

SPECIAL “INDIANA MASTERPIECE” BICENTENNIAL GRANTS STATEWIDE

The Indiana Arts Commission (IAC) will offer “Indiana Masterpiece” grants to arts organizations statewide during the 2016 Bicentennial year for special productions, commissions, exhibitions, performances, and artistic celebrations that showcase the State’s arts history and arts history makers.

An evening of music by Cole Porter, a T.C. Steele exhibition retrospective and publication, an adaptation of a Kurt Vonnegut, Jr. novel into a play, or a commissioned orchestral work celebrating Lincoln, could all be examples of arts happenings which would highlight our rich cultural heritage, and those who created it.

Grants ranging from \$5,000 - \$20,000 would be available to arts organizations (those with arts specifically in their missions) for services which would occur during calendar year 2016. There are approximately 150 organizations across the State, large and small, urban and rural, which would qualify to apply. Grants would be evaluated with regard to artistic merit, educational value, access to citizens and students/children, and financial and organizational accountability. Organizations would also need to document a one-to-one match of dollars from other non-state sources to the specific service in order to qualify, helping local communities invest in and have ownership of a piece of the State’s Bicentennial. Grants will help to bring citizens together around their own, valued cultural assets, as they remember the great arts and artists which have graced our State over time. The Bicentennial Commission would retain the right to confer or deny the official Bicentennial designation to awarded services, provided to them as a list with descriptions, prior to the Bicentennial year.



One potential “Indiana Masterpiece” is a retrospective of the work of Hoosier son Robert Indiana. Photo © Morgan Art Foundation. Artist Rights Society, NY.

REACH AND IMPACT

It is anticipated that the IAC could make up to 25 such grants with a projected cumulative attendance of 100,000 to 500,000 depending on the nature and location of the services funded. The program would also serve as an impetus for new, noteworthy art to be created during the Bicentennial year, some of which would have continued significance and impact past the Bicentennial year.

FUNDING, RESOURCES, AND LOGISTICS

This program will utilize the IAC’s current staff, arts organization relationships, centralized electronic application systems, etc., to adjudicate, administer, monitor and report on the final results of these grants. Approximately \$200,000 spread over FYs 2016 and 2017 will need to be identified outside of the IAC’s current budget and appropriations to fund this grant program.