

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **National Endowment for the Arts Announces Grants to Support the Arts and Innovation Across the Country** **Vermont Organizations to Receive \$892,200**

Washington, D.C. – On Wednesday, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) announced its second round of funding for FY2018. Six Vermont organizations will receive grants through the Art Works program. The Vermont Arts Council will receive \$717,200 through the NEA’s partnership program to support arts programs, services, and activities associated with carrying out the Council’s NEA-approved strategic plan.

“We are pleased that the NEA continues to be a strong national force in support of the arts in every U.S. community,” said Karen Mittelman, Vermont Arts Council executive director. “The funding from the NEA, matched dollar for dollar by the state of Vermont, helps to ensure that everyone in our state has access to the arts. We also congratulate the six organizations that, through these grants, will continue their important work to sustain and develop Vermont’s creative sector.”

Art Works is the NEA’s largest grant category and focuses on funding the creation of art that meets the highest standards of excellence, public engagement with art, lifelong learning in the arts, and strengthening of communities through the arts. Vermont’s recipients are:

**Flynn Center for the Performing Arts (on behalf of Burlington Discover Jazz Festival), Burlington**  
\$35,000 to support the Burlington Discover Jazz Festival

**Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, Burlington**  
\$45,000 to support a series of multidisciplinary presentations and outreach activities

**Dorset Theatre Festival, Dorset**  
\$10,000 to support the New Play Development Program

**Vermont Studio Center, Johnson**  
\$30,000 to support artist residencies for visual artists

**Vermont Folklife Center, Middlebury**  
\$30,000 to support an apprenticeship program, related fieldwork, and folklife festival activities

**Community Engagement Lab, Montpelier**  
\$25,000 to support the professional development component of the Vermont Creative Schools Initiative

More information about the NEA spring grant round is here:

<https://www.arts.gov/news/2018/national-endowment-arts-announces-grants-support-arts-and-innovation-across-country>

### **About the National Endowment for the Arts**

Established by Congress in 1965, the NEA is the independent federal agency whose funding and support gives Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations, and develop their creative capacities. Through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector, the NEA supports arts learning, affirms and celebrates America's rich and diverse cultural heritage, and extends its work to promote equal access to the arts in every community across America. For more information, visit [www.arts.gov](http://www.arts.gov).

### **About the Vermont Arts Council**

The Vermont Arts Council envisions a state where everyone has access to the arts and creativity in their life, education, and community. Through its programs and services, the Council strives to increase public awareness of the positive role artists and arts organizations play in communities and to maximize opportunities for everyone to experience the arts. Since 1965, the Council has been the state's primary provider of funding, advocacy, and information for the arts in Vermont.

[www.vermontartscouncil.org](http://www.vermontartscouncil.org).

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