



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL RESOURCES

Division of Arts, Division of Historical Resources, Division of Libraries, Film and Television Office Office of Curatorial Services American Canadian French Cultural Exchange Commission, Administratively Attached



Van McLeod, Commissioner

June 7, 2013

Her Excellency Governor Margaret Wood Hassan and the Honorable Council State House Concord, New Hampshire 03301

100% GENERAL Funds

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Cultural Resources, Division of the Arts, to award FY 2013 Individual Artist Performing Arts Fellowship Awards in the amount of \$4,000.00 to T.J. Wheeler, Hampton Falls (Vendor code 170760) effective upon Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2013. General funds are available in account 01-34-3410-1250000-073-500578.

EXPLANATION

At it's March 25, 2013 meeting, the Arts Council unanimously voted to accept Individual Artist Fellowship Performing Arts Panel's recommendations for grants to the above artists, based on their ranking within a competitive review of twenty-five applications from professional New Hampshire artists. The panel used the following criteria to evaluate the anonymous applications that included work samples, a resume and narrative responses to questions.

- Artistic excellence based on Work Samples
- Professional commitment based on Resume

The overall high quality of submissions made choices difficult, but each panel reached consensus on two applicants. These grants will help artists advance in their work and bring their work to the attention of a wider public by requiring each artist to four public engagement presentations to diverse segments of the New Hampshire community during their Fellowship year

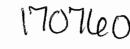
T. J. Wheeler has received an apprenticeship grant in the amount of \$2,400 this fiscal year.

Respectfully submitted,

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Commissioner





Grant # FY2013 AFG 9057 Acct Code: 1865-07334F1213 TA

GRANT AGREEMENT

New Hampshire State Council on the Arts

This agreement between the State of New Hampshire, NH State Council on the Arts (hereinafter "Council"), and <u>TJ</u> <u>Wheeler</u> (hereinafter "Grantee") is to witness receipt of funds subject to the following conditions:

GRANT PERIOD: FISCAL YEAR 2013

OBLIGATION OF THE GRANTEE: The Grantee agrees to accept \$\frac{\\$4,000.00}{\}\$ and apply it to the program(s) described in the grant application and approved budget referenced above. In the performance of this grant agreement, the Grantee is in all respects an independent contractor and is neither an agent nor employee of the State.

Funding credit must appear in all programs, publicity, and promotional materials. We suggest the following wording:

Supported in part by a grant from the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts

and the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Grantee agrees to abide by the limitations, conditions, and procedure outlined herein and in the attached appendices. If appropriated funds for this grants program are reduced or terminated (including a reduction by the Advisory Budget Control Committee), all payments under this grant may cease. That determination rests within the sole discretion of the Council.

PAYMENT will be made following the receipt and execution of all required documents and approval of the Governor and Executive Council.

FINAL REPORT: The Grantee agrees to submit a final financial and narrative report on a form provided by the Council no more than 30 days after the end of the grant period. Failure to submit the final report will render the Grantee ineligible for Council funding for two years.

SOVEREIGN IMMUNITY: No provision of this contract is to be deemed a waiver of sovereign immunity by the State of New Hampshire:

COUNCIL APPROVAL

Lynn Martin Graton, Acting Director

GRANTEE SIGNATURE

Org/ Name: TJ Wheeler

APPROVED BY ATTORNEY GENERAL as to form, substance and execution:

Date

MIK. Prin 613613
Office of Attorney General Date

Printed Name of Grantee

Grantee's Signature

Date

NOTARIZATION REQURIED:

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, COUNTY OF COUNTY On the day of 20 3 before the undersigned officer, personally appeared

(Print name of person whose signature is being notarized) or satisfactorily proven to be the person whose name appears above and acknowledged that s/he executed this document in the capacity indicated.

Notary Public/ Justice of the Peace

Printed Name: **LACEN**My Commission expires:

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KAREN L ELLS
NOTARY PUBLIC
STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OF SEPT. 3, 2013

Professional Resume

Current Career Activities

Full Time Musician & Researcher of Blues, Jazz, & Roots of the African Diaspora Educator

Musician

Performer

Private Teacher: Seacoast Academy of Music, No. Hampton NH.

