Los Angeles - The City of Los Angeles Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) is pleased to announce the 2011-2012 guidelines for the Cultural Exchange International (CEI) Fellowship Program.

CEI is designed to enhance Los Angeles as a national and international center, fostering cultural understandings through the expansion of networks and exchange of knowledge by creative professionals. Additionally, CEI seeks to reach out to audiences throughout the City’s rich and diverse communities engaging them in the residency projects of international arts/cultural professionals and their host organizations.

The postmark deadline for this round of grant applications is December 3, 2010. This year projects for the FY10/11 cycle (April 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012) as well as projects for the FY11/12 cycle (July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012) will be accepted and evaluated by one peer review panel in early 2011.

The CEI Fellowship Program provides fellowship support to creative professionals (artists, arts administrators, arts/cultural educators and scholars, curators, presenters, creative entrepreneurs, cultural innovators, and cultural experts) traveling abroad for intensive residencies (two weeks to three months); or creative professionals coming to Los Angeles for intensive residencies (two weeks to three months) who have planned collaborative relationships with Los Angeles organizations to host their residencies. The program has been designed to support individual professionals or small groups (limit three to four people).

Proposals are accepted from individual creative professionals and LA-based non-profit organizations. LA-based for-profit arts and cultural organizations may also apply, as long as the proposed project: has broad public participation, is staged to benefit LA residents in general, and is not primarily arranged for commercial profit.

The CEI Fellowship Program guidelines are available online at:

For more information about the CEI Pilot Program guidelines and application, please contact Joe Smoke, DCA’s Grant Administration Division Director, at: joe.smoke@lacity.org.

CEI also supports a selection of cultural exchange projects that do not need to be residency-focused if these projects are proposed and partner-funded by a cultural exchange agency, consulate office, cultural council, or foreign government. Sponsor-partner proposals may be requested through the DCA grants office from Joe Smoke.

About DCA

The Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) generates and supports high-quality arts and cultural experiences for Los Angeles’ 4 million residents and 25 million annual visitors. DCA advances the social and economic impact of the arts and assures access to arts and cultural experiences through grant making, marketing, public art, community arts programming, arts education, and partnerships with artists and arts and cultural organizations in neighborhoods throughout the City of Los Angeles.

DCA’s operating budget and managed portfolio totaled $36.7 million in fiscal year 2009/10. It consisted of: $9.6 million in Transient Occupancy Tax funds; $12.2 million in funds from the Public Works Improvements Arts Program; $8.6 million from the Private Arts Development Fee Program; $4.9 million in City related and indirect cost allocations; and $1.4 million in private and public funds raised during the year. DCA grants approximately $3 million annually to over 280 artists and nonprofit arts organizations through its long-established Grants Administration Division. DCA provides arts and cultural programming in its numerous neighborhood arts and cultural centers, theaters, and historic sites, and manages several arts and education programs.

The Department also administers the City’s Private Arts Development Fee and Public Works Improvements Arts Programs, a portfolio of approximately $20.8 million in fiscal year 2009/10. In addition, DCA raises outside public and private funds, over $10.5 million since fiscal year 2007/08, used to re-grant to LA-based arts and cultural organizations for special grant initiatives and to support DCA’s special programming and facilities. DCA markets the City’s cultural events through development and collaboration with strategic partners, design and production of creative promotional materials, and management of the culturela.org website visited by over 2.7 million people annually.

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