



For Immediate Release  
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Contact: Loie Fecteau, DCA  
505-827-6397

## **Governor Bill Richardson Announces \$250,350 in Federal Recovery Funds for Arts Jobs Grants**

SANTA FE- Governor Bill Richardson today announced the New Mexico Arts Commission has voted to award \$250,350 in federal recovery funds in competitive Arts Jobs Grants to 17 nonprofit arts organizations across New Mexico. The Arts Jobs Grants are being administered by New Mexico Arts a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs.

“These Arts Jobs Grants will help our artists and arts organizations weather these difficult and challenging economic times,” Governor Bill Richardson said. “I’m pleased the federal recovery program includes stimulus funds for the arts, which are important economic and tourism drivers in our state.”

Loie Fecteau, executive director of New Mexico Arts, said the Arts Job Grants were extremely competitive. “We understand the need is much greater than these 17 Arts Jobs Grants and we are working with our advisory Arts Commission to develop strategies to ensure all our artists and arts organizations not only survive, but thrive, during these difficult and challenging times.”

The New Mexico Arts Commission met today in a special meeting in Santa Fe to approve the Arts Jobs Grants, which are funded by the National Endowment for the Arts under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

“The arts are economic development in New Mexico,” said Herb Denish, who chairs the New Mexico Arts Commission. “We appreciate that Congress recognized the importance of including the arts in the federal recovery program and we want to thank our New Mexico Congressional delegation for supporting these arts stimulus funds.”

New Mexico Arts convened an independent peer panel in a public meeting on August 4 to review and score 63 eligible applications for Arts Jobs Grants. New Mexico Arts then submitted a plan to award Arts Jobs Grants to the 17 top-scoring applicants to the New Mexico Office of Recovery and Reinvestment, headed by former Governor Toney Anaya, for review and approval.

**See the attached PDF for a list for winners.**

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