



**National Endowment for Arts
Louisiana Grant Recipients
FY2021**

Louisiana Division of the Arts – Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism

Baton Rouge, LA

\$822,500

Partnerships (State & Regional)

To support arts programs, services, and activities associated with carrying out the agency's National Endowment for the Arts-approved strategic plan.

Arts Council of Central Louisiana

Alexandria, LA

\$10,000

Grants for Arts Projects – Theater

To support the presentation of Aquila Theatre Company and related theater education activities, intended to serve youth in rural Central Louisiana. The theater company will present a reinterpretation of a classical work suitable for elementary, middle, and high school students. Teachers will be provided with a study guide to help prepare students for performances, which will be accompanied by artist-led workshops and residencies.

Arts Council of Greater Baton Rouge, Inc.

Baton Rouge, LA

\$50,000

Grants for Arts Projects – Local Arts Agencies

To support the River City Jazz Masters series with music performances and related outreach activities. The series will be curated in partnership with the River City Jazz Coalition. Outreach activities will include artist residencies at Southern University Baton Rouge, a historically Black university; a series of reduced ticket price performances by emerging musicians; and educational programming such as school performances and master classes.

Opera Louisiane, Inc.

Baton Rouge, LA

\$16,000

Grants for Arts Projects – Opera

To support the premiere of a new children's opera "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz" by composer and librettist Michael Borowitz. The 90-minute, fully staged production is an adaptation of L. Frank Baum's book of the same name, and will focus on themes of friendship, respecting boundaries, belonging, and realizing your own unique potential. The production will be a new addition to the Young People's Opera Program, in which elementary school students from across central Louisiana annually attend free, fully staged opera performances. As many as three performances will occur at the River Center Theater.

Walls Project

Baton Rouge, LA

\$30,000

Grants for Arts Projects – Visual Arts

To support a public art commissioning program for Baton Roots Community Arts Farm at Howell Park. The project will develop public art components for portions of an abandoned golf course which has been repurposed into a public space for residents and includes community gardens, a farmer's market, multipurpose fields, and other amenities. Workshops and other educational programming will bring together neighborhood residents and organizations into the public art process.

Acadiana Center for the Arts

Lafayette, LA

\$10,000

Grants for Arts Projects – Local Arts Agencies

To support a series of visual arts exhibitions and related outreach activities at AcA. Group shows and a retrospective exhibition will be presented with related public programming such as panel discussions and community conversations. AcA will collaborate with partner organizations such as Xavier University, a historically Black university, and will consult with organizations such as McKenna Museum of African American Art in New Orleans, Louisiana; Alternate ROOTS in Atlanta, Georgia; and Conversation Starters in Lafayette, Louisiana, to identify curators and artists for the exhibition series.

Vermilionville Living History Museum Foundation, Inc.

Lafayette, LA

\$10,000

Grants for Arts Projects – Folk & Traditional Arts

To support the implementation of a multisensory folk arts program designed to support persons with memory loss and their care givers. Based on the Museum of Modern Art's Alzheimer's Project, regularly scheduled sessions will use folk arts from the clients' region, such as traditional music and dance, storytelling, foodways, and hands-on craft demonstrations, to stimulate their long-term memories. The sessions will result in increased confidence, decreased anxiety and depression, and enhanced communication for people with memory loss, enriching their quality of life.

Northwestern State University of Louisiana

Natchitoches, LA

\$10,000

Grants for Arts Projects – Folk & Traditional Arts

To support the annual Natchitoches-NSU Folk Festival. The multidisciplinary festival will celebrate the folk cultures of Louisiana with performances, workshops, and demonstrations exploring the ways in which traditions are able to bring people together in positive ways, providing solace, hope, cheer, and inspiration. Performances will reflect the folk music of the region, ranging from Cajun, Zydeco, bluegrass, country, blues, and gospel.

Arts Council of New Orleans

New Orleans, LA

\$75,000

Our Town – Design

To support a permanent public art installations and youth-led murals in the New Orleans East suburb of New Orleans. Extensive community engagement will inform the creation of the installations, which will create workforce opportunities for local artists and youth. A partnership with the Mayor's Office of Cultural Economy and the New Orleans Business Alliance, the art installations will elevate the suburb's diverse cultural assets, reinforce a sense of place along key commercial corridors, and complement investments in transportation and other infrastructure.

Friends of a Studio in the Woods

New Orleans, LA

\$75,000

Our Town – Design

To support community engagement, arts programming, a festival, and an artist residency in Plaquemines Parish, located on the southern Louisiana coast. Plaquemines Parish, in partnership with A Studio in the Woods, will host artist, biologist, and educator Brian Ballengee in residence. Ballengee will facilitate a series of participatory artmaking activities that respond directly to threats faced by the community, including rising sea levels and other ecological impacts due to climate change. Participants will conduct "citizen science" (or ecological research) and create works of art interpreting their findings and envisioning strategies for adaptation and sustainability. Activities will culminate in a festival celebrating community resilience, local natural resources, and the rich culture practiced by parish members. This project will inspire visions of a collective future survival through participatory artmaking with local youth, fisherfolk, oil workers, local government, and community members.

Friends of NORD, Inc.

