



STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT of NATURAL and CULTURAL RESOURCES
STATE COUNCIL on the ARTS

19 Pillsbury Street CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03301

May 23, 2018

His Excellence, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Executive Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

The Department of Natural and Cultural Resources, Division of the Arts, requests permission to renew our membership with the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA), Washington, DC (VC #171911) in the amount of \$8,000 to be paid directly by the National Endowment of the Arts upon Governor and Executive Council approval for the period July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

EXPLANATION

NASAA is a professional association which works at the national, state and local levels to ensure that the arts play a valued role in the educational, economic and cultural well-being of our communities. This membership allows the Division of the Arts to access uniquely specialized knowledge and staff time from NASAA.

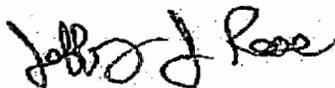
The National Endowment of the Arts transfers membership dues directly to NASAA on behalf of the fifty state arts agencies. This allows state arts agencies to benefit from the membership and they are relieved from the requirement to match the federal funds with state funds. Because the Division of the Arts has had to ask for a waiver of the match requirement in the last three fiscal years, this transfer reduces the gap between the state and federal allocations.

Following is a completed questionnaire developed for organizational dues and membership requests.

1. **How long has this organization been in existence and how long has this agency been a member of this organization?** NASAA was founded in 1968 and incorporated in 1974. The New Hampshire Commission on the Arts was a member at the time of NASAA's initial formation in 1968, and has remained so since that time.
2. **Is there any other organization which provides the same or similar benefits which your agency belongs to?** No.
3. **How many other state's belonging to this organization and is your agency the sole New Hampshire state agency that is a member?** All of the nation's 56 states and jurisdictional arts agencies are current members. The Division of the Arts is the sole New Hampshire state agency member.
4. **How is the dues structure established? Standard fee for all states, based on population, based on other criteria, etc.** Members pay on a sliding scale based on budget size.

5. **What benefit does the state receive from participating in this membership?** NASAA is the only organization dedicated exclusively to state arts agencies and their needs. Everything NASAA does is designed to help state arts agencies and maximize their value to the public and to state government. By participating in NASAA, state arts agencies increase their knowledge, secure resources and gain strength through a national community.
6. **Are training or educational/ research materials included in the membership? If so, is the cost included? Explain in detail.** Yes. Data on state arts agency budgets, rankings, staffing and structure; detailed information on state arts agency grants; customized reports; examples of programs and guidelines; analysis of state arts agency policy issues; referrals to states facing similar situations; advice on strategic planning, needs assessment and program evaluation methods; examples of best practices and innovative programs; web seminars exploring current trends and new research; connections to experts and ideas from outside the state arts agency field. They also provide opportunities for our constituency to participate in webinars at no cost.
7. **Is the membership required to receive any federal grants or required in order to receive or participate in licensing or certification exams? Explain.** This membership is not required to receive federal grants or for licensing or certifications.
8. **Is there any travel included with this membership fee? Explain in detail any travel to include the number of employees involved, the number of trips, destination if known and purposes of membership supported trips.** Yes, the annual professional development conference is scheduled for Baltimore, Maryland and is open to all members. These are held throughout the country in conjunction with the leadership training for two administrative staff every other year.
9. **Which state agency employees are directly involved with this organization? (Indicate if they are members, voting members, committee members, and/or officers of the organization.** The entire agency and the 15 member appointed Council can participate as members. Some members of our staff have participated on the planning committee and as presenters in the professional development opportunities.
10. **Explain in detail any negative impact to the State if the Agency did not belong to this organization.** The loss of the available resources for training, best practices, strategic planning, trends and research would essentially eliminate staff professional development. The opportunity for our staff, Council and constituency to participate in no-cost trainings would reduce our impact.

Respectfully submitted,



Handwritten signature of Jeffrey J. Rose. To the right of the signature is a circular stamp containing the initials "JRW".

Jeffrey J. Rose
Commissioner