

**National Endowment for the Arts' Support of
Historically Black Colleges and Universities**
as of February 2022

The National Endowment for the Arts supports HBCUs both through direct grants and by supporting projects that are in collaboration with HBCUs.

- [NEA Awarded Grants and Recommended Grants to HBCUs](#)
- [NEA Awarded Grants to Organizations for Projects in Collaboration with HBCUs](#)

FY 2022 recommended grants have been approved by the NEA Chair, but are subject to final review before award. Some details of the projects listed are subject to change, contingent upon prior National Endowment for the Arts approval. For the most up to date project information, please use the NEA's online [grant search](#).

NEA Awarded Grants and Recommended Grants to HBCUs (FY 2022-2019)

Bennett College

Grants for Arts Projects – Theater

FY 2022 \$20,000

Greensboro, NC

To support a theater festival. The festival will feature productions of "Mend A City: The Movement" by Vanecia Boone, Tabia Mawusi, and Philip J. Lightfoot; "Nick and the Prizefighter" by Kamilah Bush; "Periphery" by Ed Simpson; and "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom" by August Wilson. Produced in partnership with the Greensboro Consortium of Colleges and Universities, students from Bennett College and North Carolina A&T State University, two historically Black universities; Elon University; Greensboro College; Guilford College; High Point University; and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro will have the opportunity to participate in all aspects of performing arts festival production from administration to performance. The project will benefit theater artists and audiences in the Piedmont Triad region of North Carolina. Beneficiaries engage with the arts.

Howard University

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Grants to Organizations – American Rescue Plan

FY 2022 \$150,000

Washington, DC

To support personnel expenses in response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The support will help the organization maintain operations during recovery from the devastating economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. This assistance will benefit the organization's constituency, such as arts workers, artists, and audiences. Artistic activities and traditions are supported to strengthen the nation's cultural infrastructure.

Norfolk State University

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Grants to Organizations – American Rescue Plan

FY 2022 \$150,000

Norfolk, VA

To support personnel, facilities, and marketing expenses in response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The support will help the organization maintain operations during recovery from the devastating economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. This assistance will benefit the organization's constituency, such as arts workers, artists, and audiences. Artistic activities and traditions are supported to strengthen the nation's cultural infrastructure.

Saint Augustine's University

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Grants to Organizations – American Rescue Plan

FY 2022 \$50,000

Raleigh, NC

To support personnel expenses in response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The support will help the organization maintain operations during recovery from the devastating economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. This assistance will benefit the organization's constituency, such as arts workers, artists, and audiences. Artistic activities and traditions are supported to strengthen the nation's cultural infrastructure.

Southern University at New Orleans

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Grants to Organizations – American Rescue Plan

FY 2022 \$150,000

New Orleans, LA

To support personnel, safety supplies, and marketing expenses in response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The support will help the organization maintain operations during recovery from the devastating economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. This assistance will benefit the organization's constituency, such as arts workers, artists, and audiences. Artistic activities and traditions are supported to strengthen the nation's cultural infrastructure.

Tuskegee University

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Grants to Organizations – American Rescue Plan

FY 2022 \$150,000

Tuskegee Institute, AL

To support personnel expenses in response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The support will help the organization maintain operations during recovery from the devastating economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. This assistance will benefit the organization's constituency, such as arts workers, artists, and audiences. Artistic activities and traditions are supported to strengthen the nation's cultural infrastructure.

University of the Virgin Islands

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Grants to Organizations – American Rescue Plan

FY 2022 \$50,000

Charlotte Amalie, VI

To support personnel, safety supplies, and marketing expenses in response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The support will help the organization maintain operations during recovery from the devastating economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. This assistance will benefit the organization's constituency, such as arts workers, artists, and audiences. Artistic activities and traditions are supported to strengthen the nation's cultural infrastructure.

Alabama State University

Grants for Arts Projects – Folk & Traditional Arts

FY 2021 \$10,000

Montgomery, AL

To support a visual storytelling project focused on Black artistry and cultural heritage. Led by noted artists and community members, a series of discussions and workshops at Alabama State University, a historically Black university, will offer project participants instruction and inspiration for incorporating regional African-American cultural history and storytelling traditions into works of visual art. Participants may include students from local K-12 public schools, Montgomery residents, and members of the university community. The resulting art will be exhibited and archived at the university's National Center for the Study of Civil Rights and African American Culture. Project activities may take place either in-person or online.

Alcorn State University

Grants for Arts Projects – Music

FY 2021 \$15,000

Lorman, MS

To support musical performances and educational workshops at the Alcorn State University Jazz Festival. Alcorn State, a historically Black university, will produce the free, multi-day festival on campus and in Vicksburg, Mississippi, with performances by student jazz bands from across the region and an internationally acclaimed guest artist group whose members will conduct an educational workshop.

Howard University

Grants for Arts Projects – Design

FY 2021 \$25,000

Washington, DC

To support a community-engaged research and interior design project for Barry Farm in Washington, D.C. Students and faculty from Howard University's Interior Design program will conduct field research, collect observations from residents, and develop design concepts for shared community spaces that are sensitive to the needs of existing community members in mixed-income developments. The project also includes a symposium and summary paper to report the research findings. Barry Farm, formerly a 375-acre working farm, was established in 1867 by the Freedmen's Bureau as a new community for formerly enslaved and free-born African Americans.

Tuskegee University

Challenge America: Arts Engagement in American Communities

FY 2021 \$10,000

Tuskegee Institute, AL

To support general operating costs in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Alcorn State University

Art Works – Music
FY 2020 \$10,000
Lorman, MS

To support musical performances and an educational workshop at the 40th anniversary Alcorn State University Jazz Festival. Alcorn State, a historically Black university, will produce the free festival with performances by student jazz bands from across the region and an internationally acclaimed guest artist group whose members will conduct an educational workshop.

Elizabeth City State University

Challenge America: Arts Engagement in American Communities
FY 2020 \$10,000
Elizabeth City, NC

To support artist fees for concerts at Elizabeth City State University, a historically Black university. The virtual concerts by professional artists will be free to foster interaction between the campus and the local community.

