



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

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Governor Bill Richardson Announces Nearly \$1 million for Arts Programs Across New Mexico

SANTA FE- Governor Bill Richardson today announced the awarding of nearly \$1 million in grants that will help fund 154 arts programs in communities across New Mexico.

“As Governor, I want to preserve and enhance our cultural resources - and to boost the economy of rural New Mexico in the process,” said Governor Bill Richardson, who announced the grants at El Museo Cultural, one of the grantees, in Santa Fe.

“These art programs show how public-private partnerships can be successful in New Mexico,” Governor Richardson said. “More importantly, they give our students an opportunity to express themselves in a positive way.”

Ten master folk artists and their apprentices also will receive funding from New Mexico Arts, a division of the state Department of Cultural Affairs. The folk artist apprenticeships help insure that New Mexico continues to preserve and to promote its historic artistic traditions.

El Museo Cultural will receive money from New Mexico Arts to provide youth classes in music, dance and theater, among other things.

Outside In, based in Santa Fe, will receive funding to provide free performances to seniors in nursing homes and to inmates at the New Mexico Women's Correctional Facility in Grants.

Outside In also provides workshops in guitar and hip-hop for inmates at the Santa Fe Juvenile Detention Center.

World famous organizations, such as the Santa Fe Opera, will receive funding, as will community festivals in Albuquerque and Clovis and the Staked Plains Roundup in Hobbs, sponsored by the Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame.

Other grants will be used to provide bedside music for hospice patients in Albuquerque and to help developmentally disabled adults in the Gallup area earn income through the artwork they produce and display at a local gallery.

"The New Mexico Arts' grant program is another way that the state of New Mexico, through its Department of Cultural Affairs, provides support and recognition for arts, historical and cultural organizations around the state," said Cultural Affairs Secretary Stuart Ashman. "As a former artist in residence in this important program, I have first hand information on its positive effect on the people in our diverse communities."

The art grants, which were approved by the New Mexico Arts Commission, are competitive and are funded by both state and federal money - about 65 percent General Fund money and 35 percent federal money.

"The arts are economic development in New Mexico," said Herb Denish of Albuquerque, chairman of the New Mexico Arts Commission. "Just imagine some of our major communities, like Santa Fe and Taos, without the arts."

The list of grants is attached:

http://governor.state.nm.us/2004/news/july/070904_1a.pdf