museums</u> is an important joint initiative among the NEA, the Department of Defense, and Blue Star Families that offers free museum admission to active duty military personnel and their families from Memorial Day through Labor Day. More than 2,000 museums participated in 2016, reaching an estimated 900,000 people

across the country.



One of the military families enjoying their visit to the Hampton Roads Naval Museum during the 2016 launch of the Blue Star Museums initiative. Photo by David Hollingsworth Another partnership with the Department of Defense is Creative Forces: NEA Military Healing Arts Network. The initiative began in 2011 to support creative arts therapies for service members and their families at the National Intrepid Center of Excellence (NICoE) at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center - Bethesda, Maryland, a facility dedicated to serving combat veterans with traumatic brain injury and psychological health conditions. The program then expanded to the Fort Belvoir Community Hospital's NICoE satellite at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, in 2013. The success of the initiative led to Congress allocating an additional \$1.98 million toward the project in FY 2016. This allowed the NEA to expand and revamp the project. Creative Forces is expanding to an additional nine bases nationwide, and one telehealth program that would provide services for patients in rural and remote areas. In addition to supporting arts therapy at the clinical settings, the NEA is building community-based support networks around each of the 11 sites to provide military and veteran families with arts opportunities and a transition from clinic to community for former patients.



As part of the Library of Congress' National Book Festival held in Washington, DC in September 2016, the NEA invited ten writers, poets, and illustrators to the NEA Poetry and Prose Pavilion, of which seven were NEA Literature Fellows. The 2016 Poetry Out Loud state champions from Georgia and West Virginia and 2016 Poetry Out Loud national champion from Virginia opened the event, followed by a conversation between poets Joy Harjo and A.B. Spellman. A second conversation took place with author Michael Cunningham and the illustrator of his book A Wild Swan and Other Tales, Yuko Shimizu. In addition, there were readings by Sandra Beasley, Kaitlyn Greenidge, Marilyn Hacker, Kelly Link, Ron Rash, and Luis Alberto Urrea. As in 2015, the pavilion activities ended with a poetry slam, which brought together performers from Des Moines, Indianapolis, New York, and Washington, DC.

The NEA continued partnering with the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities (PCAH) on projects, such as the National Arts & Humanities Youth Program Awards, a collaboration among PCAH, NEA, NEH, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The awards honor outstanding after-school and out-of-school programs that are transforming the lives of young people. The NEA also worked with PCAH and IMLS, in partnership with the Sundance Institute, on Film Forward, an international cultural exchange program designed to enhance cross-cultural understanding by engaging audiences here and abroad with filmmakers and their films.

In April 2016, representatives from the NEA, NEH, PCAH, and Smithsonian Institution traveled to Cuba to explore opportunities for collaborative initiatives between the U.S. and Cuba. A result of the trip was a commitment by the NEA to include Cuba in the Southern Exposure program as well as to promote opportunities for U.S. artists to appear at Cuban festivals and arts markets through the USArtists International program, funded by the NEA and Mellon Foundation and administered by Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation.

The NEA released new data in February 2016 from its ongoing partnership with the U.S. Bureau of Economic Statistics to analyze the arts and cultural sector's contribution to the economy through the Arts and Cultural Production Satellite Account. Results for 2013, the most recent year that information was available, showed the arts and culture growing at a faster pace, contributing \$704.2 billion to the U.S. economy, a 32.5 percent increase since 1998. Another key finding was that consumer spending on the performing arts grew ten percent annually over the 15-year period.





Lifetime Honors

The Arts Endowment continued to make its public events accessible to all through the use of social media and the Internet. Both lifetime honors events—NEA National Heritage Fellowships and NEA Jazz Masters—were webcast live. Archived videos of the events are available on the NEA YouTube channel.

The NEA National Heritage Fellowships concert took place in September 2016 at the George Washington University Lisner Auditorium in Washington, DC. The concert included performances by Dakota flute maker and musician Bryan Akipa, Mardi Gras Indian Joseph Pierre "Big Chief Monk" Boudreaux, Irish button accordionist Billy McComiskey, Master Huastecan son musician Artemio Posadas, and Laotian khaen player Bounxeung Synanonh. The craft work of master shipwright Michael Vlahovich, White Oak basketmaker Leona Waddell, sweetgrass basketmaker Theresa Secord, and Tlingit ceremonial regalia maker Clarissa Rizal was also featured. The archive of the event can be found on arts.gov.

The <u>NEA Jazz Masters</u> tribute concert occurred in April 2017 at the Kennedy Center Concert Hall in Washington, DC, for a second year. To honor the new class of Dee Dee Bridgewater, Ira Gitler, Dave Holland, Dick Hyman, and Dr. Lonnie Smith, performers included NEA Jazz Masters Lee Konitz and Paquito D'Rivera, as well as Bill Charlap, Aaron Diehl, Donald Harrison, Booker T. Jones, Robin Eubanks, Steve Nelson, Chris Potter, and Dianne Reeves, among others. The <u>archive</u> of the event can be found on arts.gov.