Artist in the Schools: to all ages/special needs via the NH St. Council on the Arts AIE, Traditional Arts, & Arts in Health Care, Rosters as well as with VSA and the Raising the Blues Foundation

Music Education

2011 awarded from the NH Dept. of Education Teaching Certificate in the Teaching of the Performing Arts-based on my 40 years of experience

2007 – Present New Orleans Style Tenor Banjo Individual Study

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2007 Jimmy Bruno Jazz Guitar Summer Institute

2004 – Present Seven String guitar Individual Study

2001 - Present Mandolin Individual Study

1989 – Present Personal Diaspora Musical Journeys Ghana, Cuba, Brazil, the Bahamas', St. Croix, St. Thomas, New Orleans, Mississippi, Sea Islands off S.C. & GA.

1977 – 1990 Personal & or On the Job Training with diverse musical legends such as: Benny Waters, Tommy Gallant, Arthur Hall, Ruby Wilson, John Jackson, Honey Boy Edwards, Eddie Kirkland, Lazy Lester, Pinetop Perkins, Eddie Bo, Tommy Ridgley, Mighty Sam McLain, Al "Carnival Time" Johnson, Wild Bill Davis, Dick Johnson, Tiny Grimes, Katie Webster, Warren Batiste, Joe Houston, Nappy Brown, Robert Lockwood J., Danny Barker, Ike Roberts, James "Son" Thomas, Luther "Guitar JR." Johnson, BJ Johnson, John Sinclair

1973 -1976: Multi Experiential Exposure & Independent Field Research in the Deep South i.e. / Memphis TN, NOLA, Mississippi. Personal Mentors of that period include Babes Stovall, Bukka White, Furry Lewis, Sleepy John Estes, Peg Leg Sam Jackson, and Roosevelt Sykes

1968 -72 West Coast Hitchhiking Sojourns Seattle – LA Where I busked on the Streets for a living & performed at coffee houses, house parties, and Filipino Pig Roasts. Much time spent learning from regional Folk, Jug Band musicians, other street musicians, & local; Jazz & R&B musicians.

1966 Apprenticeship with Larry Paraypa of the SONICS

1964 – 1966 Private Study on Guitar with George Shoape

1993 Tour of Finland. There I performed with regional musicians (that I had originally met when they were doing their own sojourns of the Mississippi Delta two years before) In Finland I also introduced BITS to many schools and festivals throughout the country.

1989 Inaugural USA tour of "Hope, Heroes' & the Blues" Education tour, Sponsored by the Ben & Jerry's Foundation .I applied and received a grant from them to do my first national BITS tour.

1988 Accepted to the NH State Arts Councils Artists in Education/ AIE Roster

1985 Blues Bank Collective Founded

1980 Release of first LP Album "Smokin"

1973 Beginning of apprenticeships with Blues Masters Bukka White, Furry Lewis and others.

1971 First Steady Gig: "Northwest Passage" Pioneer Sq. Seattle WA.

1969 Open Up & Manager of Folk, Blues Coffee House in Winslow, Bainbridge Is. WA.

1968 Produced first outdoor Music Festival on Bainbridge Island, WA.

Over the decades, you could just as easy find me at any given time performing in any of the following settings; a concert hall, a juke joint, a funeral service, a hospice setting, a children's hospital, a nursery, a garden nursery, a nursing home, a special needs school, a prep, public, private, charter or alternative school, civil /human rights rally, a juvenile home, a prison, a mental institution, a church, a soup kitchen, the SPCA, any number of benefits, a major Blues, Jazz or folk festival, or busking on the street. All are extremely integral aspects of who I am as a man, a musician, a student, a teacher, a witness, a writer, a prankster, and as an overall, Blues Guy.

