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Arts Council Awards \$1.8-Million in Grants

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New York — A 1.8-million-dollar nationwide program of government support for educational television, theater, opera, writing and the visual arts was announced yesterday by the National Council on the Arts.

The allocation had been approved by the council in Washington last weekend. The panel was appointed by President Johnson 18 months ago to advise the government how to develop the country's cultural resources.

In a move calculated to win wider public support of the planned cultural expansion, the council made more than half of its grants contingent on matching contributions from private foundations, business and individuals.

In the most extensive government aid program of its kind, the council offered a grant of \$875,000 to be shared by the Educational Broadcasting Corporation, National Educational Television and educational television stations. The money must be matched by private

contributions before it becomes available to the three nonprofit organizations.

"I am quite certain that private foundations and individuals interested in widening educational television activities will come to the assistance of the program quite rapidly," Roger L. Stevens, chairman of the council, predicted in an interview yesterday.

William F. White, president of the National Educational Television, said: "This is great news, we're delighted."

"There is no question that NET is prepared to match any grant that comes to us from the council," he said.

In theater, Joseph Papp's New York Shakespeare Festival, which has received contributions from New York City, was awarded \$100,000 in matching funds.

Other allocations that require matching aid were made available to the National Repertory Theater, \$75,000; the Minnesota Theater Company, \$45,000, and

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the International Theater Institute, to help organize its biennial congress in New York next June.

The San Francisco Opera received \$105,000 outright for a one-year pilot program to create "a small, flexible ensemble" that will produce condensed and full-scale operas in Northern California, Southern Oregon, Nevada and Arizona. The Metropolitan Opera's National Company was awarded \$150,000 "to provide special performances for high school students and labor groups" during its annual tour of the Middle West and Western states.

In the council's first group of literary awards, grants of \$10,000 each were made to eight novelists, five poets and a journalist. The grants are designed to enable them to complete works in progress or for research "about parts of the United States other than the places in which they live."

The novelists are: Isobel Bol-

ton, Caroline Gordon, Tillie Olsen, Grace Paley, Michael Seide, Richard Yates, Wallace Markfield and Jeremy Lerner.

Grants also went to Mona Van Duyn, poet and editor of the magazine *Perspective*; Hayden Carruth, former editor of *Poetry* magazine, and I. L. Solomon, Robert Peterson and Maxine Jumin, poets.

Harry H. Pearson, a political writer, was given \$10,000 to prepare research material for a book on the Ozarks.

In addition, the Radcliffe Institute for Independent Study was allocated \$25,000 on a matching basis to assist women in the field of creative writing.

Anthology Project

The council also announced

the selection of George Plimpton, editor of the *Paris Review* to head a project to collect an anthology of American poetry, fiction and essays and criticism from literary magazines. The project has received \$55,000, and \$1,000 will be paid to each author whose work is chosen.

The Academy of American Poets was awarded a matching grant of \$33,000.

In the visual arts, an appropriation of \$100,000 on a matching basis was approved for the commissioning of artists to cre-

ate new prints for educational institutions and libraries. Under this program, a painter could receive up to \$2,000 for an original work.

The Detroit Institute of Arts was authorized to carry out a \$90,000 project to organize a comprehensive program to send exhibitions to smaller communities in outlying areas of Michigan.

The council also allocated \$33,000 to the Association of Higher Education, a division of

the National Education Association, for a study of the impact of college admission examinations on the arts curriculum.