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Endowment
for the Arts**

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**Office of Inspector General
Semiannual Report to Congress
April 1, 2018 – September 30, 2018**

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MESSAGE FROM THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

This year, the Council of Inspectors General for Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE) marked the 40th anniversary of the Inspector General Act and the creation of the original 12 Offices of Inspector General. The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Office of Inspector General (OIG) was created in 1989. Since that time, we have been part of a community that has grown to include 73 statutory Inspectors General who collectively oversee the operations of nearly every aspect of the Federal government. Every 6 months, we provide Congress with a report summarizing our independent oversight of the NEA during the reporting period. In the years to come, we look forward to continuing our efforts to provide independent and effective oversight of the NEA and working with CIGIE on important issues that cut across our government.

This Semiannual Report presents the accomplishments and activities of the NEA OIG from April 1, 2018 to September 30, 2018. During this period, we continued our efforts to increase the productivity and value of OIG work through strategic planning and partnering efforts with NEA leadership and staff. We received and addressed 18 hotline complaints, primarily enabling us to help citizens avoid scams by individuals fraudulently representing themselves as NEA employees. Furthermore, we issued audit reports with \$777,351 in questioned cost and recommendations to improve awards management. Through our audit follow-up process, we continuously collaborate with NEA managers to clear open recommendations to improve stewardship of NEA funds by awardees.

Finally, as required by the Consolidated Reports Act of 2000 and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-136, *Financial Reporting Requirements*, my staff worked with NEA officials to prepare a list of management challenges that NEA faces. The challenge areas include financial management, human capital, information technology, administrative services, and awardee accountability. A summary of the challenges and the continuous improvement and plans the NEA has made to address the challenges are included in this report.

The value-added work that my staff has accomplished, this period, is due to their commitment and considerable effort and the support of the NEA Acting Chairman and her staff. I look forward to continuously working with NEA leadership and staff – promoting economy, efficiency, effectiveness, and integrity to help ensure excellence and value in NEA's mission delivery.



Ron Stith, CPA
Inspector General

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

Established by Congress in 1965, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is an independent Federal agency whose funding and support give Americans the opportunity to participate in the arts, exercise their imaginations, and develop their creative capacities. Through partnerships with state arts agencies, local leaders, other Federal agencies, and the philanthropic sector, the NEA supports arts learning, affirms and celebrates America's rich and diverse cultural heritage, and extends its work to promote equal access to the arts in every community across America.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, established the Office of Inspector General (OIG) within various departments and agencies. On October 14, 2008, Congress passed the Inspector General Reform Act of 2008 -- enhancing the independence of Inspectors General and creating a Council of Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency.

NEA OIG is required by the IG Act to prepare a semiannual report summarizing the activities of the office during the preceding six-month period. The report is sent to the NEA Chairman, the National Council on the Arts, and NEA's appropriating and authorizing Congressional committees.

NEA OIG is composed of the Inspector General, the Assistant Inspector General for Audit, and three auditors. We have a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Education OIG to provide investigative capacity for our office on a reimbursable basis. We also have a MOU with the U.S. Postal Service OIG for independent legal support.



AUDITS, EVALUATIONS AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

Completed Audit Reports

Audits completed by NEA OIG during the current and prior periods have disclosed deficiencies in awardee operations in the following areas:

- Ensuring that contractors and recipients are not debarred or suspended from receiving Federal assistance prior to the award or payment of Federal funds;
- Ensuring written policies and procedures exist for managing Federal awards;
- Reporting accurate and allowable costs;
- Maintaining a Section 504 Self-Evaluation of the organization;
- Maintaining supporting documentation for costs charged to awards; and
- Ensuring proper accounting for and eligibility of in-kind matching funds.

NEA OIG continuously works with agency management to implement recommendations, resulting in improved awardee operations in the areas listed above.

Limited Scope Audit Report on Selected Awards to the American Architectural Foundation, LS-18-02

Our limited scope audit concluded that the American Architectural Foundation (AAF) generally did not comply with the financial management system and recordkeeping requirements established by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and NEA. While performance requirements were generally satisfied, we identified multiple financial management areas requiring improvement to ensure that the AAF complies with OMB and NEA award requirements as follows:

- The AAF included unallowable alcohol costs on all of its awards' Federal Financial Reports (FFRs).

