



Association of Performing Arts Presenters

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Arts Presenters Announces Cultural Exchange Fund Grantees

Presenting professionals and artists awarded grants for cultural projects.



Anne Kogan, a past CEF awardee, studied in Brazil.

Washington, DC (December 16, 2011) – The Association of Performing Arts Presenters announces a new round of recipients of [Cultural Exchange Fund](#) grants. Awarded to presenting professionals and artists, the grants, which are funded by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, allow awardees to deepen their knowledge of arts, traditions and cultures throughout the world, and exemplify diversity in the performing arts profession by building partnerships

and collaborations with international counterparts.

APAP recognizes that cross-cultural programs are essential in fully engaging the arts industry's diverse audiences and communities. The APAP CEF grants support these types of programs and initiatives by member organizations and artists. For the first time, **APAP is awarding CEF grants to professional artists** traveling abroad for project research or presentation that promotes global exchange.

“Providing this support allows members literally to explore the arts in a broader field and to bring enriching ideas back to their uniquely diverse home communities,” says Mario Garcia Durham, APAP president and CEO. “CEF is more than a bridge to fulfilling a vision or promoting an ethereal concept of community engagement. It truly serves the arts industry and artists in a global mission of cultural exchange.”

The inaugural APAP artist awardees are:

- **Meklit Hadero** from San Francisco traveling to Ethiopia
- **Vivian Fung** from Jackson Heights, NY traveling to China
- **Brenda Way** from San Francisco traveling to Singapore
- **Leslie Boyce** of Beauties: As Seen by Others in Brooklyn traveling to France
- **Karen Peterson** of Karen Peterson Dancers, Inc., in Miami traveling to Herzegovina

“This grant is integral for me to understand first-hand the music of minority cultures that are underrepresented in the world,” says artist awardee Vivian Fung who will travel to China early next year. “Their folksongs will be the basis for a number of my new projects. I hope to bring back a deeper awareness of Yunnan minority cultures and to foster new relationships with the people I meet while there.”

Organization group awardees:

- **Legion Arts** in Cedar Rapids, IA traveling to Japan
- **Hopkins Center, Dartmouth College** in Hanover, NH traveling to Chile
- **Performance Space 122** in Brooklyn traveling to Chile

Individual awardees:

- **Andrew Wood** of San Francisco International Arts Festival in San Francisco traveling to England and Ireland
- **Jodee Nimerichter** of American Dance Festival in Durham, NC traveling to Australia
- **Laura Evans** of SFJAZZ in San Francisco traveling to Canada
- **Lili Chopra** of French Institute Alliance Française in New York City traveling to Morocco and Spain
- **Marjorie Neset** of NewArt New Mexico in Albuquerque traveling to South Africa
- **Monique Martin** of CityParks Foundation in New York City traveling to England
- **Lane Czaplinski** of On the Boards in Seattle traveling to Belgium
- **Alisa Baum** of Old Town School of Folk Music in Chicago traveling to Mali
- **Chris Jennings** of Shakespeare Theatre Company in Washington, DC traveling to England
- **Courtney Reilly** of UNC Wilmington in Wilmington, NC traveling to South Korea
- **Laura Colby** of Elsie Management in Brooklyn traveling to Australia
- **Martin Wollesen** of ArtPower! at UC San Diego in San Diego traveling to Australia and New Zealand
- **Robb Woulfe** of Ann Arbor Summer Festival in Ann Arbor, MI traveling to Australia



Amy Vashaw, a past CEF awardee, traveled to Bogota.

- **Tim McCarty** of Quest Visual Theatre in Lanham, MD traveling to South Africa
- **Karim Baer** of CIIS Public Programs Performances in San Francisco traveling to Mali

APAP member artists, individuals and groups interested in applying for the next round of CEF grants (for travel between July 2012 and January 2013) must file their application by June 1, 2012. **For more information about CEF and to apply for future grants, please visit www.apap365.org.**

About the Association of Performing Arts Presenters

The Association of Performing Arts Presenters, based in Washington, D.C., is the national service and advocacy organization dedicated to developing and supporting a robust performing arts presenting field and the professionals who work within it. Our 1,400 national and international members represent leading performing arts centers, municipal and university performance facilities, nonprofit performing arts centers, culturally specific organizations, foreign governments, as well as artist agencies, managers, touring companies, and national consulting practices that serve the field, and a growing roster of self-presenting artists. As a leader in the field, APAP works to effect change through advocacy, professional development, resource sharing and civic engagement. APAP is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization governed by a volunteer board of directors and led by President & CEO Mario Garcia Durham. In addition to presenting the annual APAP|NYC conference - the world's leading forum and marketplace for the performing arts (Jan. 6-10, 2012) - APAP continues to be the industry's leading resource, knowledge and networking destination for the advancement of performing arts presenting.

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