



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
May 5, 2009

CONTACT: Victoria L. Hamilton
Executive Director
(619) 236-6800

SAN DIEGO ARTS INSTITUTIONS RECEIVE \$270,000 IN GRANTS
FROM THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

San Diego, CA— The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) announced its second round of funding for fiscal year 2009 and seven San Diego arts and culture organizations were awarded grants totaling more than a quarter of a million dollars. Each of the seven groups are also recipients of funding from the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture through its Organizational Support Program (OSP).

“This investment in our arts and culture community is an extraordinary stimulus for the arts at a critical time. These groups continue to present and create art, provide jobs and help fuel our economy through their high performing business practices,” said Victoria L. Hamilton, Executive Director of the Commission. “Their ability to draw funding to San Diego from outside the region is an important success and a testament to the quality of these organizations.”

San Diego NEA Grant Recipients:

The Aja Project – \$40,000

CATEGORY: Learning in the Arts FIELD/DISCIPLINE: Learning in the Arts
To support the Journey program, a series of after-school photography workshops is targeted to serve immigrant and refugee youth, ages 12 to 17, living in the San Diego area.

Center for World Music - \$25,000

CATEGORY: Learning in the Arts FIELD/DISCIPLINE: Learning in the Arts
To support World Music Performance for Children. Skilled artists of varied cultural backgrounds will teach African, Indian, Indonesian, and Iran folk and traditional music, dance, and storytelling to elementary, middle, and high school students in San Diego and Orange counties.

Museum of Photographic Arts - \$100,000

CATEGORY: American Masterpieces FIELD/DISCIPLINE: Visual Arts Touring
To support the touring exhibition *Expanding the Family of Man: Masters of "Sixties" Photography*, with accompanying catalogue and education programs.

Old Globe Theatre - \$15,000

CATEGORY: Access to Artistic Excellence FIELD/DISCIPLINE: Theater
To support the Student Access to the Arts program. The program will provide underserved middle and high school students from San Diego County the opportunity to experience live theater.

Playwrights Project - \$23,000

CATEGORY: Learning in the Arts FIELD/DISCIPLINE: Learning in the Arts
To support Write On! Underserved middle and high school students will work with teaching artists in their classrooms to create original plays - a means also to improve students' reading skills and vocabulary.

San Diego Opera Association - \$47,000

CATEGORY: Learning in the Arts FIELD/DISCIPLINE: Learning in the Arts
To support the Words & Music Program. In partnership with the San Diego Unified School District, the company will provide an in-school opera residency in which students will learn to compose an original opera.

San Diego Symphony Orchestra Association - \$20,000

CATEGORY: Access to Artistic Excellence FIELD/DISCIPLINE: Music
To support education programs for young audiences. The orchestra will present concerts and expand its programming to include Family Festivals, Kinder Konzerts, and Young People's Concerts.

The NEA is a public agency dedicated to supporting excellence in the arts, both new and established; bringing the arts to all Americans; and providing leadership in arts education. Further information about the NEA can be accessed at: www.nea.gov

The City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture vitalizes the San Diego community by supporting the region's cultural assets, integrating arts and culture into community life and showcasing San Diego as an international tourist destination. Further information about the Commission can be accessed at: www.sandiego.gov/arts-culture

###