Funding Opportunity: NEA Announces ARP Act Grants to Organizations

Lewis-Burke Associates LLC – June 23, 2021

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) announced availability of funding provided in the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, the COVID-19 relief and stimulus bill passed in March 2021. The American Rescue Plan Grants to Organizations program will provide one-time grants to eligible organizations to support day-to-day business expenses or operating costs, including salary support, fees or stipends for artists, facilities costs like rent or utilities, personal protective equipment for staff, cleaning supplies associated with health and safety of staff or visitors, and marketing and promotional costs.

Applicants may request either $50,000, $100,000, or $150,000 for a grant period of up to two years. Cost sharing or matching funds are not required.

Eligible applicants include nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organizations and state and local governments. Applicants may only submit one application, although parent organizations comprised of separately identifiable and independent organizations may apply for each component organization. Applicants must have completed a three-year history of arts programming prior to the application deadline. NEA encourages applications from organizations that serve underserved populations, organizations with small- to medium-sized budgets, and organizations that are applying for NEA funding for the first time, as well as minority-serving institutions and historically black colleges and universities.

NEA expects to make approximately 800 awards under this program. Applying is a multi-step process. An application must be submitted to grants.gov by August 12, 2021. Organizations with legal names beginning with the letters A-L must then also submit to the NEA applicant portal between August 19 and August 25, while organizations with legal names beginning with the letters M-Z must also submit between August 27 and September 2.

Sources and Additional Information:
- NEA will host a June 30th webinar from 4:00pm - 5:00pm ET offering an overview of the American Rescue Plan Grants for Organizations program. Registration details are at https://www.arts.gov/about/events/american-rescue-plan-grants-organizations-webinar.