Federal Resources for the Arts: Emerging Opportunities

Tom Birch
NASAA Legislative Counsel
Assembly 2010
Austin, Texas
Federal Resources: Traditional Funding Sources

- National Endowment for the Arts
- National Endowment for the Humanities
- Institute of Museum and Library Services
The Arts in Public Policy

- Education
- Economic Development
- Transportation
- Community Revitalization
Education Resources

U.S. Department of Education
Model Development Grants in Arts Education

- Integrate the arts in the core curricula
- Improve academic performance and creative skills in the arts
- Competitive grants to LEAs and arts organizations; SAAs specifically

- www2.ed.gov/programs/artsedmodel/index.html
Financial assistance: SEAs to LEAs
Public schools with high numbers of poor children
Federal funds may support arts education: qualifies as a core academic subject.
Transportation Resources

**USDOT: Federal Highway Administration**
*Transportation Enhancements Program*

- State surface transportation projects: 3% share for TE
- Administered by state transportation agency
- TE activities/12 priorities: include public art, historic preservation, landscaping, pedestrian facilities
- Successful SAA partnerships: NM, MA, AL

Development Resources

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Community Development Block Grant

- Annual formula grants to local government (mayors’ community development offices) and states
- Funds a variety of state and municipal projects, source of government support for local arts organizations.
- Cities with populations of less than 50,000: CDBG funds through the state

www.hud.gov/offices/cdp/communitydevelopment/programs/
Development Resources 2

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program

- New program: comprehensive planning
  - Collaboration: HUD, DOT, EPA
- Priority on partnerships with the arts
- Guidelines: encourage planning consortia p’ships with arts, culture and recreation organizations, include SAAs
- Guidelines: arts important component for economic development

www.hud.gov/offices/adm/grants/nofa10/scrpg.cfm
Development Resources 3

U.S Department of Commerce  
Economic Development Assistance Program

- Priority to areas suffering high unemployment, economic dislocation, loss of major employer
- Address planning and implementation of cultural districts
  - generate jobs, retain existing jobs, stimulate commercial growth

- www.eda.gov/InvestmentsGrants/Programs.xml
Development Resources: Rural Communities

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Rural Community Facilities program

- Grants and loans: USDA Rural Development’s State Office
- Populations up to 20,000
- Construct, rehabilitate, acquire
- Essential facilities: educational/cultural
  - account for about 9 percent
  - library, museum, outdoor theatre

- www.rurdev.usda.gov/HAD-CF_grants.html
Development Resources: Rural Tourism
Appalachian Regional Commission

- AL, GA, KY, MD, MS, NY, NC, OH, PA, SC, TN, VA, WV
- Target rural areas/distressed counties
- Project grants, start-up funds, operating grants, challenge grants

- Community economic development: tourism strategies
  - Based on cultural heritage, history, natural beauty
  - Build/rehabilitate tourist facilities and infrastructure
  - Train artisans/artists to improve business/marketing skills;
  - Develop strategic plans/feasibility studies to maximize the potential of cultural assets
  - Invest in new technologies = create new visitor experiences
  - Kentucky Artisan Heritage Trails

- www.arc.gov/about/index.asp
Tourism Resources

National Park Service
Preserve America Grant Program

- Preservation of buildings and resources of cultural and historic importance
- Matching-grant program: planning and design funding to support preservation efforts, promote heritage tourism

- www.nps.gov/history/hps/hpg/PreserveAmerica/index.htm
Cultural Exchange Resources

U.S. Department of State
Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs

- Office of Citizen Exchanges, Cultural Programs Division
  - Professional Exchanges and Cultural Grant Program
  - Grants to nonprofits: residency, mentoring, training programs, arts management, arts education
- Performing Arts Initiative
  - Financial support to U.S. Embassies for presentations of American performing art and artists

http://exchanges.state.gov/cultural/index.html