

Agency 69 - Nebraska Arts Council

Statutory Authority:

The Nebraska Arts Council (NAC) operates under Sections 82-309 to 82-305 and Sections 82-317 to 82-333 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes (reissued 1981).

Agency Purpose: The enabling legislation for the NAC outlines the purposes of the NAC as follows: 1) stimulate and encourage throughout the state the study and presentation of the performing and fine arts, public interest and participation therein; 2) to make such surveys as may be deemed advisable to public and private institutions within the state engaged in artistic and cultural activities, and make recommendations; 3) take steps to encourage public interest; and, 4) encourage freedom of artistic expression.

Vision Statement:

The Nebraska Arts Council strengthens Nebraska's economy, increases student's cognitive learning skills, and enhances our quality of life. The NAC accomplishes this by supporting arts activities through grants and technical assistance for nonprofit arts organizations such as museums, symphonies, playhouses and community arts council, nonprofit community and social services agencies that provide arts activities, public and private schools, colleges and universities and artists, writers, and performers. The Nebraska Arts Council provides training for teachers, offers professional development in arts administration and supports the presentation of quality performance events and exhibitions.

Mission Statement:

The Nebraska Arts Council is a state agency that promotes, cultivates, and sustains the arts for the people of Nebraska.

The Nebraska Arts Council carries out its mission through four programs:

- 1) Development of the Arts (Prog. 326) is the administrative program for the operations of the agency;
- 2) Aid to the Arts (Prog. 327) includes the agency's special initiatives and grants programs for cultural arts activities across the state;
- 3) Humanities Aid (Prog. 328) was established by the Legislature to provide funding to the Nebraska Humanities Council on a matching basis; and,
- 4) Nebraska Cultural Preservation Endowment Fund (Prog. 329) was established by the Legislature to ensure there is a stable cultural climate in our state for future generations.

Goals:

The NAC's goals to implement its mission:

- 1) to ensure all Nebraskans have access to the arts;
- 2) to implement the arts as a catalyst for promoting understanding among cultures;
- 3) to support education in the arts as basic to lifelong learning;
- 4) to promote partnerships that create and expand opportunities and allow the arts to grow and flourish;
- 5) to provide the financial and technological resources that are needed to sustain the arts in Nebraska; and,
- 6) to promote the arts as important to Nebraska's economy, quality of life and the education of its children.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY06	Request FY06	Recom FY06	Request FY07	Recom FY07
General Fund	1,062,094	1,118,697	1,607,031	1,129,127	1,538,535	1,141,076
Cash Fund	735,838	1,500,000	1,510,000	1,510,000	1,510,000	1,510,000
Federal Fund	882,292	626,500	626,500	631,495	626,500	636,524
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	2,680,224	3,245,197	3,743,531	3,270,622	3,675,035	3,287,600

Agency 69 - Nebraska Arts Council Program 326 - Development Of The Arts

Program Objectives:

Development of the Arts provides the resources to carry out the goals and objectives of the Nebraska Arts Council (NAC). The NAC emphasizes visibility, responsiveness, and taking the leadership role in facilitating projects or partnerships that benefit the state of Nebraska by utilizing the arts. Developments of the Arts funds include both legislative appropriations and grant monies from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY05	Request FY06	Recom FY06	Request FY07	Recom FY07
General Fund	439,267	499,180	570,377	509,610	551,881	521,559
Cash Fund	5,903	0	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Federal Fund	214,367	133,550	133,550	138,545	133,550	143,574
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	659,537	632,730	713,927	658,155	695,431	675,133

Performance Measures:

Development of the Arts is the administrative program for the operations of the agency. The principal workload of the agency relates to the intake and processing of grant applications, and to processing grant payments and reports. Secondary tasks relate to support for agency services and initiatives, and to maintaining agency records, processing payments to grantees and vendors, arranging travel for staff, Council and grant review panelists, and complying with DAS and other state government regulations. Development of the Arts also includes publications and support for agency events.