North Carolina Central University

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act
FY 2020 \$50,000
Durham, NC

To support personnel costs in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

North Carolina Central University

Art Works – Arts Education
FY 2020 \$10,000
Durham, NC

To support guest artist fees and participant scholarships for a professional development program for teaching artists. North Carolina Central University, a historically Black university, will provide online and in-person coaching to prepare artists to work in school settings as teaching artists and to expand the number of certified African-American teaching artists available to schools across the state.

Tuskegee University

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act
FY 2020 \$50,000
Tuskegee Institute, AL

To support personnel costs in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Alcorn State University

Art Works – Music

FY 2019 \$10,000

Lorman, MS

To support musical performances and an educational workshop at the Alcorn State University Jazz Festival. The free, public, day-long festival will feature performances by middle school through university-level jazz bands from across the region; a regional all-star jazz ensemble; and an internationally-acclaimed guest artist group whose members will conduct an educational workshop.

Bowie State University

Art Works – Theater

FY 2019 \$10,000

Bowie, MD

To support the development of *Other People's Stories: Dialogues Across Distance and Difference*, a new play inspired by conversations between college students at Bowie State University and Kent State University who are training to become teachers. Playwright Morgan McGuire and Dramaturge Susan Einhorn will assist in casting and directing a staged reading at Bowie State University of the play. The script, is based on an archive of video conferencing communications among teacher candidates from Maryland and Ohio as part of a research project. Topics of discussion covered in the conferences included perceptions of Africa, immigration, homophobia, bias, and religious intolerance. The playwright will use transcripts, audio and video recordings, and other artifacts to create the play. The resulting script will be further developed through a staged reading by a professional cast.

Tuskegee University

Challenge America: Arts Engagement in American Communities

FY 2019 \$10,000

Tuskegee Institute, AL

To support an exhibition by visual artist Titus Kaphar at the Legacy Museum. The exhibition will include paintings from the artist's own collection and work from other institutions, displayed in the university's Legacy Museum, a bioethics and visual arts museum. Through his art, Kaphar confronts matters of race and intends to challenge audiences to think about who controls their bodies, how to achieve freedom from that control, and how to do that in ways that can benefit society.

NEA Awarded Grants to Organizations for Projects in Collaboration with HBCUs (FY 2022-2020)

Baltimore Choral Arts Society, Inc.

Grants for Arts Projects – Music

FY 2022 \$10,000

Baltimore, MD

To support a concert featuring Mozart's Requiem along with a commission by composer and vocalist Jasmine Barnes with related educational activities and a television broadcast. The concert will take place at Gilliam Concert Hall on the campus of Morgan State University, a historically Black university. Joining the chorus will be members of the Carter Legacy Singers, a volunteer choir that includes alumni of Morgan State University. Prior to the concert, a free lecture will be led by the composer and by Anthony Blake Clark, Artistic Director of Baltimore Choral Arts Society. The concert will be broadcast on WMAR-TV, an ABC-affiliated station, and will be made available online. The program will serve audiences in the Baltimore region as well as those accessing the online content. Beneficiaries engage with the arts.

Coalition for African Americans in the Performing Arts

Grants for Arts Projects – Music

FY 2022 \$30,000

Accokeek, MD

To support a master class series for aspiring classical music singers. The series will help students hone their musical skills through expert advice from professional musicians, one-on-one critiques, coaching, vocal lessons, and learning tools and techniques. The project will take place virtually and in-person at several historically Black colleges and universities such as Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland; Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia; and Virginia State University in Petersburg, Virginia. Artistic activities and traditions are supported to strengthen the nation's cultural infrastructure.

Da Camera Society of Texas

Grants for Arts Projects – Music

FY 2022 \$25,000

Houston, TX

To support artist fees for presentations of chamber music and jazz. Plans include the presentation of *Awakening*, a chamber opera by composer Courtney Bryan with libretto by Sharan Strang, and *Unearthed* by jazz drummer Kendrick Scott, which commemorates the recently discovered unmarked graves of 95 African-Americans in the nearby city of Sugar Land. Texas Southern University, a historically Black university, will coordinate community dialogue activities. Other presentations will include soprano Julia Bullock, pianist Jeremy Denk, and the Finnish string quartet Meta4. The proposed project will benefit audiences in the Houston area. Beneficiaries engage with the arts.

National Symphony Orchestra Association of Washington, DC

Grants for Arts Projects – Music

FY 2022 \$40,000

Washington, DC

To support musician salaries for a performance project celebrating composer George Walker. The concert will feature Walker's Sinfonia No. 1 and Sinfonia No. 4 and will be performed at Howard University, a historically Black university. A Washington, D.C. native who performed his first public piano recital at Howard at the age of 14, Walker was the first African-American composer to win the Pulitzer Prize for music. The free concert will be complemented by free public programs, including educational programs led by the Kennedy Center's composer-in-residence Carlos Simon, chamber music performances with music students at Howard University, pre- and post-concert discussions, and an exhibition in the lobby of the Kennedy Center. Student engagement will include Dunbar High School and the Duke Ellington School for the Arts in Washington, D.C. The project will engage diverse audiences of all ages in the greater Washington, D.C., metropolitan area. Beneficiaries engage with the arts.

Post-Classical Ensemble, Inc.

Grants for Arts Projects – Music

FY 2022 \$30,000

Washington, DC

To support staff costs and artist fees for a music festival of performances and related community engagement events. A collaboration with Georgetown University and Howard University, a historically Black university, the multi-week festival will feature Music Director Angel Gil-Ordonez, pianist Laura Downes, and the Howard University Chorus with baritone Kevin Deas. The festival repertoire will include works by composers such as Harry Burleigh, Nathaniel Dett, William Dawson, Florence Price, William Grant Still, and Margaret Bonds. Activities will include concerts with commentary, master classes, lectures, and discussions that will include a keynote address by tenor George Shirley (the first Black tenor to perform with the Metropolitan Opera). The festival will be followed by a documentary film released by Naxos, a CD of composer Dawson's music on the Naxos label, and a radio documentary broadcast on the WWFM network. The project will serve diverse audiences of all ages in the greater Washington, D.C., metropolitan area, including students at Howard University and Georgetown University. Beneficiaries engage with the arts.

