

NEWS

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Pennsylvania Performing Arts on Tour

Awards Grants for Touring Engagements

Pennsylvania Performing Arts on Tour (PennPAT) announced today that it has awarded more than \$35,000 in grants to Pennsylvania performing arts presenters for engagements with 15 different dance, theater, storytelling, music, and multi-disciplinary performing artists. Now entering its second year of grant-making, PennPAT provides support for the touring of professional Pennsylvania performing artists within Pennsylvania. In this second round of PennPAT grants to presenters, 17 projects were selected for funding out of a total of 24 applications. Funded engagements include performances and residencies at colleges, universities, performing arts centers, local arts councils, libraries, and arts festivals in 14 different counties and 15 different cities. Awards ranged from \$315 to \$6,000. A full list of grant awards follows.

This competitive grants program is open to all non-profit organizations and units of government in Pennsylvania that have an ongoing commitment to presenting the performing arts in their communities. Organizations that wish to hire an approved PennPAT roster artist for a public performance may be eligible to apply for funding to support up to 60% of the artist's fees and travel expenses. In addition to the performance itself, presenting organizations are encouraged to develop with the artist other activities that engage the community such as classes, workshops, and lecture demonstrations. These activities may also be eligible for PennPAT funding.

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The next deadline will be October 1, 1999, for programs scheduled between March 1, 2000 and August 31, 2000. Proposals may also be submitted at this deadline for programs being preplanned for September 1, 2000 through August 31, 2001.

The current PennPAT roster of approved artists includes 94 performing arts companies or individual performing artists, all of whom reside or are based in Pennsylvania. The roster boasts dance companies and dancers, solo musicians and music groups, theater companies and actors, traditional performing arts groups, storytellers and multi-disciplinary performance companies. All of these artists have undergone a rigorous panel review of their artistic quality and their ability to tour.

The purpose of PennPAT is to provide income and development opportunities for professional Pennsylvania performing artists through increased access to and engagement with audiences throughout the Commonwealth. In addition to the grants to presenters for touring engagements, PennPAT offers grants to roster artists for projects intended to enhance their touring capabilities. PennPAT also offers workshops for artists and presenters focusing on issues related to touring and presenting the performing arts.

PennPAT, administered by Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation, was developed and is funded in a unique partnership between the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency, and three private philanthropies – the Vira I. Heinz Endowment, the William Penn Foundation and The Pew Charitable Trusts.

For PennPAT guidelines, application or information, contact Pennsylvania Performing Arts on Tour, 1811 Chestnut Street, Suite 301, Philadelphia, PA, 19103. Telephone: 215/496-9424. Fax: 215/496-9585. E-mail: pennpat@erols.com.

Pennsylvania Performing Arts on Tour Fall 1998 Grants for Touring Engagements

Bethel

Bethel Tulpehocken Library: Vicky Town, \$825

Bethlehem

Celtic Fest: Bagpipe Music and Dance Performances, \$3,000

Chambersburg

Cumberland Valley School of Music: David Leonhardt Jazz Group, \$2,700

Gettysburg

Adams County Arts Council: Squonk Opera, \$6,000

Hollidaysburg

Borough of Hollidaysburg: Mum Puppettheatre, \$633

Indiana

Indiana Arts Council: Fulton Opera House, \$1,374

Johnstown

Bottleworks Ethnic Arts Center: Stan Merzanis, \$794

Lancaster

Pennsylvania Academy of Music: Renaissance City Winds, \$2,340

Latrobe

Westmoreland Arts and Heritage Festival: Kulu Mele African American Ensemble, \$1,980

McKeesport

Mon Yough Riverfront Entertainment and Cultural Council: Spoken Hand, \$4,200

McMurray

Peters Township Municipality: Chatham Baroque, \$1,035; Joe Grkman Band, \$540; Mock Turtle Marionette Theater, \$315

Murrysville

Artscape: Duquesne University Tamburitians, \$2,000

Philadelphia

Sedgwick Cultural Center: Mock Turtle Marionette Theater, \$1,325

Slippery Rock

Slippery Rock University: Dance Alloy, \$6,000

Titusville

Benson Memorial Library: Vicky Town, \$408