The <u>2015 National Medal of Arts</u> were awarded in September 2016 at an East Room ceremony at the White House. The awardees were Mel Brooks, Sandra Cisneros, the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, Morgan Freeman, Philip Glass, Berry Gordy, Santiago Jiménez Jr., Moises Kaufman, Ralph Lemon, Audra McDonald, Luis Valdez, and Jack Whitten.

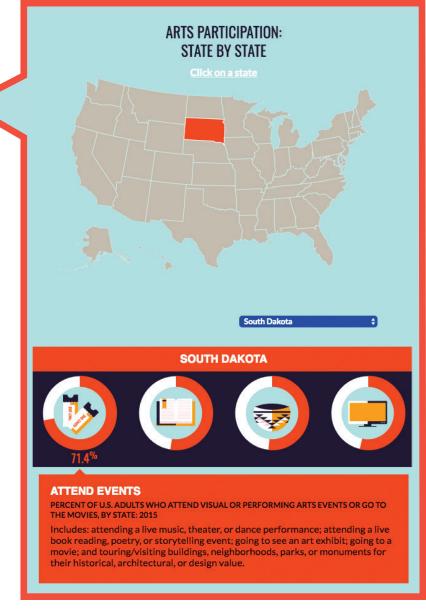


Research

The NEA Office of Research and Analysis (ORA) awarded 18 grants in FY 2016 for research on the value and impact of the arts in the United States, totaling \$320,000. The projects include one study that examines whether visual artists—working with biomedical researchers—can more effectively depict complex research concepts commonly used in biomedical research through images and illustrations. Another study examines whether interactive technology is related to social connectedness and well-being among older adults at an assisted living home. At the conclusion of each project, the grantees will submit a report of their findings, methods, and data sources.

ORA continued to conduct its own research on the value and impact of the arts in all domains of American life, such as health and well-being, community livability, and economic prosperity.

In FY 2016, ORA released <u>The Arts in Early</u> <u>Childhood: Social and Emotional Benefits of Arts</u> <u>Participation</u>, a literature review and gap-analysis of recent research about the arts' relationship to social-emotional benefits in early childhood for the period 2000 to 2015. Music-based activities, theater, and visual arts and crafts were among the types of arts participation studied.



ORA also produces an online series of Arts Data Profiles (ADPs), collections of statistics, graphics, and summary results from data-mining about the arts. In FY 2016, ORA released ADPs on the BEA's Arts and Cultural Production Satellite Account, the NEA's Annual Arts Basic Survey, a short-form version of the Survey of Public Participation in the Arts (SPPA), and State-Level Estimates of Arts Participation Patterns (2012-15).

In partnership with the NEA, the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention published a <u>literature review</u> on arts-based programs and art therapies for at-risk, justice-involved, and traumatized youths. This review explores recent research on arts-based programs and arts therapies.

ORA continued to convene the task force of 13 federal agencies and departments, the Federal Interagency Task Force on the Arts and Human Development, which works to encourage more and better research on how the arts help people reach their full potential at all stages of life. In FY 2016, a new publication was produced to present findings of the Summit on Creativity and Aging in America, which discussed the challenges and opportunities in the fields of healthy aging, lifelong learning in the arts, and design for aging communities. A webinar was held to discuss the findings of the report with the larger task force audience.



As part of the agency's 50th anniversary, the NEA created a new interactive page on Creativity Connects, which allows users to find successful projects that combine arts and non-arts organizations on activities that better their communities. This was in addition to the interactive timeline created to showcase important grants and projects that the NEA has funded in its 50-year history, and stories from people across the country sharing why the arts are important to them and their communities.

In order to interact with the field in a more in-depth way, the NEA has been holding webinars on various topics throughout the year. In addition, discipline offices send out monthly or quarterly <u>newsletters</u> with information about their field, and the Office of Public Affairs sends out a monthly newsletter to the arts community on what is happening at the agency and in the arts in general.

The NEA has continued webcasting its National Council on the Arts meetings as well as NEA events such as the Poetry Out Loud National Finals, the NEA Jazz Masters Tribute Concert, and the NEA National Heritage Fellowships Concert.

The NEA continues to produce the <u>Art Works blog</u> and <u>Art Works podcasts</u>, which inform and engage with the American people about arts activities and artists in communities across the country, showcasing the importance of the arts to the vitality of the nation. In addition, the NEA publishes a quarterly magazine, <u>NEA Arts</u>, which includes special audio and video features for its online version.