Agency 69 - Nebraska Arts Council Program 327 - Aid To The Arts

Program Objectives:

Aid to the Arts includes the agency's grants programs and special initiatives. Grants are awarded for cultural arts activities across the state. Grants provide funding for: arts projects by Nebraska nonprofit organizations, residencies in schools or community settings, and for operating support to nonprofit arts organizations across the state. Aid to the Arts funds include both legislative appropriations and grant monies from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY05	Request FY06	Recom FY06	Request FY07	Recom FY07
General Fund	539,127	536,654	836,654	536,654	786,654	536,654
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	667,925	492,950	492,950	492,950	492,950	492,950
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	1,207,052	1,029,604	1,329,604	1,029,604	1,279,604	1,029,604

Performance Measures:

Aid to the Arts describes the agency's granting program, which provides funding for arts projects sponsored by Nebraska nonprofit organizations, for artist residencies in schools or community settings, and for operating support to nonprofit arts organizations across the state.

Current research validates that the arts are increasingly important in our children's education, boost our communities economically, have a complex interface with technology, and allow our communities to enjoy cultural and educational resources that enhance Nebraska's quality of life.

Agency 69 - Nebraska Arts Council Program 328 - Nebraska Humanities Council

Program Objectives:

Aid to the Humanities is the program through which the agency acts as the agent for Legislative support of the Nebraska Humanities Council (NHC). The Legislature expressed a desire to provide this support, and designated the NAC as the fiscal agent for this purpose. The NAC annually verifies that the NHC has provided a 1 to 1 match for the support it has received from the Legislature.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY05	Request FY06	Recom FY06	Request FY07	Recom FY07
General Fund	83,700	82,863	200,000	82,863	200,000	82,863
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	83,700	82,863	200,000	82,863	200,000	82,863

Performance Measures:

Great Plains Chautauqua is a week-long program taking place in two communities during the summer on the theme "From Sea to Shining Sea" that examines American westward expansion from 1790 to 1850 featuring scholars portraying William Clark, Sacagawea, and York from the Lewis and Clark Expedition, John Jacob Astor, the Indian chief Tecumseh, and moderated by First Lady Dolley Madison. The evening tent-show features performances in costume by each of the scholars, who also present children's and adult's workshops during the day.

Capitol Forum is a curriculum to engage high school students in exploring political, philosophical, and economic dimensions of U.S. foreign policy.

The Speakers Bureau is part of the Humanities Resource Center, which also includes traveling exhibits, videos, books for reading and discussion, and cultural encounter trunks. The bureau has 165 speakers offering 290 different topics ranging from programs on "Nebraska and the Civil War" to "Palestine and the Arab-/Israeli Conflict." A new mini-catalog, Notable Nebraskans, features 44 programs on such Nebraskans as Willa Cather and George Norris.

Prime Time Family Reading Time is a new program for low-literacy, low-income Hispanic families done at local libraries with a story teller and a discussion leader working with parents and children in using award-winning bi-lingual children's books to encourage reading as a core family activity and encourage families to use their public libraries.

Agency 69 - Nebraska Arts Council Program 329 - Nebraska Arts And Humanities

Program Objectives:

Program 329 was created as a result of the creation of the Nebraska Cultural Preservation Endowment act, LB799, which was signed into law in 1998. This bill, as is reflected in Sections 82-330 through 82-333, established a trust fund in the state treasury for the purpose of stabilizing the state's cultural climate. The Nebraska Arts Council administers and distributes the Nebraska Arts and Humanities Cash Fund, which results from the earnings of the trust fund. The Nebraska Arts Council and the Nebraska Humanities Council may draw down the earnings upon proving a dollar-for-dollar match. These funds support programs that stabilize the state's cultural climate.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY04	Approp FY05	Request FY06	Recom FY06	Request FY07	Recom FY07
General Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cash Fund	729,935	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	729,935	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000

Performance Measures:

Earnings from the Nebraska Cultural Preservation Endowment Fund (CPEF) are available to the Nebraska Arts Council and Nebraska Humanities Council (NHC) only if matched 1 to 1 from private sources. The Nebraska Cultural Endowment, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization was created solely for the purpose of raising private dollars to match CPEF and invest the private funds for growth.