

Doris Duke Charitable Foundation

Fund for National Projects

Strategy

The Fund for National Projects supports projects that:

- ➔ Strengthen the national infrastructure of the dance, jazz, presenting and/or theatre fields; or
- ➔ Improve conditions for the national community of performing artists in dance, jazz and theatre.

Grant Details

During a two-year pilot phase, the Fund will award a total of up to \$1 million in grants to support key national projects in the dance, jazz, presenting and/or theatre fields. Grants will range from \$60,000 to \$200,000 and cannot exceed 40% of a project's total cost.

National projects engage a broad national constituency, occur once (or periodically) rather than annually, and have the potential to significantly impact a field.

Organizations are encouraged to submit letters of inquiry for projects that strengthen the national infrastructure of the dance, jazz, presenting and/or theatre fields, or that improve conditions for the national community of performing artists in dance, jazz and theatre, such as:

Research projects assessing the national health of arts groups or of individual artists;

Special national convenings for entire performing arts fields (beyond traditional national annual conferences);

Special projects that address unique circumstances that affect an entire field.

Highest priority will be given to projects that improve the health of the Arts Program's priority performing arts fields and do not duplicate ongoing efforts or existing services.

Areas Not Funded

The Fund expressly does **not** support the following types of activities:

Projects by single performing arts entities (e.g., national tours of a particular dance or theatre work);

Individually produced conferences, performances or symposia (e.g., a festival produced by a single organization or by a consortia of local groups in a specific city or locale);

Re-granting programs;

Translations or commissions of new works (even if expected to have national impact);

Production start-up activities.

Eligibility

Single nonprofit organizations and consortia are both eligible to apply.

National organizations receiving core support from the DDCF are not eligible to request additional support from the Fund for single-discipline activities.

Application Process

Interested organizations should submit a letter of inquiry to the Arts Program of no more than 3 pages, outlining the project and articulating its impact on the dance, jazz, presenting or theatre field. A brief history of the organization(s) involved should also be attached.

Arts Program staff will review letters of inquiry on a rolling basis, schedule meetings to learn more about promising projects, and invite full proposals based on meetings with prospective applicants.

Competitive proposals that demonstrate the potential for direct and significant impact on the national dance, jazz, presenting and/or theatre fields will be reviewed twice a year by an advisory panel, which will recommend the strongest applicants for funding based on the criteria described below.

Application Deadlines

Deadlines for letters of inquiry are November 1 and May 1, with full proposal deadlines (upon invitation) due no later than December 1 and June 1, respectively.

Letters of inquiry should be addressed to:

Arts Program - Fund for National Projects
Doris Duke Charitable Foundation
650 Fifth Avenue, 19th Floor
New York, NY 10019

Criteria for Support

In reviewing proposals, the panel will consider the following questions:

Does the project address a significant need for artists or organizations working in the dance, jazz, presenting and/or theatre fields?

Does the project outline a specific and concrete plan of action?

Does the project expand the range of services, activities or body of knowledge available today?

Does the project do more than replicate existing programs and services?

Does the project reflect clear understanding of the state of the performing arts today?

Does the project reflect sharp, refined, strategic thinking?

Does the project have the potential to impact and strengthen the national dance, jazz, presenting and/or theatre fields?

Where relevant, does the project engage significant artists?

Does the proposed project warrant the level of financial support available through this fund (\$60,000-200,000)?