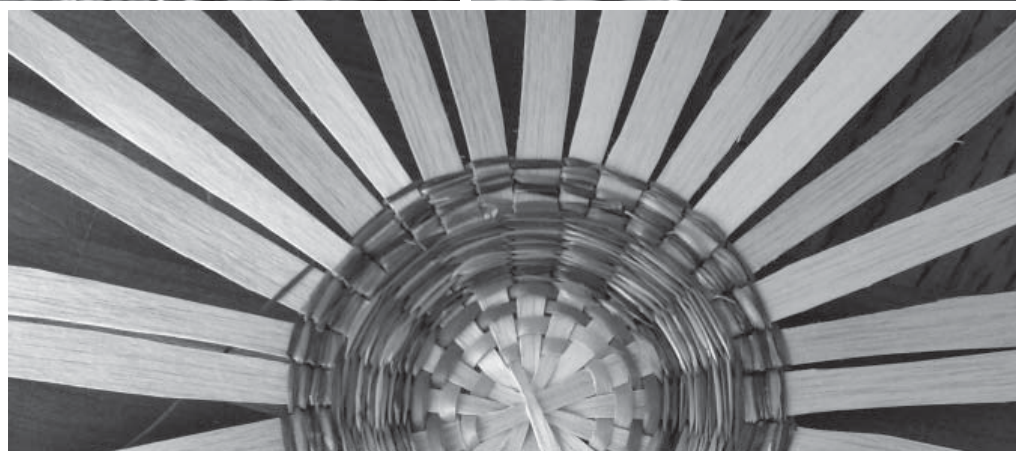


# NATIVE ARTS

SEPTEMBER 2010



NEW ENGLAND FOUNDATION FOR THE ARTS



NEFA'S NATIVE ARTS PROGRAM SUPPORTS NATIVE AMERICAN artists and organizations in New England and nationally through grantmaking and network development. Together, these build regional and national support structures to help Native artists reach broader audiences, connect with new markets for their work, and gain access to financial resources. Advised by Native artists and Native Arts professionals, the program also has Native leadership at both the staff and board levels.

## GRANT PROGRAMS

- » **Native Arts New England** supports Native artists and organizations residing in the six New England states, with a focus on arts projects that involve or benefit New England communities.
- » **National Native Artist Exchange** supports the exchange of artistic skills and knowledge among Native artists.

## SERVICES

- » **Application assistance** is available from program staff at any time. Contact staff with questions regarding guidelines and application process, as well as alternate ways to identify and connect with other available resources. **Grant workshops** are also available throughout the year.
- » **Native Arts gatherings**, held twice a year, are day-long convenings centered on artist professional development, discussion around Native arts topics, and opportunities for networking and sharing artwork.
- » The **Native Arts Forum** on the NEFA Network is a community on NEFA's website for Native artists and others to discuss topics relating to Native arts and share and post information. Join the forum by visiting [nefa.org](http://nefa.org) and clicking on "NEFA Network."
- » NEFA is building an online **Native Artist Directory**, a database of Native artists in New England. To be included, contact NEFA staff or visit [nefa.org](http://nefa.org) and click on "Native Arts" under "Grants & Services."

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NEFA is a nonprofit organization that operates with funding from the National Endowment for the Arts, the New England state arts agencies, and from corporations, foundations, and individuals.

COVER PHOTOS OF NATIVE ARTS GRANT RECIPIENTS:

WAH THYE YEH RAK BY JENNIFER KREISBERG (TUSCARORA)  
PHOTO: DAWN SPEARS

FURTHERING THE TRADITIONAL WEAVE BY ERIC BACON (PASSAMAQUODDY)  
PHOTO: ERIN JOHNSTONE

SHARING OUR KNOWLEDGE: A CONFERENCE OF TLINGIT TRIBES AND CLANS BY CLARISSA RIZAL (TLINGIT), RIGHT  
PHOTO: LILY HUDSON

TRADITIONAL ARTS APPRENTICESHIP FOR ASH BASKETRY BY THERESA SECORD (PENOBSCOT)  
PHOTO: THERESA SECORD

# NATIVE ARTS NEW ENGLAND

Native Arts New England supports artists and organizations whose artistic projects involve or benefit the community. Grants of up to \$3,000 are available.

