

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

It is my pleasure to transmit the Annual Report for Fiscal Year 1999 of the National Endowment for the Arts.

From our nation's largest metropolitan areas to its smallest rural communities, the National Endowment for the Arts is dedicated to serving all Americans. Since its creation by Congress in 1965, the NEA has awarded grants that support projects of the highest artistic quality to benefit the American people. As the largest single funder of the nonprofit arts in the United States, the NEA has awarded more than 113,000 grants in all 50 states and the six U.S. jurisdictions.

NEA grants in Fiscal Year 1999 supported a wide range of projects. For example, South Dakotans for the Arts in Deadwood assisted the Dakota Children's Theatre Company tour to South Dakota elementary and middle schools. The Little City Foundation's Creativity on Wheels program in Palatine, Illinois brought art classes to people with limited mobility. The Western Pennsylvania Conservancy helped save Frank Lloyd Wright's landmark house, Fallingwater, from impending collapse. The Walters Art Gallery in Baltimore received funding for the conservation and reinstallation of their stellar collection of Christian medieval art, and the New Orleans Ballet Association led a community partnership teaching dance to inner-city students and families.

This year also saw the release of our new strategic plan, the second year of our ArtsREACH program, and several NEA Millennium Projects that touched all 50 states, celebrating the turn of the millennium by involving local communities in the creation of artistic works. On a smaller but critically important level, the NEA demonstrated its commitment to at-risk youth through two new initiatives undertaken in collaboration with the Department of Justice.

The activities highlighted in this annual report attest to the breadth of work of the Arts Endowment and its commitment to nationwide service. We are proud of the leadership the NEA provides to our diverse nation and to the advancement of our country's cultural legacy.

  
Bill Ivey  
Chairman