

**3. Please describe the Commission's activities in FY2012 and FY2013 to date.**

The D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities operates through the following programs:

Arts Building Communities – provides grants, performances, exhibitions, and other services to individual artists, arts organizations, and neighborhood and community groups so that they can express, experience, and access the rich cultural diversity of the District. A particular emphasis is placed on traditionally underserved populations, including first-time applicants, seniors, young emerging artists, experimental artists, folk and traditional artists, and artists in East of the River neighborhoods.

D.C. Creates Public Art – provides the placement of high-quality art installations and administrative support services for the public so that they can benefit from an enhanced visual and cultural environment, with a particular emphasis on geographically challenged areas of the city. This program places artwork within the Metro transit system

and the numerous murals and sculptures in and around the city's neighborhoods. The goals are promoting economic development and building sustainable neighborhoods.

Arts Learning and Outreach – provides grants, educational activities, and outreach services for youth, young adults, and the general public so that they can gain a deeper appreciation for the arts, and to enhance the overall quality of their lives. Specific focus is on providing quality arts education and training experiences to District youth from those in pre-kindergarten through 21 years of age, as well as grants and cultural events to the general public so that they can access and participate in educational opportunities in the arts.

This program also includes:

Arts Learning for Youth - provides grants, program consulting, and advocacy services to school and community partners so that they can deliver quality and age-appropriate arts learning opportunities both in and out of school. The goal is to ensure a quality arts experience for District youth from pre-kindergarten through 21 years of age; and

Lifelong Learning - provides grants and cultural events to the public so that they can access and participate in educational opportunities in the arts. The goal is long-term development of interest and education in the arts to the broader community.

In addition to these programs the DCCAH moved to a new office space located at 200 I Street, SE, which provides the agency to opportunity to further engage DC residents by offering additional meeting rooms, a large resource center, and community room. The new building also contains a large art gallery, which is the only space of its kind owned by District Government. The DCCAH curates exhibits and offers presentations in the gallery space and will continue finding creative uses for the gallery.

The DCCAH has created a grant program in cooperation with the Office of the Secretary called the Sister Cities International Arts Grant (SCIAG), which provides one-time project support and covers travel expenses to foster cultural exchange and diplomacy between the District of Columbia and DC's Sister Cities. DC-based artists and arts organizations have the opportunity to expand their artistic impact and build their

capacity by presenting or exhibiting their work to an international community. In order to enrich and inspire District Residents, all grantees will participate in a DCCAH forum to share their SCIAG experience.

Lastly, the DCCAH created the Arts Stabilization Grant (ASG) to provide one-time general operating support to established arts and humanities organizations that support the sustainability of the District of Columbia's creative economy. Applicants to this grant must demonstrate the ways in which their ongoing programming aligns with the DCCAH's mission to encourage diverse artistic expressions and learning opportunities so that all District of Columbia residents and visitors can experience the rich culture of our city. The ASG highlights applicants' outstanding leadership and vision, history of exceptional cultural programming and strong track record of broad and inclusive community engagement.