INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) support our cultural heritage, including efforts by communities around the country to tell a fuller American story and engage people with history in compelling ways.

Background

The NEA provides Americans in every congressional district the opportunity to experience and participate in the arts. Since 1965, NEA has awarded more than $5.5 billion in grants, which have been distributed in all fifty states. Each dollar of federal investment leverages up to $9 in private and other public funds. The NEH has distributed more than $5.6 billion through more than 64,000 grants for education, research, preservation, and other public programs in the humanities.

FY 2022 Appropriations Request

Please support $176 million for the National Endowment for the Arts and $225 million for the National Endowment for the Humanities in the FY 2022 Interior Appropriations bill.

National Endowment for the Arts

APPROPRIATIONS BILL: Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
AGENCY: National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities
ACCOUNT: National Endowment for the Arts
ACTIVITY: Grants and Administration

Recent Funding History:
FY 2019 Enacted Funding: $155.00 million
FY 2020 Enacted Funding: $162.25 million
FY 2021 Enacted Funding: $167.50 million
FY 2022 President’s Budget Request: TBD
FY 2022 NTHP Recommendation: $176.000 million

National Endowment for the Humanities

APPROPRIATIONS BILL: Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
AGENCY: National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities
ACCOUNT: National Endowment for the Humanities
ACTIVITY: Grants and Administration

Recent Funding History:
FY 2019 Enacted Funding: $155.00 million
FY 2020 Enacted Funding: $162.25 million
FY 2021 Enacted Funding: $167.50 million
FY 2022 President’s Budget Request: TBD
FY 2022 NTHP Recommendation: $225.000 million

JUSTIFICATION: NEA and NEH investments promote access to the arts and advance knowledge and understanding in the humanities for all Americans. The federal commitment to the arts and humanities spurs innovation, promotes economic development, and helps tell our nation’s many diverse stories.
INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

NEA and NEH in Action at National Trust for Historic Preservation Sites

Support from the National Endowment for the Arts has created programs like unLOCK: Merging Art and Industry in Downtown Lockport. The grant allowed the National Trust for Historic Preservation to create and execute a multi-media experience in Lockport, Illinois, at the Gaylord Building.

National Endowment for the Humanities support has brought teachers from around the country to learn about history in the places that it was made and to carry those experiences back to their classrooms. Some of these programs include exploring the intellectual underpinnings of the Constitution at James Madison’s Montpelier or discovering the rich, but largely unknown, African American history in the President’s neighborhood at Decatur House.

Through support from the NEA, the Shadows-on-the-Teche in New Iberia, Louisiana, undertook its project, “Telling the Full History: The African Shadows-on-the-Teche.” The multimedia, multi-platform presentation of new dramatic works focused on African American experiences in the 19th and 20th centuries at the Shadows-on-the-Teche and in the greater New Iberia community. This anthology of stories, songs, scenes, poems, recipes and sketches was created by the New Iberia Writers Workshop under the tutelage of playwright Ifa Bayeza and will premiere in June 2021.

In 2020, Woodlawn and Pope-Leighey House received an NEA grant to support “Creators and Cultivators: Engaging a Community to Design a New Trail for Woodlawn and Pope-Leighey House.” This project will bring together a wide variety of community members and leaders, partners, and specialists to create a plan for an art trail that serves the larger community and that weaves together the full histories of the site. The project will launch in May of 2021 and will focus especially on those histories that reflect the stories of the site’s free and enslaved Black and Indigenous peoples. Located in Fairfax County, Virginia, both of these sites are owned by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

For additional information, contact Shaw Sprague, Vice President of Government Relations and Policy, SSprague@savingplaces.org, (202) 588-6339.