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From: "Robert J. Bell" <rbdrouet@comcast.net>
To: "gerald darling" <gdarling64@verizon.net>
CC: raineyo@geocities.com
Subject: Re: NEA Receives Funding Increase
Date: Fri, 5 Aug 2005 10:33:00 -0400

----- Original Message -----

From: [Hal Ponder](#)
To: [Robert Bell](#)
Sent: Thursday, August 04, 2005 11:08 AM
Subject: NEA Receives Funding Increase



From the AFM's Legislative Office

Dear Robert,

Congress has completed the final conference report for the FY 2006 Interior Appropriations bill, reconciling differences between the increase for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is included in this bill, which the President signed into law before Congress' board rescission of 0.476 percent to all programs within the Interior bill, the NEA received an increase of \$5 million for next year.

A comparison of federal funding between FY05 and FY06 follows:

National Endowment for the Arts

FY 2005: \$121.26 million

FY 2006: \$125.66 million = (\$121.26 million + \$5 million) x .476 percent rescission

Net Increase: \$4.4 million

The conference report specifies that approximately \$3 million of the NEA increase will restore funding to the popular Challenge America served communities, which the President's budget had originally cut by \$6.5 million. The remaining \$2 million of the NEA increase will which sponsors presentations of great American works across all art forms.

Given the current national budget deficit and the administration's proposed overall flat funding for the NEA, this increase is a victory bill is another clear indicator that strong grassroots support can make a difference in Washington. Many thanks to the more than 1,500 online campaigns to help secure this significant funding increase.

Sincerely,
Hal Ponder
Director of Government Relations
American Federation of
Musicians

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