New Orleans, LA

\$64,000

Grants for Arts Projects – Dance

To support tuition-free youth and senior dance education programs. The programs are a cultural community partnership with New Orleans Recreation Development Commission (NORD) and New Orleans Ballet Association (NOBA). Programming for students may include dance classes and workshops. The senior dance education programs will feature stretching and dance classes.

Make Music NOLA

New Orleans, LA

\$10,000

Grants for Arts Projects – Arts Education

To support instrumental music education for students in underserved neighborhoods in New Orleans. Teaching artists will provide year-round instruction to advanced strings students, including group violin classes, a fiddle class, orchestra, and chamber ensemble. The curriculum will feature local music, including Creole folk tunes, classical music arrangements by composers of color from the South, traditional New Orleans standards, and Cajun fiddle tunes. Students will have the opportunity to perform at events throughout the city.

National Performance Network, Inc.

New Orleans, LA

\$40,000

Grants for Arts Projects – Presenting & Multidisciplinary Works

To support services for artists and presenting organizations. NPN will collaborate with their artist advisory council to develop artist-centered best practices for presenting organizations, and support the work of the Creating New Futures collective, which aims to establish new guidelines for ethics and equity in the presenting field. Through their Artist Engagement program, NPN will provide fees for community-responsive engagement activities co-designed by presenters and artists. Finally, the Creation and Development program will provide multi-phase support towards the creation, development, and sharing of new work across the NPN Network.

New Orleans Film and Video Festival, Inc.

New Orleans, LA

\$24,000

Grants for Arts Projects – Media Arts

To support the South Summit, a virtual convening focused on strengthening resources for filmmakers in the American South. Bringing together artists, funders, and institutional stakeholders from regional media arts organizations, participants in the summit will assess the state of the Southern film community and identify specific needs, potential partnerships, and strategic opportunities to amplify Southern stories.

New Orleans Film and Video Festival, Inc.

New Orleans, LA

\$30,000

Grants for Arts Projects – Media Arts

To support artistic and professional development services for filmmakers in the South. Serving artists from underrepresented communities, the Emerging Voices program will pair filmmakers with industry leaders for mentorship and professional support, with stipends available for participating artists. In addition, the South Pitch program for directors and a lab for producers will offer media artists the opportunity to participate in series of workshops, pitch sessions, guest artist discussions, and mentorships.

New Orleans Film and Video Festival, Inc.

New Orleans, LA

\$30,000

Grants for Arts Projects – Media Arts

To support the New Orleans Film Festival and related public activities. Narrative, documentary, experimental, and animated films and virtual reality experiences will be exhibited at this Academy Award-qualifying festival, accompanied by panel discussions with visiting artists, pitch sessions for local filmmakers, and special screenings of films made in Louisiana. In partnership with local community organizations, underrepresented communities and students of all ages will be engaged through free public programming to promote film-going as an arts experience.

New Orleans Museum of Art (NOMA)

New Orleans, LA

\$40,000

Grants for Arts Projects – Museums

Grant description not available.

New Orleans Video Access Center, Inc.

New Orleans, LA

\$35,000

Grants for Arts Projects – Media Arts

To support professional development programs, access to production equipment, and artist services for independent filmmakers and community storytellers in New Orleans and Southeastern Louisiana. Artists will receive support in developing their creative projects through film and digital media workshops, equipment and facilities access, career consultation, and mentorship opportunities with established professionals.

Ogden Museum of Southern Art, Inc.

New Orleans, LA

\$35,000

Grants for Arts Projects – Museums

Grant description not available.

Tennessee Williams/New Orleans Literary Festival, Inc.

New Orleans, LA

\$10,000

Grants for Arts Projects – Literary Arts

To support literary festivals. The Tennessee Williams/New Orleans Literary Festival and the Saints and Sinners Literary Festival feature activities such as readings, master classes, panel discussions, and walking tours, as well as workshops for youth. In partnership with local historically Black universities, the organization also will present literary programming celebrating the diversity of the community and providing a forum for discussions of racial equity and social justice.

Shreveport Opera

Shreveport, LA

\$15,500

Grants for Arts Projects – Opera

To support the Shreveport Opera Xpress educational touring program. The company's educational outreach program will offer performances and activities for public school students in all grade levels throughout central and south Louisiana. The 45-minute performances will feature original productions designed for teachers to facilitate discussion about relevant social issues such as bullying, character development, diversity, and kindness addressed in the operas.

Shreveport Regional Arts Council

Shreveport, LA

\$75,000

Our Town – Design

To support an artist residency, artist apprenticeship program, and public art lighting installation at the Texas Street Bridge in Shreveport, Louisiana. Lighting artist Tracey Dear will develop an animated light artwork for the bridge and will train a team of local artists to become long-term designers and programmers of the permanent lighting system. Additionally, residents will be invited to design concepts for future lighting installations. A partnership of the City of Shreveport, the Shreveport-Bossier Convention and Tourist Bureau, the Bossier Arts Council, Historically Black Colleges and Universities including Southern University at Shreveport and Grambling State University, and other local partners, the installation will transform the bridge into an iconic and engaging feature of Shreveport's riverfront, and generate economic opportunities for local artists participating in the program.