- The AAF generally did not administer its NEA awards in compliance with NEA and Federal regulations, specifically regarding in-kind contribution costs, general and administrative costs, internal controls, submitting final reports, or procuring goods and services.
- The AAF included unsupported costs on all of its award FFRs.
- The AAF included costs incurred outside the award period on its FFR for DCA 2016-01.
- The AAF did not provide accurate, current, and complete disclosure of the financial results of Federal awards.
- The AAF did not comply with Federal suspension and debarment requirements regarding contractors and the Mayors' Institute on City Design speakers.
- The AAF did not comply with NEA requirements to complete and maintain on file a Section 504 Self-Evaluation.

AAF officials generally agreed with the recommendations in the report and stated they would implement the recommendations prior to applying for any new Federal awards. NEA agreed with the two recommendations addressed to the Agency, to (1) disallow \$45,507 in unallowable alcohol costs, and (2) review any additional supporting documentation for \$729,553 in costs we questioned to determine allowability of the costs under the award.

Limited Scope Audit on Selected Awards to the Texas Commission on the Arts, LS-18-03

Our limited scope audit concluded that the Texas Commission on the Arts (TCA) generally complied with the financial management system and recordkeeping requirements established by the OMB and NEA. However, we identified some areas requiring improvement, as follows:

- The TCA included costs incurred outside the period of performance on the Federal Financial Report (FFR) for award No. 15-6100-2046.
- The financial management system does not reconcile to the FFR for award Nos. 15-6100-2046 and 16-6100-2024.
- The TCA did not provide notice of Federal award participation to subaward recipients used to meet the Federal cost share/match.
- The TCA did not conduct reviews to ensure that subaward recipients were not suspended or debarred from receiving Federal funds.
- The TCA did not maintain a Section 504 Self-Evaluation on file during the audit period.

TCA agreed with all of the recommendations in the report to address these findings. NEA agreed to review any supporting documentation for \$2,291 in questioned costs to determine its allowability under the award.

Audit Resolution and Corrective Actions

At the beginning of the reporting period, there were 38 open recommendations from prior reports. During the reporting period, we received documented corrective actions that closed 2 recommendations, and we issued 23 new recommendations. As a result, there are 59 open recommendations at the end of the reporting period – September 30, 2018. Corrective actions for these recommendations are in process.

Reports Issued with Questioned Costs

There were two reports issued with \$777,351 in questioned costs during the reporting period (see Table 3, page 12).

Reports Issued with Recommendations that Funds Be Put to Better Use

There were no reports issued with recommendations that funds be put to better use during the reporting period (see Table 2, page 11).

Reports Issued with Recommendations Open for More Than 180 days

As of September 30, 2018, there were eight reports with 36 recommendations open for more than 180 days. Corrective action on these recommendations is in process (see Table 4, page 13).

Audits and Other Activities Planned or In-Process

We conducted a risk based analysis of NEA programs and operations, and solicited input from agency employees to plan more strategic audits and reviews. Based on the risk analysis, we selected 12 awardees to audit during FY 2018 with an NEA award value of \$33,980,425.

During this period, we initiated two mandatory audits that will be completed by November 2018. We also have four limited scope audits in process and three additional limited scope audits we plan to initiate for completion during the next semi-annual period ending March 31, 2019. Following is a summary of the purpose and approach to conducting the two mandatory audits.

Audit of the NEA Financial Statements

NEA OIG oversees the NEA annual financial statement audit required under the Accountability of Tax Dollars Act of 2002. NEA OIG contracted with Williams, Adley & Company, LLP, an independent public accounting firm, to perform the audit. The purpose of the audit is to express an opinion on the accuracy and completeness of NEA's financial statements for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2018. The audit also tests the internal controls over financial reporting and assesses compliance with selected laws and regulations.

Audit of NEA's Compliance with the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014 (FISMA)

The FISMA requires an annual OIG audit of each agency's information security program and practices. NEA OIG contracted with Williams, Adley & Company, LLP to conduct the FISMA audit. The audit includes evaluating the adequacy of NEA's information security program and practices for its major systems. The FISMA report will be submitted to the OMB by October 31, 2018.

INVESTIGATIVE ACTIVITIES

The IG Act authorizes NEA OIG to receive and investigate allegations of employee misconduct as well as fraud, waste and abuse occurring within NEA programs and operations. Investigative activities tend to be reactive and initiated based on reports of possible fraud, ethics violations, and other issues of integrity. Matters of possible wrongdoing are referred to NEA OIG as allegations or complaints from a variety of sources, including NEA employees, other government agencies and the public.

