November/December 2022 Newsletter

Here is what we have included for you in this newsletter:

- Poetry submissions for K-12 students - due December 5, 2022
- LAC upstArt Grant Opportunity - due December 19, 2022
- Creative Forces Grant Opportunity - due January 19, 2023
- Resources for Arts Educators
- New Certified Creative Districts
- Nebraska Election Results
- Join NFTA today! Memberships start at $25/year.
Opera Omaha's Poetry and Music Project

**Opera Omaha** invites students in grades K-12 from Nebraska and Iowa to submit works of poetry on the theme Finding Your Voice. Selected poems will be set to music and premiered during a public concert in May 2023.

From the pool of submissions, professional composers will select poems to set to music. This is not a contest, as the composers will select poems based on what inspires them. The selected poets will have the opportunity to participate with the composer in a workshop to further develop the piece with the composer and musicians, participating in the behind-the-scenes process. The completed works will be performed in concert by local artists.

Opera Omaha's Poetry & Music Project is produced in partnership with **Nebraska Writers Collective**. Additional project partners include **The American Opera Project** and **UNO School of Music**.

Poem Submissions Deadline Extended to **Monday, December 5, 2022**. To find out more or apply, go [here](#).

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**Lincoln Arts Council upstArt Grants**

The **Lincoln Arts Council** is excited to announce the expansion of its now-upstArt Grants Program this year. Grants will be in the amount of $2,500 (an increase from $500-$750). A total of 16 grants will be available.

The purpose of the awards is to encourage the use of the arts to better the lives of those in need. This includes arts organizations who provide programming to underserved populations, as well as non-arts focused social service organizations who wish to incorporate the arts into their assistive services.

The deadline for submissions is **5pm Monday December 19, 2022**. To find out more or apply, go [here](#).
Creative Forces Grants Opportunity

As part of its Creative Forces®: NEA Military Healing Arts Network, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is pleased to announce that applications are now available for the Creative Forces Community Engagement Grant program.

A partnership with Mid-America Arts Alliance, these grants support projects that address the distinct experiences, challenges, and strengths of a broad military-connected population, including active duty service members, guardsmen, reservists, and veterans, as well as their families and caregivers.

The deadline to apply is Thursday, January 19, 2023. To find out more or apply, go here.

New Certified Creative Districts

A big congratulations to our two new Certified Creative Districts:
The Canteen Creative District in North Platte
The River Point Creative District in Norfolk

You can read about all the Nebraska Certified Creative Districts here.
Sign up for the EXPRESSIONS Newsletter

Attention Arts Educators! Do you teach media arts, visual arts, dance, music, or theatre or support arts education?

Sign Up to be on the NDE Fine Arts Education Mailing List and you'll receive the Fine Arts EXPRESSIONS Newsletter, invitations to events, and special announcements.

Nebraska Election Results

You can find the results from the November election on the Secretary of State's Election Results Page here. Our new Governor and Lt. Governor will take office in January, and we will have quite a few new faces in the 2023 Nebraska Legislature.

Join Nebraskans for the Arts Today! Memberships start at $25/year!

If you are not yet a member of Nebraskans for the Arts, now is a great time to change that! Individual memberships start at $25/year. Memberships support NFTA advocacy and activities.

To become a member, visit our website here.

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