Zeiterion Receives Prestigious National Endowment for the Arts Grant



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National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Chairman Jane Chu announced that The Zeiterion Theatre, Inc. (The Z) is one of 919 nonprofit organizations nationwide to receive an NEA ArtWorks grant. The Z received a \$25,000 grant to support a series of multidisciplinary performances and community engagement activities during its 2015/2016 Season. These performances and activities encompass a broad range of the highest caliber performing artists and programs that reflect the diversity of cultures and interests in New Bedford and the surrounding communities. Activities include performances for public and school audiences, artist-led master classes, residencies and workshops, along with book discussions and partnerships with local organizations. NEA Chairman Jane Chu said, "I'm pleased to be able to share the news of our support through Art Works including the award to The Zeiterion Theatre. The arts foster value, connection, creativity and innovation for the American people and these recommended grants demonstrate those attributes and affirm that the arts are part of our everyday lives."

Rosemary Gill, the Executive Director of Programming and Development at the Zeiterion Performing Arts Center, says of the award, "We are extremely pleased and honored that The Z was chosen by the NEA in recognition of our quality programs and continued work with our wonderfully diverse community. It is a very prestigious award and a real validation of the work The Z does throughout the South Coast."

The project fulfills The Z's organizational mission and goals to provide New Bedford and the region with performing arts programming of excellence that inspires, educates, engages and entertains. The Z presents a broad range of astoundingly talented performing artists from the nation and the world that mirror the cultures and interests of the region. These programs encourage and enrich young people and the community's participation, experience and understanding of the world, the arts and creativity. The Z also actively participates in the revitalization of downtown New Bedford.

The NEA Art Works grants support the creation of art, public engagement with art, lifelong learning in the arts, and enhancement of the livability of communities through the arts. Nationwide organizations under the Art Works category request more than \$75 million in funding. Of those applications, 919 received grants for a total of \$26.6 million.

For a complete listing of projects that received Art Works grant support, please visit the NEA website at arts.gov.