Silk Road Project, Inc.

Grants for Arts Projects – Music

FY 2022 \$45,000

Allston, MA

To support the development of a new musical work. Directed by Artistic Director Rhiannon Giddens, the project will result in a new 75-minute work for Silkroad artists that explores the crossroads of innovation and tradition, stemming from the cultural traditions of the people who built or were displaced by the American transcontinental railroads. Workshops at several colleges (such as Sitting Bull Tribal College in North Dakota, and Chief Dull Knife Tribal College in Montana), universities (such as Howard University, a historically Black university in Washington, D.C.), and cultural organizations across the country, will inform the artistic development of the work through cross-cultural dialogue and exchange. The project

will benefit collaborating artists of Silkroad, guest artists and scholars, college students and diverse communities across the country. Artistic activities and traditions are supported to strengthen the nation's cultural infrastructure.

Sonny Boy Blues Society

Grants for Arts Projects – Music

FY 2022 \$25,000

Helena, AR

To support the King Biscuit Blues Festival. The multi-day outdoor festival will feature as many as 300 blues and gospel artists on five free public stages and the ticketed main stage performance. Related educational and personal enrichment activities will include an artist-led Blues-in-Schools program in local public schools and the Boys & Girls Club of Phillips County, as well as a free Blues Symposium open to musicians and the community. The free performances and related events will benefit local, national, and international Blues audiences of all ages. Beneficiaries engage with the arts.

VocalEssence

Grants for Arts Projects – Music

FY 2022 \$40,000

Minneapolis, MN

To support the annual WITNESS choral performance project celebrating the contributions of African-Americans. The project will feature guest artists the Aeolians of Oakwood University (a historically Black university in Huntsville, Alabama) with Artistic Director Jason Max Ferdinand. Programming will include works by composers such as Adolphus Hailstork and Nathaniel Dett, as well as workshops and residencies in the community and in public schools. The WITNESS school program curriculum and Young People's Concert also will be provided online for free to schools. Activities may take place virtually. Participants and audiences of all ages will benefit from the project. Beneficiaries engage with the arts.

Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge, Inc.

Grants for Arts Projects – Local Arts Agencies

FY 2021 \$50,000

Baton Rouge, LA

To support the River City Jazz Masters series with music performances and related outreach activities. The series will be curated in partnership with the River City Jazz Coalition. Outreach activities will include artist residencies at Southern University Baton Rouge, a historically Black university; a series of reduced ticket price performances by emerging musicians; and educational programming such as school performances and master classes.

Conspirare, Inc.

Grants for Arts Projects – Music

FY 2021 \$35,000

Austin, TX

To support the premiere staged performance of an opera for bass/baritone, chorus, and chamber ensemble with music and libretto by Kile Smith. The work, titled "The Book of Job", is a retelling of the Old Testament allegory about a virtuous man of wealth and privilege who loses everything but comes to know greater love and peace. Community engagement activities may include partnerships with area schools and with Huston-Tillotson University, a historically Black university.

Cornell University

Grants for Arts Projects – Music

FY 2021 \$30,000

Ithaca, NY

To support concert presentations of music based on historic accounts of enslaved people during the American Civil War. A concert program by singer, fiddler, and banjo player Rhiannon Giddens accompanied by a string band will feature music from the era. Also on the program will be a new song cycle by composer Shawn Okpebholo with poetry by Tsitsi Jaji that will reflect on historic texts from the era and feature performances by African-American musicians. Venues may include the Apollo Theater in New York City; Ithaca College and Cornell University in Ithaca, New York; and Duke University and North Carolina Central University, a historically Black university, in Durham, North Carolina.

Deep Center, Incorporated

Grants for Arts Projects – Arts Education

FY 2021 \$55,000

Savannah, GA

To support a free creative writing literacy program for middle and high school youth from underserved communities. After-school workshops for students (including students involved in the courts), led by professional teaching writers, will include instruction in creative writing skills, one-on-one mentoring, apprenticeships, and feedback sessions. Student work will be featured in printed anthologies and performed at public readings, poetry slams, and book launch events. Savannah State University, a historically Black university, will serve as a project partner.

Diaz Music Institute

Grants for Arts Projects – Music

FY 2021 \$26,700

Houston, TX

To support the Latin Jazz Summer Workshop and concert series. The 20th anniversary program will be held at multiple Houston locations and serve elementary, middle, and high school students including youth from underserved communities. Topics to be covered include music theory, music history, ear training, composition, dance, or vocal studies and will be taught by professional musicians and educators, including program Founder and Artistic Director Jose Antonio Diaz. Students will be able to showcase their new skills in post-workshop performances, when they will share the stage with the instructors.

MINDPOP

Grants for Arts Projects – Arts Education

FY 2021 \$61,000

Austin, TX

To support professional development and career opportunities for emerging and practicing teaching artists. In alignment with the Austin Independent School District plan for arts education, teaching artists will learn practical strategies for teaching art in schools and diverse community settings. Once they have completed training, teaching artists will be invited to attend an ongoing, advanced professional development program and network with organizations, funders, and other working artists and teaching artists. Huston-Tillotson University, a historically Black university, will serve as a project partner. Project activities will take place both in-person and online.

National Art Education Association

Grants for Arts Projects – Arts Education

FY 2021 \$40,000

Alexandria, VA

To support the fourth phase of a professional leadership certificate program for visual arts educators. A cohort of teachers from the pilot phase of the project will work with experienced facilitators to become certified presenters of the Cultural Competency in Teaching and Professional Leadership Certificate Program. Professional development will take place virtually and in-person. Certified trainers will co-present a curriculum that addresses issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion at regional workshops across the country. Howard University, a historically Black university, the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, and the Fairfax County, Virginia, NAACP will serve as project partners.

