

Indiana Arts Commission

Modified Recommendations for Moving Forward in this Economic Environment

During an April 15 special session of the Indiana Arts Commission, a series of amendments were made to a plan adopted March 12 that would restructure the agency's service delivery system to better sustain grants, programs and services affected by recent budget reductions and permit many organizational grants to, in time, rebound to pre-cut levels.

The amended restructuring plan will go into effect for the next fiscal year which begins July 1. In summary, the amendments to the plan are as follows:

1. Administration of Arts Organization Support II (AOS II) Grants

In its original plan, the IAC proposed centralizing the administration of Arts Organization Support II grants for the entire state.

The Commission amended the plan to continue administration of the Arts Organization Support II (AOS II) grants through the Regional System along with AOS I, Arts Project Support grants and the new AOS 0 grant category.

The IAC further agreed that all award levels for all re-grants will be formally approved by the IAC. All grant award letters and notifications will come jointly from the Regional Partner and the IAC. This action recognizes both the IAC's authority and responsibility for the funds while also recognizing the Regional Partners' role in the decision making process in alignment with IAC directives and policy.

2. Using the IAC's online granting system, re-granting agents will continue to administer AOS I and fewer number of project grants. Agents will also administer a new category called AOS 0 which will be developed to provide operating grants for the smallest of arts organizations

No modifications were made to this point of the original plan, however additional clarification of the allocation of funds for these grant categories should be given.

The pool of money previously used for AOS I (smaller arts organizations) and APS (non-arts centric organizations) will be split with 1/3 going to AOS I, 1/3 going to APS, and 1/3 earmarked for the newest grant category of AOS 0 (the very smallest of arts organizations in the state).

Non-arts organizations, such as libraries, community centers, schools and universities will be able to still apply for APS grants as before.

The IAC will work closely with each Regional Partner on exactly how the distribution of AOS 0 and APS grants will be distributed based on regional needs and the available grant pool in a given year.

3. Indiana Arts Commission will develop statewide cultural planning and needs assessment process; and provide Strategic Initiative Money to Regional Partners for specific technical assistance projects

The IAC will be responsible for development of cultural needs assessment and planning for the entire state with Regional Partners receiving a smaller amount of administrative funds to develop specific regional plans through the Strategic Initiative. The Strategic Initiative will involve a central pool of money administered by

the IAC for technical assistance services. Technical assistance will be provided both regionally and directly from the IAC.

The IAC modified plan will allocate to each Regional Partner up to \$6,000 of Strategic Initiative Money (this is apart from funds they receive to administer grants and the Regional Block Grant funds). Regional technical assistance project proposals will be submitted to the IAC for review and approval.

4. Change the name of Regional Arts Partner System, Open Up the System for Other Organizations to Apply, and Reduce Community Arts Program Awards to AOS II Levels

The IAC voted unanimously to retain the name Regional Arts Partnership and that any organization serving as a regional granting and service agent will continue to be known as a Regional Arts Partner.

The IAC will continue to provide Community Arts Program (CAP) awards to the Regional Partners, but this will be at a reduced level comparable to AOS II grants statewide. The IAC will also reduce the amount of administrative funds each Regional Partner receives for re-granting from 12% of the Regional Block Grant total to 7.5%.

A more fully-developed Regional Partner system could be revisited in the future. However, any system should not cede authority or responsibility of the IAC for the use of State or designated Federal resources to any private or local agent. Any partnership or agent agreement must have specific points of control and accountability and be open and fair to all constituents served.

Estimated Comparative Categories Based on FY2010 Funding Levels	FY2010 Current Levels		Compromise "Plus" Changes Scenario, Fully Implemented		
	Category Total	Average Grant Size	Category Total	Average Grant Size	Compared to Current
Partner Community Arts Program Grants	\$ 249,955	\$ 27,773	\$ 110,000	\$ 10,000	-64%
Organization AOS II Grants (estimated)	\$ 337,731	\$ 6,622	\$ 519,125	\$ 10,179	54%
Organization AOS I Grants (estimated)	\$ 575,055	\$ 6,319	\$ 790,125	\$ 8,878	40%
Organization AOS 0 Grants (estimated)	N/A	N/A	\$ 164,968	\$ 2,391	N/A
Project APS Grants (estimated)	\$ 499,904	\$ 2,392	\$ 164,968	\$ 2,391	0%
Majors Grants	\$ 592,040	\$ 45,542	\$ 632,360	\$ 48,643	7%
Total RAP and Majors Grants for FY2010	\$ 2,254,685		\$ 2,381,546		
Agent Admin fee based on RBG	\$ 169,523		\$ 119,162		
Technical Assistance for Agents	\$ 192,000				
Strategic Initiative Technical Assistance For Agents			\$ 72,000	\$ 6,000	
External Technical Assistance and Admin Available to Agents	\$ 361,523		\$ 191,162		
<i>Statewide Competitive \$ for Technical Assistance</i>			<i>\$ 48,000</i>		

(Based on current IAC budget allocations)