Awards & Achievements

2011 NH Dept. of Education Teaching Certificate in the Teaching of the Performing Arts. Based on my 40 years of experience

2008 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Jersey Shore Jazz & Blues Foundation

2006 Granite State Award from the University Of New Hampshire. The award was for my musical activism on such issues as the passing of the NH MLK Holiday Bill, the creation of the Portsmouth Black Heritage Festival as well as my concert/workshop and residency work in schools promoting Jazz & Blues and the study of African American history.

2004 Paul Robeson Diversity Commemoration Award U.S. Post Office 2004

2004 Best Youth Band N.H. Magazine 2004

2004 Key Note Speaker for the 21 Century education Conference, Durham N.H.

2003 Contributing writer for PBS's Year of the Blues Educational Curriculum. The lesson plans were an education supplement for their history of the Blues film series the was televised nationally.

2003 W.C. Handy Keeping the Blues Alive Award in education to the Ottawa Cisco System Blues Festival

2003 Feature story Blues Revue Magazine, spring issue

2003 N.H. Diversity Organization's Award in Education

2002 C.D. Of The Year Award for "Blues You Can Bank On" by JAM Magazine 2002 runner up for Song of the Year Award for "Blues You Can Bank On" by Jam Magazine.

2001 National Music Foundation Award for "Hope, Heroes' & the Blues"

2001 The first Lifetime Achievement Award from Spotlight Magazine . Spotlight is a weekly Arts & Entertainment calendar supplement of the Portsmouth Herald Newspaper.

1996 Individual Fellowship Award from the NG St. Council on the Arts 1995 Silver Pinnacle Education award from the International Music Festival Organization

1993 The first Race Unity Award from the Seacoast N.E. Baha'i 1993 W.C. Handy Blues Foundation "Keeping the Blues Alive" Award in Education

Past & Present Organizational Collaborations include

Raising the Blues Foundation (Boston MA.), Spaulding Youth Center (Tilton NH), Community Campus (Portsmouth NH), Ottawa Blues Festival Org., Jersey Shore Jazz & Blues So., Pro Portsmouth, Sea coast African American Center (Portsmouth NH), Communities in Schools of New Orleans, House of Blues Foundation, Strawbery Banke Museum, NAACP, International Blues

Foundation Board of Advisors, NH Martin Luther King Coalition, Concord State Men's Prison, NH VSA, NH Veterans Home, Camp Mayhew (NH), NH NPR, PBS, Crossroads Homeless Center, Seacoast Bahai's, Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail, Teaching Tolerance/Southern Poverty Law Center, Partners of the Americas, AFC, United Way, City Year & the Greater NH Charitable Foundation Diversity Committee.

National Reference quotes on the Artist

His guitar virtuosity and forceful vocals turned my classroom into an educational juke joint. I hope Bukka and Furry are watching how he's passing on their gift"

- -- ART TIPALDI educator, Blues Review critic and past member of the International Blues Foundation Board of Directors.
- "That flat, driving tone with a jazzy feel is all his own. Playing hot electric or Delta style acoustic, He takes a tradition, shapes it, and passes it on."
- -- Highlights Column, Times Picayune, New Orleans LA
- "I do not believe that anyone has invested the time and dedication to keeping the Blues alive that he has"
- -- Bob Vorel founder & original publisher of Blues Revue Magazine
 "He engages young people in an understanding of history through the music
 that I think is more accessible to them. That need for understanding our history
 in dealing with issues such as racism is so important."
- -- Greg Hodgesen Senior associate priest at Grace Episcopal Church, Charleston S.C.
- "A tribute to all Black Americans. He revealed and exemplified consequential knowledge of our cultural heritage...a profound impact on our students. The children were exceptionally proud upon discovering how African Americans have influenced the different types of music. On behalf of all Black Americans I say thank you"
- -- La Gretta Walker Counselor, Winchester Elementary, Memphis TN.
 "When you sang "Follow the Drinking Gourd" it touched my heart. When you talked about the slavery days when Harriet Tubman helped slaves escape, I started feeling good about myself for some reason"
- Laquita L. Kearney student Winchester Elementary School Memphis TN.