

2016

Arts and Humanities: Program Funding (1976): Report 14

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.uri.edu/pell_neh_II_14

Recommended Citation

"Arts and Humanities: Program Funding (1976): Report 14" (2016). *Arts and Humanities: Program Funding (1976)*. Paper 2.
http://digitalcommons.uri.edu/pell_neh_II_14/2

This Report is brought to you for free and open access by the Education: National Endowment for the Arts and Humanities, Subject Files II (1962-1996) at DigitalCommons@URI. It has been accepted for inclusion in Arts and Humanities: Program Funding (1976) by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@URI. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@etal.uri.edu.

The Committee determined that the programs for the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities should be funded in Fiscal 1977 at levels commensurate with those authorized for 1976,

The total of \$265 million recommended for the important work of the two Endowments includes \$15 million for administration, or 6% of the \$250 for program activities. This is in keeping with the percentage applicable to present administrative costs.

The current authorized funding level for the two Endowments is \$252 million, exclusive of administrative costs. The Chairman of the Special Subcommittee on Arts and Humanities had explained that the Subcommittee proposes to greatly strengthen the present overall program by including within it three new elements. These would involve: a special challenge program for the Arts Endowment, a program to support the nation's museums, and a program to aid in upgrading teaching in art of pressing concern at this time.

The challenge program would develop new sources of non-federal support and financial stability for non-profit arts organizations existing today in a "from crisis to crisis" situation. Matching requirements would be ~~based~~ ⁽⁻⁾ on a 3 nonfederal dollar to one federal dollar basis, rather than one for one as in present law. The Arts Endowment, in particular, has been successful in pioneering this concept, and is fully prepared to implement it. Emphasis on museum support is in accord with legislation introduced in Congress since 1972.

The support envisioned would help to meet in part the most urgent needs of the nation's some 2,000 museums.

The Committee emphasizes that these two closely-related programs, Arts and Humanities, have immense potential for improving the quality of life in our nation. In addition, oriented to individual work and individual achievement, they are highly labor-intensive; and they have important significance to the development of the economy. For example, it is estimated that \$1 invested in the arts generates an additional \$5 in increased economic activity.

In recommending for the ensuing fiscal year no more than currently authorized for the Arts and Humanities, the Committee recognizes that comprehensive research presented at most recent Congressional hearings demonstrates an expressed need for greatly increased sums -- i.e. \$225 million for the Arts alone. The Committee also recognizes that the total of \$250 recommended for program activities is \$150 million less than the total authorization for the two Endowments approved by a substantial majority of the Senate on May 2, 1973. That figure was \$400 million.

As in all cases the Committee has made its decisions by assessing national priorities and the need for all appropriate fiscal restraint.

In conclusion, for purposes of simplification, the tables and figures presented with respect to Arts and Humanities reflect the federal contribution involved. In the past, in some cases matching non-federal dollars have been reflected in related tabulations.