



OREGON ARTS
COMMISSION

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Contact: Shannon Planchon, (503) 229-6062, Shannon.planchon@state.or.us
Brian Wagner, (503) 986-0083, brian.wagner@state.or.us

Oregon Arts Commission Announces Deadline for Arts Build Communities Grant Applications

The Oregon Arts Commission has announced an October 1, 2008 application deadline for *Arts Build Communities* grants, which recognize and support the use of the arts as a tool for building and strengthening Oregon communities.

Arts Build Communities grants support both the arts in local communities and the involvement of the arts and artists in community development. The program recognizes the expanding role that arts organizations are taking in the broader, cultural, social, educational and economic areas of community life.

The program's goal is to better connect local arts and cultural resources with issues or opportunities facing communities. Projects can support the integration of the arts and artists with community goals and may include new initiatives, new program development, or the expansion of an existing arts and community development project.

Arts Build Communities proposals from communities that are underserved by arts services will receive priority for funding. Underserved communities include communities whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, ethnicity, economics, or disability.

The *Arts Build Communities* grants are funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts. Applications will be accepted until a postmark deadline of October 1, 2008. Grant requests must be for activities and projects occurring between January 1 - December 31, 2009. Guidelines are available online: www.oregonartscommission.org, or may be requested from the Arts Commission, 775 Summer Street NE, Suite 200, Salem, Oregon 97301-1280, (503) 986-0082.

Applicants are encouraged to review the program guidelines, then call Arts Commission staff to discuss the proposed project. This is a competitive grants program, and a discussion with Arts Commission staff can clarify the intent of the program and sometimes direct a project to a more appropriate funding source outside the Arts Commission.

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The Oregon Arts Commission provides leadership, funding and arts programs through its grants, special initiatives and services. Nine Commissioners, appointed by the Governor, determine arts needs and establish policies for public support of the arts. The Arts Commission became part of the Economic and Community Development Department in 1993, in recognition of the expanding role the arts play in the broader social, economic and educational arenas of Oregon communities. In 2003, the Oregon Legislature moved the operations of the Oregon Cultural Trust to the Arts Commission, streamlining operations and making use of the Commission's expertise in grantmaking, arts and cultural information and community cultural development. More information about the Oregon Arts Commission is available online at: www.oregonartscommission.org

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