## DEADLINES

February 15, 2011  
(For projects occurring April 2011–March 2012)

September 15, 2011  
(For projects occurring November 2011–October 2012)

## ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to apply, Native artists and organizations must demonstrate:

- » Membership or affiliation with a Native American tribal nation and reside in one of the six New England states.
- » Knowledge and experience in the proposed art form, medium, or media.
- » Commitment to preserving and encouraging art and artmaking in their communities.

Note: Artists and organizations who have previously received Native Arts funding from NEFA are eligible if prior funded projects are complete and final reports have been submitted.

## FUNDING CRITERIA

This application process is competitive. Awards will be based on submission of a complete application package according to the following criteria:

- » Applicant demonstrates artistic skill, accomplishment, and experience through submitted work samples.
- » The proposed project addresses an identified need.
- » The project description is well-defined.
- » The project will provide lasting benefit to one or more communities in New England.
- » The project aligns with the overall purpose of NEFA's Native Arts program - to help Native artists support artistic traditions and contemporary art forms.
- » The project will occur within one year of receiving funding.

## EXAMPLES OF FUNDED PROJECTS

- » Singer/composer Jennifer Kreisberg (Tuscarora) (pictured on front cover) translated and recorded traditional and contemporary Tuscarora songs.
- » Master basketmaker Eric Bacon (Passamaquoddy) (pictured on front cover) created handmade tools and basket molds to be shared with the Native community, which aided in promoting the art of basketry and encouraged diversity in design.
- » Master basketmaker Theresa Secord (Penobscot) taught students to gather and prepare ash and sweetgrass and introduced them to alternative materials, thus ensuring the tradition will continue. The project was photo-documented and shared with the community; see detail of the beginnings of apprentice Erica Menard's (Penobscot) basket on front cover.

This program will not fund:

- » Activities that take place exclusively in schools during class time.
- » Political campaigns or lobbying.
- » Fundraising events or pow wows.
- » Construction or capital improvements.
- » For-profit organizations.
- » Major equipment purchases.
- » Out of region travel, or projects with major expense for travel.

# NATIONAL NATIVE ARTIST EXCHANGE

National Native Artist Exchange supports teaching, learning, and collaborating in traditional and/or contemporary Native art forms through travel from one region to another in North America. Grants of up to \$1,500 are available per exchange.

## ROLLING DEADLINE

Requests must be received by NEFA no later than two calendar months prior to the departure date of the proposed trip. Funding decisions are made within one month of receipt of all complete application materials.

## ELIGIBILITY

- » American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian artists residing in any of the 50 United States are eligible to apply.

Note: Applicants may receive one National Native Artist Exchange grant per cycle (June 1st through May 31st).

## FUNDING CRITERIA

- » Proposed project must name a collaborating artist and specific project as part of the exchange.
- » Project must be beneficial to both artists.
- » Project budget must be appropriate to the scope of the exchange. Acceptable expenses include lodging, meals, economy class travel, materials, and other direct costs of the artist exchange.

## EXAMPLES OF FUNDED PROJECTS

- » Clarissa Rizal (Tlingit) (pictured on front cover) traveled to Alaska to participate as a teacher and student at a Weaver's Gathering and coordinated a demonstration and presentation on Chilkat weaving at the Clan Conference of the Tlingit. She also traveled to Haines, Alaska to collaborate with Wayne Price as co-instructor for a class in regalia-making where they exchanged techniques.
- » Kelly Church (Grand Traverse Band, Ottawa and Ojibwe) expanded her knowledge of basketmaking and materials through an exchange with Passamaquoddy master weaver, Molly Neptune-Parker in Bar Harbor, ME. Neptune-Parker demonstrated Passamaquoddy basket-weaving techniques, and Church taught Neptune-Parker about the making of a black ash bark basket.

