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Annual Accountability
Report 1995-96

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Arts Commission

STATE DOCUMENTS

Mission:

To join with private patrons and with institutions and professional organizations concerned with the arts to insure that the arts . . . will continue to grow and play an ever more significant part in the welfare and educational experiences of our citizens. (*Act to Create the South Carolina Arts Commission, 1967*)

PROGRAM--STATEWIDE ARTS SERVICES

Program Goal:

Support the artistic growth and personal and economic well-being of South Carolina artists; establish the arts as an integral part of South Carolina's educational systems; stimulate the development of South Carolina's culturally diverse arts resources and organizations; and promote creative partnerships to improve the quality of our lives, preserve our cultural heritage, and enhance our economic growth.

Program Objectives for FY 1995-96 (Accomplished):

Increase the number of schools and school districts developing and/or implementing arts education plans as part of general education reform strategies by 20-30%. Increase participation by educators and community leaders in arts education leadership development opportunities by 10%. Support artist residencies in 450-500 schools statewide. Continue to support substantive, multi-disciplinary education programs linking schools and major community arts institutions in at least 1 metropolitan area. Continue to support demonstration projects linking arts and economic development objectives in 6 rural communities. Initiate new arts and community development projects in 2-3 inner city sites. Provide training and technical assistance to at least 9 SC communities to support integrated arts and community development planning, in cooperation with the Strom Thurmond Institute at Clemson and the SC Cultural Visions Council. Provide training and networking opportunities for 100-135 arts constituents through the agency's biennial Statewide Conference on the Arts. Support the arts programs and projects of arts organizations, community organizations, and individual artists statewide through 200-250 annual and quarterly grants and fellowships. Increase the stability and effectiveness of statewide service networks for arts councils and arts presenters through grants and technical assistance. Continue to provide state-of-the-art technical training for over 150 media artists biennially through the Southeastern Media Institute. Secure a location for an exhibition featuring works by SC artists in a major art market venue (New York City). Improve communication with constituents and tracking of agency activities through application of new information and computer resources.

Performance Measures:

Outcomes:

- Grants provided in 41 of 46 counties.
- 3,453,625 participants in funded programs.
- \$1,773,958 awarded; matched by \$12,948,118 from local grantees.
- Arts education activities supported in more than 820 SC school sites, involving over 277,000 students.
- 416 grants awarded.
- Number of schools or schools districts supported in developing and implementing comprehensive plans to improve arts education increased from 12 in FY1994-95 to 16 in FY1995-96 (33% increase).
- \$637,470 awarded to Arts Commission in grants from outside (non-state) sources.
- Over 150 arts constituents attended the biennial Statewide Conference on the Arts (exceeded projections), and the conference was self-supporting.
- Over \$640 million in total state output generated by arts and cultural industry in SC.
- 34 arts organizations acquired online communication capability via 1st round of SC ArtsNet grants.
- Agency World Wide Web site established and updated 1-2 times monthly.

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Budget & Control Board
OFFICE OF STATE BUDGET

Workload:

- 868 grant applications processed
- 7 Peer Panel Reviews for grant applications
- 6 Arts Discipline Panel Reviews for Approved Artist Roster
- 5 Arts Discipline Panel Reviews for Artist Fellowships
- 7 Regional Coordinators provided direct assistance to arts constituents in an average of 6 counties each.
- 9 grant applications to outside (non-state) funding sources.

Efficiency:

- \$7.30 in local funds matching every \$1 of grant funds expended.
- \$0.50 in grant funds expended per participant in funded programs.
- \$0.47 per capita in grant funds statewide.
- \$0.92 per capita in state appropriation for all grants and services.

PROGRAM--ADMINISTRATION

Goal:

To provide management and support services needed to accomplish the goals, objectives, and outcomes for the agency with maximum efficiency.

Objectives for FY 1995-96 (Accomplished):

Successfully operate for the entire fiscal year (first full year cycle) with new database software, for more effective and accessible information tracking for grantmaking processes and other agency activities. Retire obsolete mini-computer system and eliminate associated maintenance costs. Implement an agency voice mail system to improve responsiveness to constituents and reduce call traffic at the agency switchboard. Implement new procedures to minimize or eliminate past-due earned income. Investigate opportunities for staff training in total quality management techniques and develop plans to implement such training. Develop plans to update agency computer systems to keep pace with current technology.

Performance Measures:

Outcomes:

- New activity tracking database fully operational for the entire fiscal year, resulting in significant reductions in response time for internal and external information requests.
- Obsolete mini-computer system retired, resulting in a savings of approximately \$13,600 in annual maintenance costs.
- Agency voice mail system implemented, improving information "capture" rate for incoming calls (including non-business hours) and reducing call loads at the agency switchboard by at least 15%.
- New strategies implemented that have virtually eliminated past-due earned income in a major income generating program.
- Opportunities for staff training identified, and plans developed for implementation during FY1996-97.
- Two year plan to upgrade local area network hardware and software developed, to be implemented during FY1996-97 and 97-98.

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