Ogden Museum of Southern Art, Inc.

Grants for Arts Projects – Museums

FY 2021 \$35,000

New Orleans, LA

To support museum internship opportunities for teens and students of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). The program for teens helps youth develop leadership and critical thinking skills; provides docent training; exposes them to museum career opportunities; and allows participants to work directly with artists, preparing them to work as art camp counselors through the development of their own creative projects. The HBCU internship program provides a stipend to university students who receive professional development opportunities with museum professionals.

Robert W. Woodruff Arts Center, Inc.

Grants for Arts Projects – Theater

FY 2021 \$40,000

Atlanta, GA

To support the Alliance Theatre's Spelman Leadership Fellows program. In partnership with Spelman College, a historically Black college, the Alliance Theater will expand its fellowship program to include professional development opportunities at the Repertory Theatre of St. Louis and the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. During their time as fellows, participants learn the complexities of running large nonprofit theaters as they develop new skills while collaborating with staff.

Robert W. Woodruff Arts Center, Inc.

Grants for Arts Projects – Theater

FY 2021 \$40,000

Atlanta, GA

To support the Alliance Theatre's Spelman Leadership Fellows program. In partnership with Spelman College, a historically Black college, the Alliance Theater will expand its fellowship program to include professional development opportunities at the Repertory Theatre of St. Louis and the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. During their time as fellows, participants learn the complexities of running large nonprofit theaters as they develop new skills while collaborating with staff.

Tennessee Williams/New Orleans Literary Festival, Inc.

Grants for Arts Projects – Literary Arts

FY 2021 \$10,000

New Orleans, LA

To support literary festivals. The Tennessee Williams/New Orleans Literary Festival and the Saints and Sinners Literary Festival feature activities such as readings, master classes, panel discussions, and walking tours, as well as workshops for youth. In partnership with local historically Black universities, the organization also will present literary programming celebrating the diversity of the community and providing a forum for discussions of racial equity and social justice.

Zora Neale Hurston - Richard Wright Foundation

Grants for Arts Projects – Literary Arts

FY 2021 \$20,000

Washington, DC

To support literary workshops and readings, as well as judging fees. With a focus on mentoring and showcasing Black writers, the organization will offer application-based poetry, fiction, and nonfiction workshops in virtually and in Washington, D.C., that provide craft instruction as well as advice on the business of publishing. The organization also will offer free public readings. Project partners will include Howard University, a historically Black university, and local bookstores.

Arts and Humanities Council of Tuscaloosa, Inc.

Grants for Arts Projects – Arts Education

FY 2021 \$100,000

Tuscaloosa, AL

To support the pARTners Project, a collective impact project. With a focus on students in rural areas, the goal of the initiative is to increase access to arts education for students in West-Central Alabama. Working in collaboration with Alabama's Artistic Literacy Consortium, the West Alabama and Greater Birmingham Arts Education Collaboratives will provide arts integration programs to schools, including developing curriculum and training teachers. Teaching artist recruitment will occur at local colleges and universities such as the University of Alabama and Stillman College, a historically Black college. Community teams will work with consultants to identify gaps in arts education access in the region, and then develop and implement arts education strategic plans for their communities.

Coalition for African Americans in the Performing Arts

Grants for Arts Projects – Music

FY 2021 \$25,000

Accokeek, MD

To support a master class series for aspiring classical music singers. The series will help students hone their musical craft through expert advice from professional musicians, one-on-one critiques, coaching, vocal lessons, and learning tools and techniques. The project will take place at several historically Black colleges and universities such as Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland; Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia; and Virginia State University in Petersburg, Virginia.

Contemporary Arts Center

Grants for Arts Projects – Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works

FY 2021 \$25,000

New Orleans, LA

To support artist fees as well as travel and production costs for a multidisciplinary performance series. Dance and theater artists will present work focused on gender injustice, specifically as it pertains to individuals affected by incarceration. Works will include choreographer Jo Kreiter's *The Wait Room*; theater artist Keneza Schaal, visual designer Christopher Myers, and performer Cornell Nate Alston's *Jack* and a new work by *The Graduates*, a theater performance ensemble comprised of former members of the Louisiana Correctional Institute for Women Drama Club. The CAC will partner with Xavier University, a historically Black university, to provide students with artist-led lecture-demonstrations, workshops, and panel discussions.

Da Camera Society of Texas

Grants for Arts Projects – Music

FY 2021 \$25,000

Houston, TX

To support artist fees for presentations of chamber music and jazz. Plans may include the presentation of *Unearthed* by jazz drummer Kendrick Scott, which commemorates the recently discovered unmarked graves of 95 African-American inmates in the nearby city of Sugar Land. Texas Southern University, a historically Black university, will coordinate community dialogue activities. Other plans may include concerts by chamber ensembles *Quartetto di Cremona* and *Brentano String Quartet*, clarinetist David Krakauer, soprano Dawn Upshaw, and trumpeter and composer Amir ElSaffar.

Educational Theatre Association

Grants for Arts Projects – Arts Education

FY 2021 \$50,000

Cincinnati, OH

To support *Behind the Scenes*, a pilot technical theater program for middle school students. Pre-service theater and education majors from Morgan State University, a historically Black university in Baltimore, Maryland, will work with professional theater artists of color and classroom teachers, in virtual and in-person settings, to create and test standards-based instruction units in lighting, sound, set, and costume design. This will provide vocational experiences in technical theater for eighth-grade students in Baltimore City Public Schools. As part of the pilot, the selected schools will receive iPads equipped with appropriate design software and visits from the teaching artists who will model career pathways and provide feedback on students' designs. The project will culminate in a showcase of student's designs and the field-tested units of instruction will be publicly available.

Illinois State University

Grants for Arts Projects – Literary Arts

FY 2021 \$15,000

Normal, IL

To support outreach to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and the publication of "Obsidian: Literature Arts in the African Diaspora" With the aim of growing its readership and cultivating new voices, "Obsidian" plans to offer literary programming at HBCUs across the country. The project will culminate in the publication of an issue that features emerging talent and celebrates HBCU graduates who have been contributors to "Obsidian's" rich literary history.

