



GRANT PARK MUSIC FESTIVAL

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GRANT PARK MUSIC FESTIVAL RECEIVES \$50,000 AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN GRANT FROM THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

CHICAGO (January 28, 2022) – The Grant Park Music Festival is thrilled to receive a \$50,000 American Rescue Plan grant from the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). The grant has been designed to help the arts and cultural sector recover from the pandemic.

Under the terms of the \$50,000 grant, the allowance enables the Festival to be fully staffed after having suffered job cuts in 2020. The Festival will also be able to invest in technology to enhance customer service, and shore up its marketing efforts to better serve the Chicago community.

“Our thanks to the NEA for this American Rescue Plan grant. This crucial support will help the Festival implement a number of ambitious artistic programs that could not be presented during the pandemic,” said Festival President and CEO Paul Winberg. “It will also allow us to focus on new organizational diversity initiatives and reinstate Festival staffing to pre-pandemic levels.”

In total, the NEA will award grants totaling \$57,750,000 to 567 arts organizations in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Washington, DC.

“Our nation’s arts sector has been among the hardest hit by the COVID-19 pandemic. The National Endowment for the Arts’ American Rescue Plan funding will help arts organizations, such as the Grant Park Music Festival to rebuild,” said Dr. Maria Rosario Jackson, chair of the NEA. “The arts are crucial in helping America’s communities heal, unite, and inspire, as well as essential to our nation’s economic recovery.”

The American Rescue Plan was signed into law in March 2021 when the NEA was provided \$135 million for the arts sector. The funding for organizations is the third installment providing more than \$57.7 million for arts organizations. In April 2021, the NEA announced \$52 million (40 percent) in ARP funding would be allocated to 62 state, jurisdictional, and regional arts organizations for regranting through their respective programs. The second installment in November 2021 allocated \$20.2 million to 66 local arts agencies for subgranting to local artists and art organizations.

For more information on the NEA’s American Rescue Plan grants, including the full list of arts organizations funded in this announcement, visit www.arts.gov/COVID-19/the-american-rescue-plan. The [full list of recommended awards, sorted by city/state](#), is available on arts.gov.

For more than 85 years, the Grant Park Music Festival has been Chicago's summer musical sensation, demonstrating that classical music performed by a world-class orchestra and chorus can have a transformative impact on the city. Showcased in the city's most spectacular setting, the Festival continues to be the summer gathering place for all of Chicago. The Jay Pritzker Pavilion in Millennium Park is the official home of the Grant Park Music Festival with free seats available for every concert. Its 2022 season begins June 15 and runs through August 20.

The Grant Park Music Festival is led by Artistic Director and Principal Conductor Carlos Kalmar, Grant Park Chorus Director Christopher Bell, Grant Park Orchestral Association President and CEO Paul Winberg, and Board Chair Adam Grais.

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