

Center for Arts and Culture

(Washington, DC)

*Calling the Question: Cultural Policy
at the Grassroots*

Total Award: \$75,000 over 1 year

Program Contribution

Arts and Culture Program, \$25,000

Interprogram Initiatives for Social and Economic
Justice, \$50,000

To support *Calling the Question: Cultural Policy at the Grassroots*, a renewal grant for a project that will strengthen a network of cultural policy think tanks, document public policies on culture in three new communities and offer follow-up and research dissemination in the three communities that participated last year. Most of the engagement in arts policy involves policy decisions that affect federal, state and local support for the arts. The primary positions of the cultural policy community are that the arts stimulate the economy and enhance the quality of community life. In 2003, the Center partnered with local policy think tanks to convene policy meetings in Los Angeles, New Orleans and Nashville to examine local policy issues. Meeting topics included such cultural policy issues as; cultural tourism, inclusion in city planning initiatives, the arts and economic growth, as well as public funding for the arts and other quality of life issues. In 2004, the Center will identify three communities that will be selected for their diverse small-to-mid-sized cultural organizations and their receptivity to this work. Cities under consideration include: Newark, NJ; Chicago, IL; Eugene Oregon; Baltimore, MD; Providence, RI and rural Wisconsin. Local and national experts will interpret these issues at seminars at each site. The Center will follow-up with issues briefs, on-line discussions and additional meetings and conversations that will build on the momentum of the local gatherings.

Arts and Culture Program: *Objective II, Strategies 1 & 3*

Interprogram Initiatives for Social and Economic Justice: *Objectives I & II*