OVERVIEW AND BACKGROUND

Eligibility: YA Affiliates not applying for an Affiliate Development Fund grant

Deadline for Completed Application: Electronic Submission by: December 19, 2014

Notification of Award Determination: February 20, 2015

Estimated Number of Awards: up to 10 awards

Estimated Grant Award Range: $1,000-$3,500

Grant Term: July 2015-June 2016

The Affiliate Support Fund offers YA affiliates an opportunity to obtain funding for planning and development of capacity-building initiatives in such areas as strategic planning, artist training, program and assessment development, technology, board and staff development, marketing and fund raising.

The Affiliate Support Fund application process will run concurrent with the Affiliate Development Fund timeline. The intent for this fund is to support start-up ideas that may eventually lead to an Affiliate Development Fund proposal in future years.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligible affiliates can apply for either an Affiliate Support Fund (ASF) or Affiliate Development Fund (ADF) grant—but not both in any given year.

Affiliates are in good standing, up-to-date in Cooperative Funding, have submitted their current Affiliate reports and are meeting the Network branding policy and practice.

GRANT REVIEW AND REWARD

The ADF Support grant applications will be reviewed in January for implementation the following fiscal year. Grant applications are due December 19, 2014.

A maximum of ten proposals will be awarded between $1,000 and $3,500 each for initiatives beginning July 1, 2015.

SELECTION CRITERIA: How effectively do the proposed outcomes address the challenges of the affiliate and the specific area of operation? How effectively do the proposed activities align with the strategies and the proposed organizational change? Are the outcomes significant and aligned with proposed changes in organizational capacity? Is there evidence of the affiliate’s capacity to carry out the proposed activities? Is the budget reasonable and aligned with the proposed activities? Is there evidence of commitment by key personnel who are involved in the submitted ASF proposal?

GRANT APPLICATION:

Use on-line grant application. See instructions as follow:

Grant Application and Instructions

Please briefly address each section of the grant application narrative as it aligns with the priorities of the Affiliate Support Fund (ASF). Where appropriate, we encourage you to use bullet points and to closely follow the guidelines below.
At the top of the application, fill in the requested information for: Application Date, Project Title, Organization/Affiliate name, contact person, phone, e-mail, amount requested (up to $3,500 per year).

**Grant Opportunity:**
Please indicate the operational area(s) of your capacity building grant request: ASF Program Development, ASF Fund Raising, ASF Marketing P/R, ASF Advocacy, ASF Other (Please detail)

**Narrative:**

1. **Inquiry Question:** What will be learned or discovered as a result of this work? This should be a one or two sentence question about what will you learn or discover as a result of this project. Please be concise and craft a question that is engaging and thought provoking.

2. **Brief Project Description**
Please describe the project you will be implementing. This can be a brief summary paragraph that will be used later in reporting to the Network Policy Committee.

3. **Major Project Goals and Outcomes**
Please address how your project will meet the primary goals of the Affiliate Support Fund: for planning and development of capacity-building initiatives to support start-up ideas that may eventually lead to an Affiliate Development Fund proposal in future years.

4. **Communities Served – Need and Impact**
Please describe the unique challenges and/or opportunities that and describe how this context impacts the access of all area youth to quality arts learning.

5. **Major Grant Activities (Include Time line)**
Please outline the major activities you plan to undertake and how you anticipate this proposal will address your long term needs.

6. **Documentation and Evaluation Plan**
Briefly describe your plans for documentation and evaluation. Outline the outcomes, key strategies, key benchmarks and the board and staff members involved in this project.

7. **Plan for Sustainability and Expansion**
Describe the unique challenges and opportunities your affiliate faces as you consider how to move the organization to higher level of impact in your community. What is the strategic and operational objective you are trying to reach?

8. **Plans to Attract Additional Funding**
Please list any sources you have identified that will provide support for this project.

9. **Key Personnel**
Please list those people who will be involved in the implementation of the submitted ASF proposal.

10. **Demographic Information**
Please provide if applicable.

11. **Project Budget**: Use attached budget form