The DeVos Institute of Arts Management at the Kennedy Center Launches Arts Management Training and Consultancy Program in Oregon

Capacity Building: Oregon

Two-year program commences April 28

(WASHINGTON, D.C.)—The DeVos Institute of Arts Management at the Kennedy Center today announced a two-year arts management training and consultancy program for 12 arts and culture organizations in Oregon.

Capacity Building: Oregon will provide arts and culture organizations with intensive training in areas such as long-term artistic planning, board development and engagement, marketing, fundraising, and strategic planning. The program begins April 28, 2014 with a group seminar in Portland led by Kennedy Center President Michael M. Kaiser. Capacity Building: Oregon will provide participants with intensive, one-on-one consultation as they proceed with complex capacity building projects such as joint ventures, mergers, succession planning, capital campaigns, and real estate expansion.

Throughout the two years of the program, each organization will be paired with a DeVos Institute advisor who will provide ongoing, individualized consultation. Participants will also take part in regular online master classes and four additional group seminars.

“We are humbled by the opportunity to join with Oregon’s philanthropic and cultural leadership to provide this timely support,” said DeVos Institute Director Brett Egan. “Our sole objective is to supercharge the potency and impact of the remarkable work being done by Oregon’s entrepreneurial arts managers and trustees.”

The 12 organizations selected through a competitive application process are:

- Artists Repertory Theatre
- Chamber Music Northwest
- Columbia Center for the Arts
- Disjecta Contemporary Art Center of Portland
- Metropolitan Youth Symphony
- Miracle Theatre Group, a/k/a Milagro
- Northwest Film Center
- Oregon Ballet Theatre
- Oregon Historical Society
- Oregon Symphony Association
- Profile Theatre
- Tears of Joy Theatre
Capacity Building: Oregon is the result of growing concern among Oregon foundations about the relevance and longevity of arts and cultural organizations and their role in the health and vitality of Oregon. After a yearlong discussion among themselves and with the Kennedy Center, a collective of eight foundations agreed to support such a consultancy in an effort to stabilize and grow nonprofits that deliver quality programs and services to Oregonians in the Portland metropolitan region and statewide.

The majority of the organizations selected are headquartered in Portland but provide services at times throughout Oregon. Selecting organizations in close proximity to one another is expected to facilitate increased interaction and shared learning with the goal of benefiting communities throughout the state.


ABOUT THE DEVOS INSTITUTE OF ARTS MANAGEMENT AT THE KENNEDY CENTER: Founded in 2001, the DeVos Institute of Arts Management and its leadership team have extensive expertise in strategic planning, artistic planning, board development, marketing, fundraising, and financial management. The DeVos Institute of Arts Management leverages this expertise to train, support, and empower arts managers and their boards locally, nationally, and internationally.

The Institute operates on the premise that while we spend heavily to train and encourage artistic talent, too little is spent to train the managers and boards who keep those artists at work. For arts institutions hard-hit by reductions in funding, earned income and other support, this need is especially urgent and is amplified by the rapid technological and cultural change affecting arts organizations around the world.

To address this gap, the DeVos Institute provides consulting services, training and support for the arts leaders of today and tomorrow. Since its inception, the DeVos Institute has advised thousands of individuals, organizations, governments, and foundations throughout the United States and in more than 80 countries on six continents.

In September 2014, the DeVos Institute will transfer its offices and activities to the University of Maryland. The move will enable the Institute to expand its global training and consulting programs, enhance its fellowships for North American and international arts managers within the context of a major educational institution, and create a Master’s program that leverages both University and Institute resources.

For more information about the DeVos Institute, please visit: www.DeVosInstitute.org.

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