Reported incidents of possible fraud, ethics violations, and other integrity issues can give rise to criminal, civil or administrative investigations. The IG Act requires NEA OIG to refer matters to the U.S. Department of Justice whenever there is reasonable grounds to believe there has been a violation of Federal criminal law.

Our investigative needs are met through an MOU with the Department of Education OIG on an as needed basis.

Criminal, Civil and Administrative Actions

We completed one administrative review during this semiannual period. There were no matters referred to the U.S. Department of Justice for prosecution.

Hotline Activity

During this reporting period, NEA OIG received and evaluated 18 hotline complaints – taking actions that enabled us to close 16 complaints and assist complainants reporting scams to avoid being defrauded by individuals fraudulently representing NEA. Two complaints remain open for further review.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Activities within the Inspector General Community

Activities that affect the OIG community are typically coordinated by CIGIE. CIGIE also develops and delivers training for the IG community, and each OIG contributes a portion of its budget to support CIGIE operations. Furthermore, CIGIE holds monthly meetings to discuss and vote on matters impacting the IG community. Each IG is a voting member of CIGIE.

CIGIE continues to coordinate an initiative that developed and launched Oversight.gov, a website that provides a “one stop shop” to follow the ongoing oversight work of all OIGs that publicly post reports. With the launch of Oversight.gov, users can now sort, search, and filter the site’s database across agencies to find reports covering their areas of interest.

Significant Management Decisions

Section 5(a)(11) of the IG Act requires that OIG disagreements with significant management decisions be reported in the semiannual report to Congress. Section 5(a)(12) of the IG Act also requires that any management decision changing their response to a significant resolved audit finding must be disclosed in the semiannual report. For this reporting period, there were no OIG disagreements with management decisions, and management did not revise any earlier decisions on our audit recommendations.

Access to Information

NEA IG shall be provided with ready access to all agency records, information, or assistance when conducting an investigation or audit. Section 6(b)(2) of the IG Act requires the IG to report to the agency head, without delay, if the IG believes that access to required information, records or assistance has been unreasonably refused, or has not been provided. Section 5(a)(5) of the IG Act requires a summary of each report submitted to the agency head about any refusal must be provided in the semiannual report. During this reporting period, we did not have a problem obtaining assistance or access to agency records.

Review of Legislation and Regulations

Section 4(a)(2) of the IG Act requires that NEA OIG review and comment on proposed legislation or regulations relating to the agency or, affecting our operations. We conducted a review of the following legislation and provided appropriate comments:

OMB Draft Circular A-136 on Improper Payments – This draft circular primarily relates to how Executive Branch agencies prepare its Performance and Accountability Report or Agency Financial Report, including reporting under the *Improper Payments Elimination and Recover Act of 2010* and the *Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Improvement Act of 2012*.

National Endowment for the Arts Annual Executive briefing on Ethics – This annual briefing is required for all NEA executives and individuals required to complete annual financial disclosure forms.

OMB Draft Excerpt of OIG provisions for Appendix C to OMB Circular A-123, Improper Payments – This is a draft guide for conducting the annual OIG improper payment reviews that are required under the Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Act of 2010. This draft guide was created to address GAO's recommendation from its May 2017 report on consistent improper payments compliance determinations by OIGs.

Peer Review Activity

Section 989C of the Dodd-Frank Act contains additional semiannual reporting requirements pertaining to peer review reports. Federal IGs are required to engage in peer review activities related to both their audit and investigative operations. These activities cover our role as both the reviewed and the reviewing OIG.

Peer reviews are conducted on a 3-year cycle of OIG audit organizations' systems of quality control in accordance with the CIGIE's *Guide for Conducting External Peer Reviews of the Audit Organizations of Federal Offices of Inspector General*.

These guidelines are based on requirements in the Government Accountability Office's *Government Auditing Standards*. Federal audit organizations can receive a rating of pass, pass with deficiencies, or fail. In keeping with Section 989C, we are reporting the following information related to NEA OIG peer review activities.

The Federal Election Commission OIG conducted our most recent peer review and issued its report on January 27, 2017. The peer review determined that our audit organizations system of quality control, for the year ended March 31, 2016, complied with *Government Auditing Standards*. We received a peer review rating of "pass with a deficiency."

