Kentuckians for the Arts
NEWSLETTER
June 2024

Kentuckians for the Arts (KFTA) is an arts centered organization formed for the purpose of providing advocacy for all arts endeavors across Kentucky. Our vision is to advance a creative Commonwealth and our mission is to promote the value of the arts and arts education for all throughout Kentucky.

KFTA is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions such as annual dues and donations are tax deductible as permitted by law. To join just click on the link and follow the instructions.

JOIN US NOW!

Federal Advocacy Update
As Congress begins work on the FY25 (fiscal year 2025) budget, advocacy for federal funding for the arts and arts education is in full swing.

Kentuckians for the Arts (KFTA) facilitated Zoom meetings with Kentucky’s congressional delegation during Federal Arts Advocacy Zoom Week (May 13-17). The national initiative was coordinated by Americans for the Arts (AFTA) and the Arts Action Fund (AAF) and focused on requesting support for FY25 appropriations for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and support for the Arts Education for All Act and Arts Education funding (ESSA). More information about these requests can be found in these issue briefs: NEA Issue Brief Arts Education Issue Brief

Prior to Arts Advocacy Zoom Week, KFTA joined California for the Arts and MASSCreative to present best practices on organizing legislative meetings and managing Zoom advocacy meetings in the Advocacy 201 webinar hosted by AFTA.

On May 16, the House Appropriations Committee released FY25 interim subcommittee allocations. Subcommittee markups are scheduled to conclude on June 28. Contact your Kentucky congressional senator and representative and ask them to support federal arts education funding and funding for the NEA.
A special thank you to our Foundational members:
Ms. Margaret & Mr. Jeffery Jamner
Gretchen & Aldy Milliken
Kentucky Performing Arts

SUPPORT KFTA THROUGH KROGER!
Kentuckians for the Arts is part of the Kroger donation program. Through this program, Kroger donates a portion of purchases to nonprofit organizations. If you’re a Kroger shopper, please register to support KFTA.

Visit www.kroger.com and log into your Kroger account, then search for Kentuckians for the Arts by name or use the number MR920.

South Arts Express And Professional Development And Artistic Planning Grants Open Now

South Arts has announced that applications are now open for two grant opportunities, the Express Grant and the Professional Development and Artistic Planning Grant.

The Express Grant is open to organizations in rural communities (defined as having 50,000 people or less). It offers expedited awards of up to $3,000 supporting the presentation of touring artists. The experience being presented with the grant must feature a Southern artist and can be film, performing arts, literary, traditional arts, or visual arts. The project must include a public presentation and an educational/community engagement component. Read more about this grant opportunity on the South Arts website.

Professional Development and Artistic Planning Grants offer up to $1,000 to support artistic planning and professional development needs of Southern presenters, programmers, and curators. The grant is open to film, visual arts, performing arts, traditional arts, literary arts, and multidisciplinary organizations. Read more about this grant opportunity on the South Arts website.

Nominations Now Open For 2025-26 Kentucky Poet Laureate

The Kentucky Arts Council is now accepting nominations for the 2025-26 Kentucky Poet Laureate until September 30, 2024.

Nominees must be a full-time resident of Kentucky with a long association with the commonwealth, and must be a published writer of any of the recognized literary forms - including poetry, fiction, creative nonfiction, playwriting, and screenwriting. Past Kentucky Poets Laureate are ineligible for nomination.

The announcement of the new Poet Laureate will occur after January 1, 2025.

To learn more about nomination guidelines, visit the Kentucky Arts Council website.
NEA Awards Over $1.5 Million To Kentucky Arts Organizations

In its second round of grants issued in FY24, the NEA awarded more than $1.5 million to 11 Kentucky arts organizations. The breakdown is as follows:

- Berea Arts Council Inc. - $16,000
- Southeast Kentucky Community and Technical College - $75,000
- Kentucky Arts Council - $968,725
- Allegro Dance Project, Inc. - $15,000
- Carnegie Literacy Center, Inc. - $30,000
- LexArts - $200,000 between two grants
- University of Kentucky Research Foundation - $65,000
- Kentucky Opera Association, Inc. - $60,000
- Louisville-Jefferson County Metro Government - $120,000
- Montgomery County Council for the Arts, Inc. - $18,805

Congratulations to all of the organizations!

NEH Public Impact Projects At Smaller Organizations Grant Deadline Is June 12

The National Endowment for the Humanities is currently offering grants for smaller organizations focused on professional development, evaluation of current programming, implementation of new programming, or a combination of these approaches.

The NEH encourages first-time applicants to submit a proposal, and offers resources to aid in the application process.

Organizations will be notified of their approval by December 31, 2024, and the expected project start date for grant recipients is March 1 - May 1, 2025.

For help applying for this or any of the NEH’s grants, reach out to a Program Officer at publicpgms@neh.gov.

For more information about the grant application process, visit the NEH website.