The NEA continues to interact with the general public through our social media channels. Content on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, and <u>YouTube</u> reaches an increasingly larger audience with each year, and the new channel on <u>Instagram</u> is steadily gathering followers.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

SUMMARY OF FUNDS AVAILABLE	FY 2016
Appropriated Program Funds	118,366,000
Appropriated Balance, Prior Year ¹	9,184,070
Nonfederal Gifts ¹	1,044,319
Interagency Transfers 1	4,091,000
TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDS AVAILABLE	132,685,389
TOTAL PROGRAM SUPPORT FUNDS AVAILABLE 1	2,490,182
TOTAL SALARIES & EXPENSES FUNDS AVAILABLE 2	34,903,516
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE 3	170,079,087

¹ Includes FY 2015 unobligated funds brought forward into FY 2016, prior year deobligations carried forward into FY 2016, and funds newly available in FY 2016, as applicable.

² Includes appropriated funds, nonfederal gifts, and interagency transfers including FY 2015 unobligated funds brought forward into FY 2016, prior year deobligations brought forward into FY 2016, and funds newly available in FY 2016, as applicable.

³ Includes nonfederal gifts and interagency transfers held on behalf of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities.

Summary of Funds Obligated for FY 2016¹

TOTAL

(\$ in thousands)

CREATION OF ART	
Direct Endowment Grants	
Project Support	12,086
Challenge America	568
Total Creation of Art	12,654
ENGAGING WITH ART	
Direct Endowment Grants	
Project Support	52,337
Challenge America	7,758
Total Engaging with Art	60,095
PROMOTING KNOWLEDGE	
Direct Endowment Grants	
Project Support	4,153
Challenge America	28
Total Promoting Knowledge	4,181
PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE ARTS	
State & Regional Partnerships	
Basic Plan Support	37,346
Underserved	10,114
Total Partnerships for the Arts	47,460
Total Program Funds Obligated	124,390
Total Program Support Funds Obligated	1,472
Total Program & Program Support Funds Obligated	125,862
Total Salaries & Expenses Funds Obligated	29,078
TOTAL FUNDS OBLIGATED ²	154,940

¹ Includes appropriated funds, nonfederal gifts, and interagency transfers

² Includes funds obligated on behalf of the President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities.

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

(as of April 15, 2016)

Jane Chu

Chairman, National Endowment for the Arts

Bruce Carter, Ph.D.

Arts Researcher Miami Beach, FL Term: 2013-2018

Aaron Dworkin

Violinist/Music Educator Ann Arbor, MI Term: 2011-2014

Lee Greenwood

Performer/Songwriter Nashville, TN Term: 2008-2014

Deepa Gupta

Philanthropic Professional Chicago, IL Term: 2012-2016

Paul Hodes

Attorney/Musician/Former Congressman Concord, NH Term: 2012-2016

Maria Rosario Jackson, Ph.D.

Urban Planning & Community Policy Specialist Los Angeles, CA Term: 2013-2016

Emil J. Kang

Music Professor/Arts Administrator Chapel Hill, NC Term: 2012-2018

Charlotte Kessler

Patron/Trustee Columbus, OH Term: 2006-2012*

María López De León

Arts Administrator San Antonio, TX Term: 2013-2016

Rick Lowe

Artist, Community Organizer Houston, TX Term: 2013-2018

David "Mas" Masumoto

Organic Farmer/Author Del Rey, CA Term: 2013-2018

Barbara Ernst Prey

Visual Artist Oyster Bay, NY Term: 2008-2014

Ranee Ramaswamy

Dancer, Choreographer, Teacher Minneapolis, MN Term: 2013-2018

Diane Rodriguez

Producer, Actor, Writer Loass Angeles, CA Term: 2016-2022

Tom Rothman

Film Industry Executive Los Angeles, CA Term: 2016

Olga Viso

Museum Director Minneapolis, MN Term: 2013-2018

* Council members continue to serve even after their terms expire until their replacements are confirmed by the Senate

Ex-Officio Members, United States Congress

Senate
Tammy Baldwin
(D-WI)

House

Betty McCollum
(D-MN)

Patrick J. Tiberi
(R-OH)

Appointment by Majority and Minority leadership of the remaining Members of Congress to the Council is pending.

NEA DISCIPLINE DIRECTORS

(as of April 15, 2016)

Music & Opera

Ann Meier Baker

Folk & Traditional Arts
Clifford Murphy

Accessibility

Beth Bienvenu

Artist Communities, Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works, International Activities Coordinator

Michael Orlove

Museums, Visual Arts, and Indemnity **Wendy Clark**

Theater & Musical Theater Greg Reiner

Media Arts

Jax Deluca

State & Regional Laura Scanlan

Arts Education **Ayanna N. Hudson**

Design

Jason Schupbach

Research & Analysis **Sunil lyengar**

Literature

Amy Stolls

Local Arts Agencies & Challenge America

Michael Killoren

Dance Vacant



National Endowment for the Arts

arts.gov