Independent Media Artists of GA, Etc. Inc.

Grants for Arts Projects – Media Arts

FY 2021 \$20,000

Atlanta, GA

To support Atlanta Film Society's annual Atlanta Film Festival and related public programming. The Academy Award-qualifying festival will include screenings of narrative, documentary, and experimental works, including virtual reality and other non-traditional screening formats. In addition, the festival will host a creative conference featuring educational panels, seminars, industry-related events, and free sessions on topics such as directing short films and independent film funding and distribution. Some program activity may take place virtually.

Josephine Sculpture Park Inc.

Grants for Arts Projects – Artist Communities

FY 2021 \$20,000

Frankfort, KY

To support an artist residency program for visual artists and related public programming. Artists from Kentucky and across the United States will be provided with housing and studio facilities, as well as installation and exhibition opportunities. Artists will engage the local rural audience through community workshops, lectures, artist talks, and informal interactions with visitors. A partnership with Kentucky State University, a historically Black university, will enable students to engage with the residency program as interns and volunteers.

Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra

Grants for Arts Projects – Music

FY 2021 \$10,000

New Orleans, LA

To support the presentation of guest artists Tank and the Bangas with related educational activities. Nominated as Best New Artist for the 2019 Grammy Awards, the funk, soul, and hip-hop band will perform with the orchestra. Educational activities may include workshops and master classes for students.

Penland School of Crafts, Inc.

Grants for Arts Projects – Artist Communities

FY 2021 \$25,000

Bakersville, NC

To support residencies in contemporary crafts. Artists will be provided with access to space, equipment, technical assistance in professionally equipped studios, and community engagement opportunities. Penland will provide studio access for artists working independently or collaboratively in bookmaking, papermaking, letterpress, and printing; drawing and painting; clay; glass; iron and other metals; photography; textiles; wood; and writing. To increase access to the residency program for people of color, fellows will be recruited from historically Black colleges and universities.

Producers Club of Maryland, Inc.

Grants for Arts Projects – Media Arts

FY 2021 \$20,000

Baltimore, MD

To support the Maryland Film Festival and associated public programming. Presenting narrative, documentary, experimental, and animated films, the hybrid virtual and in-person festival screenings will be accompanied by question- and-answer sessions and panels with filmmakers, critics, curators, and artists.

Washington Performing Arts Society

Grants for Arts Projects – Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works

FY 2021 \$35,000

Washington, DC

To support a series celebrating renowned jazz pianist Hazel Scott. The series will be anchored with a new production by the Dance Theatre of Harlem, choreographed by Tiffany Rea-Fisher, set to a composite of Scott's recordings and original music by composer Erica Blunt. Related activities will include spoken-word performances, panels, and cabaret performances. Programming may be presented live or online.

Art Papers, Inc.

Art Works – Visual Arts

FY 2020 \$30,000

Atlanta, GA

To support content development for the print and online presentation of ART PAPERS magazine and related public programming. Commissioned artists will produce original editorial and artistic content for the publication. Complementary public programming will include in person and online activities such as a public lecture series, artist talks, and an educational program.

CapitalBop, Inc.

Art Works – Music

FY 2020 \$15,000

Washington, DC

To support the CapitalBop Festival. Held in the amphitheater space at the former Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., the free one-day festival will showcase local and national jazz artists. Daytime and evening outreach events including educational activities may take place at clubs, galleries, and schools citywide, with the goal of drawing in audiences from underserved areas.

Deep Center, Incorporated

Art Works – Arts Education

FY 2020 \$60,000

Savannah, GA

To support a free creative writing literacy program for middle and high school youth from underserved communities. Led by professional teaching writers, after-school workshops for students (including students involved in the courts) will include instruction in creative writing skills, one-on-one mentoring, and feedback sessions. Student work will be featured in printed anthologies and performed at public readings, poetry slams, and book launch events. Savannah State University, a historically Black university, will serve as a project partner.

Entertainment Industry College Outreach Program

Art Works – Media Arts

FY 2020 \$20,000

Burbank, CA

To support HBCU in LA, a pipeline development program designed to recruit and train underrepresented student leaders for careers in media, entertainment, and education. Entertainment Industry College Outreach Program (EICOP) will conduct a tour of historically Black colleges and universities across the country for internship recruitment and educational career forums, culminating in summer internships at entertainment networks and organizations in Los Angeles. In addition, students will produce a short film under the supervision of industry professionals.

Firehouse Theatre Project Inc

Art Works – Musical Theater

FY 2020 \$15,000

Richmond, VA

To support the development and world premiere production of Gabriel with book, music, and lyrics by Ron Klipp. The new musical will tell the story of the efforts made by enslaved people to end slavery throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1800. The theater will partner with Virginia Union University, a historically Black university, to develop project related education and community engagement activities.

Greatest Stories Never Told

Art Works – Theater

FY 2020 \$10,000

Broken Arrow, OK

To support the development and production of *The Flying Hobos*, a play for young audiences with music by Louisa Jaggard and Kevin Mambo. The play tells the story of James Herman Banning and Thomas Cox Allen, two aviators who became the first African Americans to fly across the United States in 1932. The play will be produced for online streaming, with virtual screening events offered at historically Black colleges and universities, community centers, and libraries.

Hattiloo Theatre

Art Works – Theater

FY 2020 \$25,000

Memphis, TN

To support the development and world premiere production of *Tumbling Down*, a new play by Ekundayo Bandele. The play will revisit the first half of the 20th Century during which statues honoring the Confederacy were erected in Memphis, Tennessee, and also will highlight the strategies that led to the removal of some of these monuments in recent years.

Inprint, Inc.

Art Works – Literary Arts

FY 2020 \$20,000

Houston, TX

To support literary programming for adults and young people. The Margaret Root Brown Reading Series features virtual readings and interviews with internationally acclaimed authors. Cool Brains!, a series for young people designed to cultivate a love of the written word, offers free readings followed by lively online question-and-answer sessions.

