The Division of Performing Arts

Arts Across Borders

As our world becomes increasingly interconnected, the arts can perform an important function: they can help audiences see to the heart of complicated matters. The primary goal of Arts Across Borders is to encourage division faculty to work across disciplinary lines to create new works of art or scholarship, or new courses, that respond to the difficult questions human beings face today.

Projects may be at any stage of development, from preliminary discussions to final products. Funds may be used to enhance work that will be presented in regular venues such as Dance Gala, music concerts or theatre productions, or they may be used to develop new artistic or scholarly projects. Artistic works may require funding for production support, guest artists or other expenses; new classes may need developmental materials or guest artists. Proposals must be made by at least two faculty members from different units, at least one of which is in the Division of Performing Arts. Project directors are encouraged but not required to involve students. Funding may not be used as faculty salary support.

**Eligibility:** All continuing faculty members in the Division of Performing Arts, with at least a 50% appointment, are eligible to apply.

**Types of projects to be funded:** Artistic works, scholarly or critical research/writing, and new course preparation. New courses will be offered (at least initially) only through the Center for Credit Programs.

**Criteria for selection:** (1) Innovation; (2) Interdisciplinary creativity; (3) Clarity of vision; (4) Ability of the Division to support the proposal in an appropriate manner.

**Selection Process:** The Division Executive Committee will make recommendations to the Division Director. There is no deadline. Proposals may be submitted at any time prior to 6 weeks before funds are needed.

**Application process:** The Division Director is available to discuss your ideas before you submit a proposal. When you are ready, answer the following questions and send your proposal to the Director of the Division. The entire proposal should not exceed three pages in length.

1. Briefly explain your project and its purpose, and specifically address the selection criteria. With respect to innovation and interdisciplinary creativity, please provide a context for your work that will support your claims in these respects. For example, if the work you propose is new for the UI, even if it is well-established elsewhere, provide information that helps us understand its context. If your project is innovative on a larger scale, explain this with a discussion of the state of
the field and your particular intervention(s). Finally, provide a specific timetable that includes whatever planning is necessary, and any rehearsals, performances or classes.

2. List the principle faculty and/or staff members involved. Include a brief (no more than one page) CV from each faculty or staff member involved in the project. Be specific about what each will do; collaborators must participate in a meaningful way. All proposals must include faculty or staff from at least two units in the University.

3. Explain what you are requesting from the Division. When do you need it and how will it be used? Include a budget with the estimated cost for each line item. Those items should include specific cost estimates for such things as materials, guests (fees, travel, housing), labor for production, travel, rentals, costs for space, etc. Include any expected income. We need to have a clear picture of anticipated expenses and any possible income.

4. Indicate if you have applied or will apply for other funding.

Examples

Building on existing production and related opportunities:
- The visiting Jack Quartet offers seminars and master classes in Music; it also composes new work and plays for Dance Gala.
- A new work for Dance Gala, choreographed by Charlotte Adams, with music by John Manning and a visiting artist.
- Afro-Cuban Dance Concert, with participation from Music and Dance faculty, and special costumes created by Loyce Arthur (Theatre)
- Maia Quartet collaboration with Summer Writing Festival, presenting music in collaboration with new poetry

Special, or additional, performances:
- David Gompper and poet Marvin Bell, song cycle, presented at old Capitol Senate Chamber

Conferences:
- Celebrating Victorian Women’s Lives: a conference sponsored by Theatre, history and Women’s Studies
- Baroque Music/Dance Festival: a weeklong series of master-classes and performances

Others:
- Experimental summer interdisciplinary course with faculty from Dance, Music and Theatre
- Support for a collaborative project between Music Therapy and UI Hospitals