Critical cultural asset

Washington contains within its borders the homelands of 29 federally recognized Indian Tribes and three more that are seeking federal recognition. With gratitude and respect to these tribes—whose cultural heritage and legacy of land stewardship has enriched the lives of all Washingtonians—ArtsWA seeks to develop robust partnerships and investments in tribal organizations, museums, school programs, and the spectrum of arts and culture.

Background

ArtsWA's Board of Commissioners convened a Native American Ad Hoc Committee (NAAC) in FY2021-2022. Led by Dr. Kelvin Frank (Chippewa Cree) and Linley Logan, (Tonawanda Seneca), they recommended that ArtsWA:

- Develop a meaningful Tribal Affairs program
- Establish a consultation policy with tribes
- Provide grant support for arts and cultural services
- Increase collaboration between ArtsWA and tribes
- Connect tribes to professional development
- Expand arts programs in Native communities

What does this fund?

In consultation and partnership with the tribes, ArtsWA will use these monies to build a robust Tribal Cultural Affairs Program (TCAP). FY24 will establish the program and identify need. In FY25, TCAP will begin distributing grants and services. TCAP will:

- Be led by a Program Manager, with two FTE support staff, recruited from tribal communities
- Encourage enterprise with ongoing and "seed" grant programs. These will focus on community arts programs in rural and underserved tribal locations
- Support equitable access to the arts for underserved tribal populations, such as disabled, homeless, and incarcerated tribal members
- Create program evaluation tools to assess outcomes and identify gaps

If funded, TCAP will transform state investment in tribal communities and preserve vital cultural assets.

Operating Budget Request

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY24</td>
<td>$1,835,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY25</td>
<td>$9,935,000</td>
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This request aims to amplify native arts and culture as integral, authentic parts of our regional identity.

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