Magic City Smooth Jazz

Art Works – Music

FY 2020 \$10,000

Birmingham, AL

To support the free Jazz in the Park concert series. Concerts ranging from bebop to contemporary to traditional jazz will take place from June to October in community parks and non-traditional venues as well as at Historically Black Colleges and Universities in Alabama. The artist roster will include Alabama-based talent as well as emerging artists from other states.

Mississippi Cultural Crossroads, Inc.

Challenge America – Challenge America

FY 2020 \$10,000

Port Gibson, MS

To support the creation of a fiber mural led by Polish artist Olek. Part of international artist Olek and her Love Across America project, the artist and her team will visit Port Gibson, Mississippi, at the start of the project to work with community members selecting the content of the mural and to teach them how to crochet. The community participants will continue the project, meeting regularly to finish sections of the public art piece. Olek and her team will return to assemble and install the collaborative piece of artwork.

Mobile Symphony, Inc.

Challenge America – Challenge America

FY 2020 \$10,000

Mobile, AL

To support artist and travel fees for music performances and educational outreach activities with guest cellist Sujari Britt. The guest musician will perform and engage students in conversations at Bishop State Community College, a historically Black college. She will also visit Title I elementary schools to perform for underserved youth. The culminating performance will be a collaborative concert by Britt and the Mobile Symphony Orchestra.

Nashville Opera Association

Art Works – Opera

FY 2020 \$25,000

Nashville, TN

To support pre-production engagement programming related to performances of Porgy and Bess by composer George Gershwin and librettists DuBose Heyward and Ira Gershwin, in partnership with Tennessee State University. Students and alumni from Tennessee State University, a historically Black university, will fill several supporting roles and sing in the chorus. Activities will include online master classes and community engagement panel discussions on topics such as the portrayal of the Black experience in the opera, vocal technique, stage direction, and what the opera means to the principal artists facilitating the panels.

National Art Education Association

Art Works – Arts Education

FY 2020 \$30,000

Alexandria, VA

To support the second phase of a professional leadership certificate program for visual arts educators. A cohort of teachers from the pilot phase of the project will work with experienced facilitators to become certified presenters of the Cultural Competency in Teaching and Professional Leadership Certificate Program. Professional development will take place virtually and in-person. Certified trainers will co-present a curriculum that addresses issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion at regional workshops across the country.

New Orleans Airlift Inc.

Art Works – Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works

FY 2020 \$55,000

New Orleans, LA

To support a series of artist residencies and commissions. Multi-week residencies by artists and composers Matana Roberts, Jeremy Thal, and Lonnie Holley will occur throughout the seasons. Other visiting artists may collaborate with local artists and community members to develop works inspired by African-American and Latinx cultures.

North Carolina Opera

Art Works – Opera

FY 2020 \$20,000

Raleigh, NC

To support a staged production of the oratorio Sanctuary Road by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Paul Moravec and librettist Mark Campbell. Based on the 1877 book by William Still, the work tells stories of people who ran the Underground Railroad and of those who escaped slavery through it. The company will collaborate with historically Black universities North Carolina Central University and Shaw University in presenting the production and related community engagement activities.

Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra, Inc.

Art Works – Music

FY 2020 \$20,000

Tallahassee, FL

To support a commissioning and performance project featuring a new work by composer Joel Thompson. The composition for orchestra, chorus, and vocalists will commemorate the City of Tallahassee's historic 1956 bus boycott during the Civil Rights Era. Organizational partners will include the John G. Riley Center for African American History & Culture and the Concert Choir of Florida A&M University, a historically Black university. In addition to the premiere performance, local youth and will be offered free access to the dress rehearsal and/or a streamed version of the concert.

Zora Neale Hurston - Richard Wright Foundation

Art Works – Literary Arts

FY 2020 \$10,000

Washington, DC

To support virtual literary workshops and readings. With a focus on mentoring and showcasing Black writers, the organization will offer application-based poetry, fiction, and nonfiction workshops and master classes online. Classes will provide craft instruction as well as advice on the business of publishing, and instructors will give public readings from their own work. Project partners include Howard University, a historically Black university.

African American Heritage Foundation

Art Works – Museums

FY 2020 \$20,000

Louisville, KY

To support the exhibition "The African Village Tour" and accompanying catalog, at the Kentucky Center for African American Heritage. Using African artifacts from the historic Africa House Mansion, a former slave plantation converted into an African cultural center in Tennessee, the project will include the analysis and digital cataloging of the collection to make it accessible for public programming and curation. The collection includes approximately 500 artifacts of mostly West African art. After its debut in Louisville, the exhibition will travel to Simmons College of Kentucky and Kentucky State University in a tour of historically Black colleges.

Alabama Dance Council, Inc.

Art Works – Dance

FY 2020 \$25,000

Birmingham, AL

To support programming at the Alabama Dance Festival. Programs include a New Works Concert featuring Southern choreographers, showcases of regional dance companies, master classes, community classes, and screendance film showings.

Arts Council of New Orleans

Art Works – Local Arts Agencies

FY 2020 \$60,000

New Orleans, LA

To support LUNA Fete, an annual illumination festival. The festival will feature temporary, large-scale, site-specific light and technology artworks. Additionally, year-round training programs will engage youth and artists of color from historically underserved communities in the creation of light and technology-based art forms.

Atlanta Ballet, Inc.

Art Works – Dance

FY 2020 \$10,000

Atlanta, GA

To support a new work by choreographer Dwight Rhoden. The piece will use contemporary ballet to demonstrate themes of devotion, tenacity, love, and compassion. The performance will include spiritual music and a live gospel choir performed by Spelman College Glee Club.

Atlanta Opera

Art Works – Opera

FY 2020 \$25,000

Atlanta, GA

To support performances of "Porgy and Bess" with related community engagement activities. In collaboration with historically Black colleges Morehouse College and Spelman College, Atlanta Opera will offer master classes, enrichment activities, and admission-free tickets to vocal performance students. The performances are part of Atlanta Opera's 40th anniversary season.