This program will not fund:

- » Organizations.
- » Non-arts related projects.
- » Projects that do not involve artist exchanges between two Native artists from two different regions in North America.

If awarded, grant funds are paid to the applicant artist. When the exchange is complete, NEFA requires documentation of expenses (copies of receipts). Complete documentation of expenses will qualify the applicant for future awards. Unused funds must be returned.

**FOR COMPLETE GUIDELINES AND APPLICATION INFORMATION, VISIT [NEFA.ORG](http://NEFA.ORG).**

# HOW TO APPLY

## APPLICATION PACKET

There are two ways to apply: electronically using NEFA's online granting system or by mail. Visit [nefa.org](http://nefa.org) for more information about applying and for electronic and paper application forms.

### All applications must include the following:

#### Native Arts New England

1. **Application form:** one copy, completed and signed.
2. **Project description:** up to two pages describing the following:
  - » Your artistry or organization and accomplishments to date.
  - » Your proposed project in relation to the funding criteria (the need, the plan, and the lasting benefit).
  - » How the grant funds will be spent.
  - » Budget: include detail, timeline, and planned outcomes.
3. **Artist statement or organization history and program overview:** up to one page.
4. **Supporting materials:** The following should be emailed to [nativearts@nefa.org](mailto:nativearts@nefa.org) or mailed to NEFA:
  - a. Work samples: digital images or video of artwork related to project, sent on CD/DVD or emailed (10MB maximum file size per email).
  - b. Artist résumé.
  - c. Two letters of support for the project.
  - d. Documentation of Native heritage/tribal affiliation or membership.
  - e. (Optional) Other supportive materials will be accepted, including press, awards, etc.

#### National Native Artist Exchange

1. **Application form:** one copy, completed and signed.
2. **Project description:** up to two pages describing the following:
  - » The value of this opportunity to you as an artist.
  - » The goals of the exchange.
  - » Budget: include detail, timeline, and planned outcomes.
3. **Applicant and collaborating artist's résumés or biographies.**
4. **Supporting materials:** The following should be emailed to [nativearts@nefa.org](mailto:nativearts@nefa.org) or mailed to NEFA:
  - a. Work samples: digital images of work (of applicant and collaborating artist), sent on CD or emailed (10MB maximum file size per email).
  - b. Copy of correspondence between artists confirming the exchange.
  - c. Documentation of Native heritage/tribal affiliation or membership for both the applicant and collaborating artist.

## CONTACT INFORMATION & APPLICATION ASSISTANCE

All applicants are strongly encouraged to discuss their application with NEFA staff below. All inquiries are welcome. Panel comments are available to applicants, whether funded or not, to assist in future proposals.

**DAWN SPEARS (NARRAGANSETT)**  
NATIVE ARTS PROGRAM  
MANAGER  
617.951.0010 X525  
[DSPEARS@NEFA.ORG](mailto:DSPEARS@NEFA.ORG)

**ERIN JOHNSTONE**  
PROGRAM COORDINATOR  
PRESENTING & TOURING,  
NATIVE ARTS  
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[EJOHNSTONE@NEFA.ORG](mailto:EJOHNSTONE@NEFA.ORG)

**JANE PRESTON**  
DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS

**If submitting application form and/or supporting materials by mail, send to:**

NEFA - Native Arts  
145 Tremont Street  
Seventh Floor  
Boston, MA 02111



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145 Tremont St.  
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[www.nefa.org](http://www.nefa.org)

NEFA supports artists  
with grants and  
professional resources;  
establishes vital  
connections between  
artists, arts programmers,  
and the public; and  
strengthens the region's  
creative economy  
through research that  
informs public policy.