



Association of Performing Arts Presenters

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Arts Presenters Announces *The Creative Campus Innovations Grant Program*

WASHINGTON – Today the Association of Performing Arts Presenters (Arts Presenters) launched *The Creative Campus Innovations Grant Program* to strengthen the arts on campuses. Six to twelve colleges or universities will be awarded grants ranging from \$50,000-\$200,000 each for one- to two-year projects beginning in 2007. *The Creative Campus Innovations Grant Program* is funded through a \$1.5 million grant from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation.

“Colleges and universities have been leading patrons of the arts for more than 100 years, but despite their presence on campuses in many dimensions, the arts are not recognized as a priority, in the same ways that science, sports or foreign language teaching are. The arts are largely uncelebrated,” stated Sandra Gibson, President and CEO of Arts Presenters. “*The Creative Campus Innovations Program* provides an opportunity to fully integrate the performing arts into the life of the academy and the community.”

The Creative Campus Innovations Grant Program encourages college and university performing arts presenters, their campuses and partners to propose projects that go beyond conventional practice and perspectives, featuring innovative or experimental approaches, connecting with arts and non-arts constituencies, and stimulating discussion and debate. Programs will become the basis for a set of case studies to offer best practices, which will be made broadly available to higher education institutions.

The grant program is part of a larger initiative, *The Creative Campus*, a project that resulted from a convening in March 2004 by the American Assembly of Columbia University, “The Creative Campus, the Training, Sustaining and Presenting of the Performing Arts in American Higher Education.” Arts Presenters helped lead the two-day convening and has come together with a consortium of higher education and arts specialists to take the Assembly recommendations to the next significant level of discussion and action.

Program background, guidelines and online application are available at www.thecreativecampus.org.

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The Association of Performing Arts Presenters (Arts Presenters) is the largest national service and advocacy organization for the performing arts, and is dedicated to bringing artists and audiences together through presenting and touring. With over 1,900 members worldwide, Arts Presenters is committed to increasing community participation, promoting global cultural exchange, and fostering an environment for the performing arts to thrive. www.artspresenters.org.

The mission of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation is to improve the quality of people's lives through grants supporting the performing arts, wildlife conservation, medical research and the prevention of child maltreatment, and through preservation of the cultural and environmental legacy of Doris Duke's properties. Established in 1996, the foundation supports four national grantmaking programs in the areas described above. The foundation's activities are guided by the will of Doris Duke, who endowed the foundation with financial assets that currently total approximately \$1.7 billion. As of December 31, 2005, the foundation has approved approximately \$437 million in grants to nonprofit organizations throughout the United States. More information on the foundation can be found at www.ddcf.org.