

## PRESIDENT SIGNS FY12 FUNDING BILL

Wednesday, December 28, 2011

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*Performing Arts Alliance*

<http://thepperformingartsalliance.org/>

Late last week, President Obama signed a consolidated bill to finalize FY12 federal funding. The final budget package includes \$145.979 million for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and \$24.593 million for the Arts in Education program at the U.S. Department of Education.

#### NEA

After a rollercoaster year, the FY12 NEA budget suffered a decrease of \$8.745 million compared to last year's funding allocation. The House of Representatives and the Senate proposed budgets ranging from \$135 million to \$155 million, ultimately compromising to reach the same amount originally requested by the President, a decrease for the agency to a level of \$145.979 million. In anticipation of a decrease this year, the NEA, which is halfway through its FY12 grant cycle, has reduced the total amount of grant disbursement, and further changes for FY13 grants and beyond are expected to be announced shortly. Following the release of those changes, the Performing Arts Alliance will be in touch with details.

#### Arts in Education

Also experiencing a tumultuous appropriations cycle, the Arts in Education program has weathered significant challenges and is one of a few programs to survive multiple proposals to eliminate subject-specific funding programs at the U.S. Department of Education. The Arts in Education program ultimately received \$24.593 million in FY12 to administer and support competitive grants and national initiatives at the Department of Education, a decrease from the \$27.447 million administered by the Department in FY11. FY12 funding may offer the possibility of a new round of grant competitions in the Arts in Education Model Development and Dissemination Program, but details remain to be seen. The Alliance will keep you updated as more information and possible grant opportunities become available.

Thank you for your ongoing advocacy in support of the arts. The challenging federal budget climate will continue into 2012, and your communication with Congress will continue to be important. Please stay tuned to Alliance updates and alerts!

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