The deficiency in the peer review report contained a recommendation to strengthen our system of quality control. We have completed the corrective action for the recommendation.

The report is posted on our website at <https://www.arts.gov/oig/reports/external-peer-reviews>. Our next peer review is scheduled for the period ending March 31, 2019.

OUTREACH AND AWARENESS

Website

We maintain an ongoing internet presence at <https://www.arts.gov/oig> to inform NEA employees, awardees, and the public of our work.

Consultations with the National Council on the Arts and Congress

The IG Act directs Inspectors General to keep the Head of the Establishment and Congress fully and currently informed. For purposes of the IG Act, the National Council on the Arts (NCA) is the Head of the Establishment. To address this requirement, the IG has biweekly meetings with the NCA Chairman and also attends NCA meetings. Furthermore, we provide OIG semiannual reports to the NEA Chairman, NCA and Congress.

NEA TOP MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES

The Consolidated Reports Act of 2000 and OMB Circular A-136, *Financial Reporting Requirements*, require that the OIG provide the agency head with a summary of the top management and performance challenges facing the agency. It is our assessment that the areas of financial management, human capital, information technology, administrative services, and awardee accountability represent the top management and performance challenges for the NEA. Following is a discussion of each challenge area.

Financial Management. NEA's top financial management challenge for FY 2018 and beyond includes keeping pace with government-wide modernization efforts and regulatory changes, while improving efficiency and effectiveness of NEA accounting and finance policy and procedures, systems, and staff cross-training.

The Finance office continued to make progress institutionalizing existing system use, planning improvements to systems and processes, and implementing key procedural and control enhancements. In February 2018, the office expanded an existing service agreement with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to obtain full service finance processing and systems support. This further automated key operations and improved the accuracy and efficiency of the transactional processing. The Finance office continues to fine tune processes working with FAA to further streamline operations. Finance also continued to assist in developing and implementing NEA's new electronic grants management system which was implemented in October 2017, and later included an interface with the financial system.

Human Capital. NEA's top human capital challenge includes ensuring an effective human capital strategy to work with hiring managers to attract candidates with the right skills, ability and knowledge to replace retiring employees. This will need to be done while maintaining high quality service in other human capital areas, such as training and development, and performance management. In 2018, to address workload due to staff vacancies, the Office entered into two government interagency agreements; one to provide staffing and recruiting services and one to provide personnel security and credentialing services. The Office now must revise and institutionalize new operations working with these agencies.

Information Technology. NEA addressed its previous top information technology management challenge through transition to a new, more robust electronic grants management system (eGMS) in October 2017. Built on a more flexible, operationally efficient platform, the eGMS is fully integrated with NEA business processes and connects to both Grants.gov and NEA's financial system.

Another challenge for NEA is the Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014 (FISMA) that requires each Federal agency to develop, document, and implement an agency-wide information security program to provide information security over the operations and assets of the Agency. Through our annual reviews of NEA compliance with FISMA, we continuously identify ways for NEA to enhance security and NEA continually makes progress in complying with the ever increasing information system security requirements.

Yet another challenge for NEA is the E-Government Act and Privacy Act that provide

legislative guidance for the control and dissemination of personal information and personally identifiable information. In light of data theft at several Federal agencies, a review of agency protection of Privacy Act data has been included as part of the FISMA evaluation and reporting process. This area will require NEA's ongoing attention as information security requirements are ever changing and increasingly important.

Administrative Services. NEA worked to address the top Administrative Services management challenge, inventory, by refining electronic inventories and reconciling against a full physical accounting of items through July 2018. Accountable property is captured in an automated inventory system and other assets are manually captured in an electronic inventory spreadsheet. During FY 2017, Administrative Services became responsible for maintaining all inventory and developing related policy and procedures. Since receiving responsibility for inventory management, Administrative Services has made progress identifying missing information and capturing inventoried items in the electronic systems. The challenge to ensure accurate and complete inventory records continues into FY 2019. The scope of this challenge has shifted from establishing and performing the inventory to control of inventoried items that cross functional areas. Administrative Services Office is developing additional policies and procedures, and working closely with functional areas to better manage asset transfer, to ensure inventory accounting matches asset allocation, specifically IT assets.