Atlantic Center for the Arts, Inc.

Art Works – Artist Communities

FY 2020 \$10,000

New Smyrna Beach, FL

To support an artist residency program. Interdisciplinary residencies offer experimentation and opportunities to engage with the public at free lectures, readings, and demonstrations throughout Central Florida.

Chrysler Museum Inc.

Art Works – Museums

FY 2020 \$65,000

Norfolk, VA

To support the traveling exhibition "Alma W. Thomas: Everything is Beautiful." Developed in collaboration with the Columbus Museum in Georgia, the exhibition will be organized around themes that include diverse artworks, rarely seen theater sets, puppets, sculpture, garden designs, homemade clothing, and paintings from Thomas (1891-1978). The exhibition will travel to the Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C. Programming and activities at historically Black colleges and universities near each venue are planned to expand the exhibition's impact.

Coalition for African Americans in the Performing Arts

Art Works – Music

FY 2020 \$15,000

Accokeek, MD

To support a master class series for aspiring classical music singers. The series will help students hone their musical craft through expert advice from professional musicians, including one-on-one critiques, coaching, vocal lessons, and learning tools and techniques. The project will be conducted virtually, as well, if possible, in-person, for students at several historically Black universities such as Jackson State University in Jackson, Mississippi; Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee; and Prairie View A&M University in Prairie View, Texas.

Contemporary Arts Museum Houston

Art Works – Museums

FY 2020 \$30,000

Houston, TX

To support a group exhibition "Slowed and Thrown: Records of the City Through Mutated Lenses" and an accompanying catalogue. With the guidance of an advisory panel of music and art experts, including faculty from Texas Southern University, a historically Black university, the exhibition will draw parallels between inventive and conceptual photographic works and the audio innovations of DJ Screw. DJ Screw, an influential figure in the hip-hop community, distorted songs by other musical artists, and created "chopped up" works with a distinct sound and perspective. The exhibition will include works by approximately 20 artists such as Jamal Cyrus, Chris Bexar, and Avisheh Mohsenin, and Devin Kenny, who similarly alter or distort photographs to create their work. Public programming related to the exhibition will be presented virtually as necessary.

Film Collaborative

Art Works – Media Arts

FY 2020 \$20,000

Los Angeles, CA

To support a virtual filmmaker touring program at colleges and universities in Michigan, Ohio, Texas, and Wisconsin. Curated in partnership with New Day Films, filmmakers will present a selection of their works and participate in facilitated group discussions. Themes will include issues of public interest such as the environment, healthcare, and education.

Florida State University

Art Works – Museums

FY 2020 \$20,000

Tallahassee, FL

To support an exhibition by contemporary artists exploring the impact of hurricanes on communities across the United States. The exhibition will include works by artists from areas that have dealt with major hurricanes. Through their work, artists will confront the complex cultural and physical impacts of storms that have recently affected the Florida Panhandle. A partnership with Florida A&M University, a historically Black university, the project will include film screenings, readings, artist talks, and other supplemental programming open to the general public on both campuses.

Flux Projects, Inc.

Art Works – Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works

FY 2020 \$15,000

Atlanta, GA

To support a multidisciplinary performance and installation by Charmaine Minniefield. Minniefield will research ring shout traditions (an African-American worship and gathering practice) and develop a related site-specific installation at Oakland Cemetery. Activities will include dance performances, multimedia projections, workshops, lectures, and discussions.

FotoFest, Inc.

Art Works – Visual Arts

FY 2020 \$45,000

Houston, TX

To support FotoFest 2020, an international biennial of photography. The biennial, "African Cosmologies – Photography, Time and the Other", will present contemporary artists from Africa and its diaspora alongside U.S. and other international artists. Reaching a wide audience, the program will include a central exhibition, a conference on contemporary African art, forums and panel discussions, films and performing arts, professional development programs, and educational outreach for youth participants.

Frist Art Museum

Art Works – Museums

FY 2020 \$45,000

Nashville, TN

To support the exhibition Terry Adkins: Our Sons and Daughters Ever on the Altar, including educational and public programming. Co-organized and co-presented with Fisk University, a historically Black university, the exhibition will feature a survey of artist Terry Adkin's (1953-2014) multimedia, multidisciplinary practice that explored the intersection of music, art, identity, and African-American history through sculpture, prints, performance, and video. Some project activity may take place virtually.

Josephine Sculpture Park Inc.

Art Works – Artist Communities

FY 2020 \$10,000

Frankfort, KY

To support an artist residency program for visual artists and related public programming. National and local artists will be provided with housing and studio facilities, as well as installation and exhibition opportunities. Artists will engage the local rural audience through community workshops, lectures, school field trips, and informal interactions with visitors. A partnership with Kentucky State University, a historically Black university, will enable students to engage with the residency program as interns and volunteers.

Le Petit Theatre Du Vieux Carre

Art Works – Theater

FY 2020 \$15,000

New Orleans, LA

To support a production of "The Piano Lesson" by August Wilson and related community engagement programming. The story is set in 1930s Pittsburgh, where a family is consumed by conflict when a relative from Mississippi arrives and declares his intention of selling a piano that holds a unique place in the family's history. The theater will partner with historically Black colleges and universities in the greater New Orleans region to present staged readings of other plays in August Wilson's Century Cycle. Associated educational programming will include student matinees, a study guide, and talkbacks led by local scholars involving the thematic issues of each play.

National Association of Black Storytellers, Inc.

Art Works – Folk & Traditional Arts

FY 2020 \$20,000

Baltimore, MD

To support the National Black Storytelling Festival. Storytellers, educators, scholars, and presenters will convene virtually for storytelling concerts and workshops focused on the educational and artistic elements of the African-American oral tradition. The Adopt-A-Teller initiative will offer free online performances. Virginia Union University, a historically Black university, is a proposed partner for this project.

