

## Appalachian State University internal competition guidelines for National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) grant programs

### Funding opportunity for arts and cultural programming

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is seeking applications that support the creation of art that meets the highest standards of excellence, public engagement with diverse and excellent art, lifelong learning in the arts, and the strengthening of communities through the arts. The NEA allows only one proposal submission per institution for the Art Works or Challenge America programs. Organizations may apply in just one of the following categories:

- Art Works, which includes these artistic fields and disciplines: Artist Communities, Arts Education, Dance, Design, Folk & Traditional Arts, Literature, Media Arts, Museums, Music, Opera, Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works, Theater & Musical Theater, and Visual Arts.
- Challenge America, which offers support primarily to small and mid-sized organizations for projects that extend the reach of the arts to underserved populations -- those whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, ethnicity, economics, or disability. This category supports projects that address one or both of these two outcomes: engagement projects engage the public with diverse and excellent art; livability projects strengthen communities through the arts.

### Internal review process:

Appalachian State is allowed to submit one application per fiscal year to either the Art Works or the Challenge America program. *Please note: Consortium applications, which had been an exception to the one-application-per-organization rule, have been eliminated.* Appalachian State's internal review process is as follows:

#### Deadline:

Concept papers are due to [orsp1@appstate.edu](mailto:orsp1@appstate.edu) by 12 p.m. Friday, January 16, 2015.

#### Format:

All concept papers must conform to the following format: 2 pp. maximum, 1 in. margins, and at least 12 point type, in Microsoft Word, ODF, or PDF format. Paper submissions will not be accepted.

#### Required content for concept papers:

- Principal investigator(s) name and department
- Description of the proposed project
- Statement about the quality of the artists, arts organizations, arts education providers, works of art, or services that the project will involve, as appropriate to the project type.
- Brief project timeline
- Draft budget and budget justification
- Statement addressing NEA requirement of having a three-year history of programming prior to the application deadline
- NEA category (Art Works or Challenge America )

- NEA artistic field/discipline  
(Select only one from [this list](#), excluding the Local Arts Agencies category, for which Appalachian is ineligible; the Research category, which is not subject to the one application per institution limitation; and Our Town, which is a separate program).
- NEA primary outcome (Creation, Engagement, Learning or Livability).  
Some artistic fields/disciplines repeat selected outcomes for both February and July deadlines. In this case, list a secondary outcome as well. Examples:
 

Artistic field: Music	Artistic field: Music
Deadline: February 19	Deadline: July 23
Outcome: Learning	Outcome: Learning
Secondary outcome: Professional Development	Secondary outcome: Lifelong Learning
- NEA deadline for selected track (February 19, April 16, or July 23, 2015 depending on project category, artistic discipline, and outcome)

**Calendar:**

- 12 p.m. Friday, January 16, 2015: concept papers due to [orsp1@appstate.edu](mailto:orsp1@appstate.edu)
- 12 p.m. Friday, January 23, 2015 : internal review completed by faculty panel
- 5 p.m. Monday, January 26, 2015 : all applicants notified of status
- 5 p.m. Wednesday, January 28, 2015 : selected applicant confirms intent to apply
- Five working days before the NEA deadline for your selected program: complete proposal and all supporting materials due to the Office of Sponsored Programs via AGrants

**Criteria for review:**

Internal competition applications will be evaluated based on the NEA’s review criteria for the selected category and discipline. See [Art Works Application Review](#) and [Challenge America Application Review](#) for a complete description of these criteria.

**Resubmissions:**

If the project proposed in the concept paper was declined by the NEA in a previous Art Works or Challenge America funding cycle, the applicant may choose to append a brief statement (no more than one page) describing the reviewers’ comments and explaining how the proposal will be revised before resubmission to address the reviewers’ concerns. This statement must be received by the deadline for concept papers in order to be considered during the internal review process. Applicants for our campus internal competition are not required to disclose information about their previous submissions, but they may choose to do so if they would like the internal competition reviewers to consider this information.

**References:**

All references must be included within the page limit for the concept paper; applicants may not append a separate Works Cited list. Footnotes or short-form citations are acceptable.

**Useful URLs:**

- Solicitations  
<http://arts.gov/grants/organizations-apply>
- Table summarizing deadlines for each project type, discipline, and outcome  
<http://arts.gov/grants/apply-grant/grants-organizations/deadlines>
- Appalachian State University limited submissions process  
<http://orsp.appstate.edu/submit-proposal/when-sponsors-limit-proposals-institution>

**For more information:**

Please contact Pollyanne Frantz (262.7789 / [frantzps@appstate.edu](mailto:frantzps@appstate.edu)) or Amy Love (262.8123 / [loveas@appstate.edu](mailto:loveas@appstate.edu)).