Awardee Accountability. The NEA Grants Management Office faces the challenge, along with the rest of the Federal community, to help awardees fully implement and comply with the accountability requirements of 2 CFR Part 200: *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). This challenge includes helping awardees comply with NEA General Terms and Conditions for its awards.

Our audits continue to identify awardees that have not complied with all applicable Federal award requirements. These awardees are typically identified through our annual planning, hotline allegations, or referrals from the NEA's Office of Grants and Contracts. Based on audits of these awardees, following are the five most common findings:

1. Failing to ensure that contractors and sub-award recipients have not been debarred or suspended from receiving Federal assistance prior to paying or awarding them Federal funds.
2. No written policies and procedures for managing Federal awards.
3. Not reporting accurate and allowable costs incurred on the FFR.
4. Not maintaining supporting documentation for costs charged to NEA awards.
5. Not maintaining a Section 504 Self-Evaluation at the organization.

We acknowledge and encourage NEA's continuous efforts to identify opportunities to improve awardee compliance with Federal requirements. Continued development and implementation of web-based tools and technical assistance efforts by NEA, and the results of our audits will, in our opinion, help to improve awardee compliance. As grant making is the primary mission of the NEA, this area will continue to be an important challenge.

We have experienced strong support from NEA management in identifying and tracking these challenges. We look forward to continuing our work to help NEA deliver its mission with excellence and integrity.

**TABLE 1: SUMMARY OF REPORTS ISSUED DURING
THE
REPORTING PERIOD**

Report No.	Report Date	Report Title	Questioned Costs	Funds Put To A Better Use
LS-18-02	Aug 2, 2018	Limited Scope Audit Report on Selected Awards to The American Architectural Foundation	\$775,060	0
LS-18-03	Aug 29, 2018	Limited Scope Audit Report on Selected Awards to Texas commission on the Arts	\$2,291	0
TOTAL			\$777,351	0

**TABLE 2: INSPECTOR GENERAL ISSUED REPORTS
WITH RECOMMENDATIONS THAT FUNDS BE PUT TO BETTER USE**

		Number of Reports	Dollar Value
A.	For which no management decision has been made by the commencement of the reporting period	0	0
B.	Which were issued during this reporting period	0	0
C.	For which a management decision was made during the reporting period	0	0
	(i) dollar value of recommendations that were agreed to by management	0	0
	- based on proposed management actions	0	0
	- based on proposed legislative action	0	0
	(ii) dollar value of recommendations that were not agreed to by management	0	0
D.	For which no management decision has been made by the end of the reporting period	0	0
E.	Reports for which no management decision was made within six months of issuance	0	0

**TABLE 3: INSPECTOR GENERAL
ISSUED REPORTS WITH QUESTIONED COSTS**

		Dollar Value		
		Number of Reports	Questioned Costs	Potential Refunds
A.	For which no management decision has been made by the commencement of the reporting period	2	205,093	0
B.	Which were issued during the reporting period	2	777,351	0
	Subtotals (A+B)	4	982,444	0
C.	For which a management decision was made during the reporting period	0	0	0
	(i) dollar value of the disallowed costs	0	0	0
	(ii) dollar value of the cost not disallowed	0	0	0
D.	For which no management decision was made by the end of the reporting period	0	982,444	0
E.	Reports for which no management decision was made within six months of issuance	0	205,093	0

TABLE 4: REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS WITH CORRECTIVE ACTIONS NOT COMPLETED WITHIN 180 DAYS

Report Number	Report Date	Report Title	Open Recommendations
LS-13-02	Mar 1, 2013	Limited Scope Audit Report on selected NEA Grants to Music- Theatre Group	5
A-17-01	Oct 31, 2016	FY 2016 NEA Audit of Financial Statements	1
ER-17-01	Jan 10, 2017	FY 2016 Evaluation of NEA Compliance with The Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014	6
A-18-01	Nov 3, 2017	Data Act Audit	2
A-18-02	Nov 3, 2017	FY 2017 NEA Audit of Financial Statements	8
ER-18-01	Nov 31, 2017	FY 2017 Evaluation of NEA Compliance with The Federal Information Security Modernization Act of 2014	4
ER-18-02	Mar 29, 2018	International Sonoran Desert Alliance	4
LS-18-01	Mar 29, 2018	California Arts Council	6
TOTAL OPEN RECOMMENDATIONS			36

