

NEWS

For Immediate Release: January 4, 2002
Contact: Joanna Faith Mintzer, Marketing Director
215/496-9424

**Pennsylvania Performing Arts on Tour Announces
Fall 2001 Grants for Touring Engagements**
71 Touring Engagements Funded

Pennsylvania Performing Arts on Tour (PennPAT), a program of Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation, announced today that it has awarded \$207,505 in grants for 71 performance engagements with 39 PennPAT roster artists. A detailed list of grant awards follows.

PennPAT received 88 eligible applications from presenting organizations throughout the mid-Atlantic region and Ohio. This number was significantly higher than anticipated. Historically, applications received for the fall panel review have come from small organizations and summer presenters but more than 20% of the applications received in this round were for touring engagements scheduled for the 2002/2003 season. Despite the growing competition, PennPAT staff is pleased that the program was able to fund 80% of the applications.

PennPAT awarded its second New Directions Grant in the amount of \$15,000 to Frostburg State University in Frostburg, MD. This grant will support a collaborative project with Dance Alloy of Pittsburgh, PA, resulting in the creation of a new dance work.

PennPAT continues to garner praise for the opportunity it has afforded its participants. Even those presenters not able to utilize PennPAT commend the program and its accomplishments. Evy Warshawski, Executive Director of the Ann Arbor Summer Festival wrote, “fee support programs are so few and far between...isn’t PennPAT a great program? A simple application, nice folks running the program, and the ease with which we go about applying and hopefully receiving funds. We all win!”

Funded engagements include performances and residencies at performing arts centers, universities, colleges, festivals, arts councils, park & recreation departments, libraries, museums and community centers throughout the mid-Atlantic region and Ohio. Awards ranged from \$150 to \$15,000.

The purpose of the PennPAT program is to increase opportunities for professional Pennsylvania performing artists to obtain successful touring engagements. PennPAT, administered by Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation, was developed and is funded by a unique public-private partnership including the Vira I. Heinz Endowment; the William Penn Foundation; the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency; and The Pew Charitable Trusts.

The next deadline for PennPAT Presenter Fee-Support and New Directions Grants is February 1, 2002 for programs scheduled between June 1, 2002 and August 31, 2003.

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: info@pennpat.org. Web: www.pennpat.org.

-End-