Neighborhood Design Center

Art Works – Design

FY 2020 \$40,000

Baltimore, MD

To support a series of community-identified design projects in public spaces throughout East Baltimore. As many as three emerging community designers, selected through an open call, will be in residence in East Baltimore to develop and fabricate functional design pieces responding to the community's needs for enhanced public space. Project partners include The Compound artist residency space, Open Works community maker space, and the School of Planning Architecture at Morgan State University, a historically Black university.

North Carolina Theatre

Art Works – Musical Theater

FY 2020 \$10,000

Raleigh, NC

To support marketing and technical costs for a production of "Memphis" with book and lyrics by Joe DiPietro, and music and lyrics by David Bryan. The musical is based on the career of Dewey Phillips, a radio host during the 1950s who was one of the first white disc jockeys to play music by African-American artists on the air. The theater will partner with Raleigh's Shaw University, one of the oldest historically Black universities in the nation and the first to own a public radio station, on related community engagement activities.

People's Light & Theatre Company

Art Works – Theater

FY 2020 \$35,000

Malvern, PA

To support planning costs for the world premiere production of "Bayard Rustin: Inside Ashland", a new play with music by Steve H. Broadnax III. Based on court transcripts and infused with a cappella spirituals, the play explores the life of Bayard Rustin, a leader of the civil rights movement.

Press Street

Art Works – Artist Communities

FY 2020 \$15,000

New Orleans, LA

To support Antenna's Paper Machine and Spillways artist residency programs. The Paper Machine residency will host artists working in print-based mediums who want to engage with the local New Orleans community. The Spillways residency will be open to artists from diverse disciplines who collaborate with community members to develop large-scale artworks and events. All residents will be provided with travel allowances, housing, stipends, materials budgets, and introductions to local stakeholders in their areas of interest. Antenna will partner with Xavier University, a historically Black university, to provide collaborative creative experiences for faculty, students, and artists in residence.

Ragdale Foundation

Art Works – Artist Communities

FY 2020 \$15,000

Lake Forest, IL

To support artist residencies, Ragdale in Schools educational activities, Ragdale Ring, and related public programming. Professional teaching artists will serve K-12 students from low-income schools and community members in the Chicago-Milwaukee-Madison region. Architects, designers, and visual artists will work collaboratively to design and construct a temporary experimental environment for public gatherings and open-air performances on the Ragdale campus. Ragdale will establish partnerships with historically Black colleges and universities, such as Howard University, to offer fellowships to faculty and recent graduates.

Rattapallax, Incorporated

Art Works – Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works

FY 2020 \$20,000

New York, NY

To support the development and presentation of "Jupiter Simmons", an augmented reality comic book. Creators poet Yusef Komunyakaa and documentary filmmaker Ram Devineni will research and develop the story and work with illustrator Ashley Wood on the comic book's design. An exhibition and educational may include stops at historically Black colleges and universities including Spelman College, Morehouse College, Howard University, and Hampton University.

Repertory Theatre of St. Louis

Art Works – Musical Theater

FY 2020 \$15,000

Saint Louis, MO

To support planning and rehearsal costs for the world premiere production of Dreaming Zenzile by Somi Kakoma. The musical is based on the life of South African jazz singer and songwriter Miriam Makeba.

Shreveport Regional Arts Council

Art Works – Local Arts Agencies

FY 2020 \$30,000

Shreveport, LA

To support a new arts partnership with historically Black universities Southern University at Shreveport and Grambling State University, recognizing the schools' artist alumni. The art work of alumni who are professional artists will be documented and celebrated through programming such as performances and exhibitions, a marketing campaign, and the production of a catalogue. Alumni artists also will also participate in artist talks and workshops. Some project activity may take place virtually.

Step Afrika! USA Incorporated

Art Works – Folk & Traditional Arts

FY 2020 \$30,000

Washington, DC

To support the Step Afrika! Black History Month Tour. Step Afrika! will take performances of stepping—a traditional African-American polyrhythmic, percussive dance form that combines footsteps, claps, body percussion, and spoken-word—to performing arts centers and schools, including historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs) across the country. The artists also will hold workshops and offer study guides for teachers.

Studio Theatre, Inc.

Art Works – Theater

FY 2020 \$40,000

Washington, DC

To support the production of "Pass Over", a play by Antoinette Nwandu. The play centers on experiences of the lives of Black men in the United States through two young men standing on the corner in their neighborhood, trying to figure out how to pass over into freedom. The work draws from Samuel Beckett's Waiting for Godot and the Biblical story of Exodus.

True Colors Theatre Company, Inc.

Art Works – Theater

FY 2020 \$40,000

Atlanta, GA

To support a production of "School Girls; or, the African Mean Girls Play" by Jocelyn Bioh. The play explores the impact that beauty standards have on young women. Through community engagement activities, the company will open dialogues and facilitate discussions around the problem of intra-racism throughout the African Diaspora and how cultures intersect, interpret, and misunderstand the significance of colorism.

Virginia Stage Company

Art Works – Theater

FY 2020 \$20,000

Norfolk, VA

To support the development and production of a new play by Ronve O'Daniel and Jearis Myrick created through the Public Works Virginia initiative. Community members and theater professionals will work on the production together as artists and share their own respective wisdom, knowledge, and life experiences. The project will be produced in partnership with Norfolk State University, a historically Black university.

Washington County Museum of Fine Arts

Art Works – Museums

FY 2020 \$25,000

Hagerstown, MD

To support an exhibition of works by early-American artist Joshua Johnson (1763-1824), including a catalogue and outreach activities. Joshua Johnson, who was formerly enslaved, was one of the earliest documented artists of African-American descent and was known for his paintings of affluent patrons in Maryland. This exhibition of as many as 18 paintings will be accompanied by lectures, community engagement programs, and a catalogue. The catalogue will feature contributions by David Terry, a professor at Morgan State University, a historically Black university.

Words Beats & Life Incorporated

Art Works – Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works

FY 2020 \$55,000

Washington, DC

To support the Words Beats Life Festival. The multidisciplinary hip-hop festival will feature international, national, and local artists presented virtually. Planned activities include live streamed and pre-recorded performances, as well as master classes and spoken-word and poetry recitations.