TABLE 5: INVESTIGATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION DATA

Civil/Criminal Investigative/Administrative Activities	Number of Actions
Referrals to Prosecutors	0
Civil Settlements	0
Investigative Recoveries	0
Debarments/Suspensions	0
Administrative Actions	0
Hotline Contacts	
Telephone Calls	2
Email	16
Standard Mail	0
Referred by Other Sources	0
Referred to Other Sources	11
In Assessment Process for Possible Action	2
Closed	16
Total Hotline Contacts	18
Freedom of Information Act Requests	
Requests Received	3
Requests Processed or Referred	3
Total	3

TABLE 6: SUMMARY OF INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

IG ACT Reference	Reporting Requirement	Page(s)
Section 4(a)(2)	Review of legislation and regulations	7
Section 5(a)(1)	Significant problems, abuses and deficiencies	2-5
Section 5(a)(2)	Recommendations with respect to significant problems, abuses and deficiencies	2-5
Section 5(a)(3)	Prior significant recommendations on which corrective actions have not been completed	5 and 14
Section 5(a)(4)	Matters referred to prosecutive authorities	5
Section 5(a)(5)	Summary of instances where information was refused	5
Section 5(a)(6)	List of audit reports by subject matter, showing dollar value of questioned costs and funds put to better use	11
Section 5(a)(7)	Summary of each particularly significant report	2-4
Section 5(a)(8)	Statistical tables showing number of reports and dollar value of questioned costs	12
Section 5(a)(9)	Statistical tables showing number of reports and dollar value of recommendations that funds be put to better use	13
Section 5(a)(10)	Summary of each audit report issued before this reporting period for which no management decision was made by the end of the reporting period	13
Section 5(a)(11)	Significant management decisions	5
Section 5(a)(12)	Significant management decisions with which the inspector general disagrees	5
Section 6(b)(2)	Access to information	5
Section 989(c)	Peer Review—Sec. 989C of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Public Law 111-203) requires Inspectors General to include the results of any peer review conducted by another Office of Inspector General during the reporting period; or if no peer review was conducted, a statement identifying the date of the last peer review.	6

DEFINITIONS

WE PERFORM THE FOLLOWING SERVICES:

PERFORMANCE AUDITS are used to assess the efficiency, effectiveness, and economy of NEA's programs, activities, and functions; provide information to responsible parties to improve public accountability; facilitate oversight and decision making; and initiate corrective actions as needed. These audits also consider compliance with applicable laws and regulations, and soundness of the internal organizational and operational controls.

FINANCIAL AUDITS provide an independent assessment of whether an entity's reported financial condition, results, and use of resources are presented fairly and in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

LIMITED SCOPE AUDITS involve a limited review of financial and non-financial information of grant recipients to ensure validity and accuracy of reported information, and compliance with state and Federal requirements.

INVESTIGATIONS are conducted based on alleged or suspected fraud, waste, abuse or gross mismanagement, employee and contractor misconduct, and criminal and civil violations of law that have an impact on NEA's programs and operations. The OIG refers matters to the U.S. Department of Justice whenever there is reasonable grounds to believe there has been a violation of Federal criminal law. The OIG also identifies fraud indicators and recommends measures to management to improve the agency's ability to protect itself against fraud and other wrongdoing.

INSPECTIONS AND EVALUATIONS are short term limited scope reviews generally conducted to obtain facts, answer a specific question or address an immediate urgent issue. They may also be conducted to identify trends and patterns or to obtain a broad perspective of potential issues or opportunities for recommended improvement.

AWARENESS BRIEFINGS AND BULLETINS are presented to NEA management, staff, and grantees to promote greater knowledge and understanding of potential or actual conditions, vulnerabilities, opportunities for improvement, or loss prevention. Briefings may be used internally or with stakeholders in lieu of formal reports.

**HELP PROMOTE INTEGRITY, ECONOMY AND
EFFICIENCY REPORT SUSPECTED FRAUD, WASTE,
ABUSE OR MISMANAGEMENT**

**NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
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FAX: (202) 682-5649**

EMAIL: OIG@ARTS.GOV

Complaints may be made anonymously. However, we would have no way of contacting you. Any Information you provide will be held in confidence unless disclosure is required by law. Providing your name and means of communicating with you may increase our ability to investigate your complaint.