

Dear Members,

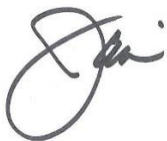
You are no doubt aware of the Trump Administration's budget proposal eliminating federal funding for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). As you engage in this important conversation about federal funding for the arts and humanities, please be aware of the recent grants that the Museum of New Mexico has received, or have been submitted and are pending approval, through the Foundation:

- \$1,040,000 in NEH grants received over the past ten years
- \$1,563,000 in IMLS grants received over the past ten years (\$300,000 of that total represents the outstanding balance on two active IMLS grants that will be completed over the next three years)
- \$481,000 in NEH and IMLS grants recently submitted and pending approval
- \$460,000 for an NEH grant pending submission for the renovation of *Here, Now and Always* at MIAC

Attached is a snapshot of NEH, NEA, and IMLS support for New Mexico museums from 2014 to 2016, provided by the American Alliance of Museums.

Anecdotally, the major exhibition *The Red that Colored the World* at the Museum of International Folk Art in 2015 was funded in large part by a \$400,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. The benefits of the *Red* exhibition to MOIFA, Santa Fe, and the state of New Mexico were innumerable. We received national and international acclaim for the exhibition. Attendance at MOIFA reached an all-time high. The NEH grant helped leverage a sevenfold increase in individual contributions to MOIFA, many from first-time donors. Innovative conservation techniques were developed to analyze artworks for the presence of cochineal. MOIFA's educational programs were expanded. Not to mention the fact that thousands of museum visitors, including school children, learned about the global story of cochineal and experienced major works of art drawn from museums and private collections in North and Latin America and Europe. And just last month, the accompanying exhibition catalogue, *A Red Like No Other: How Cochineal Colored the World*, edited by Carmella Padilla and Barbara Anderson, and published by Skira Rizzoli, received the distinguished Alfred H. Barr Jr. Award for Smaller Museums, Libraries, Collections, and Exhibitions from the College Art Association. None of this would have happened without the NEH grant.

Best,



Jamie Clements  
*President/CEO*