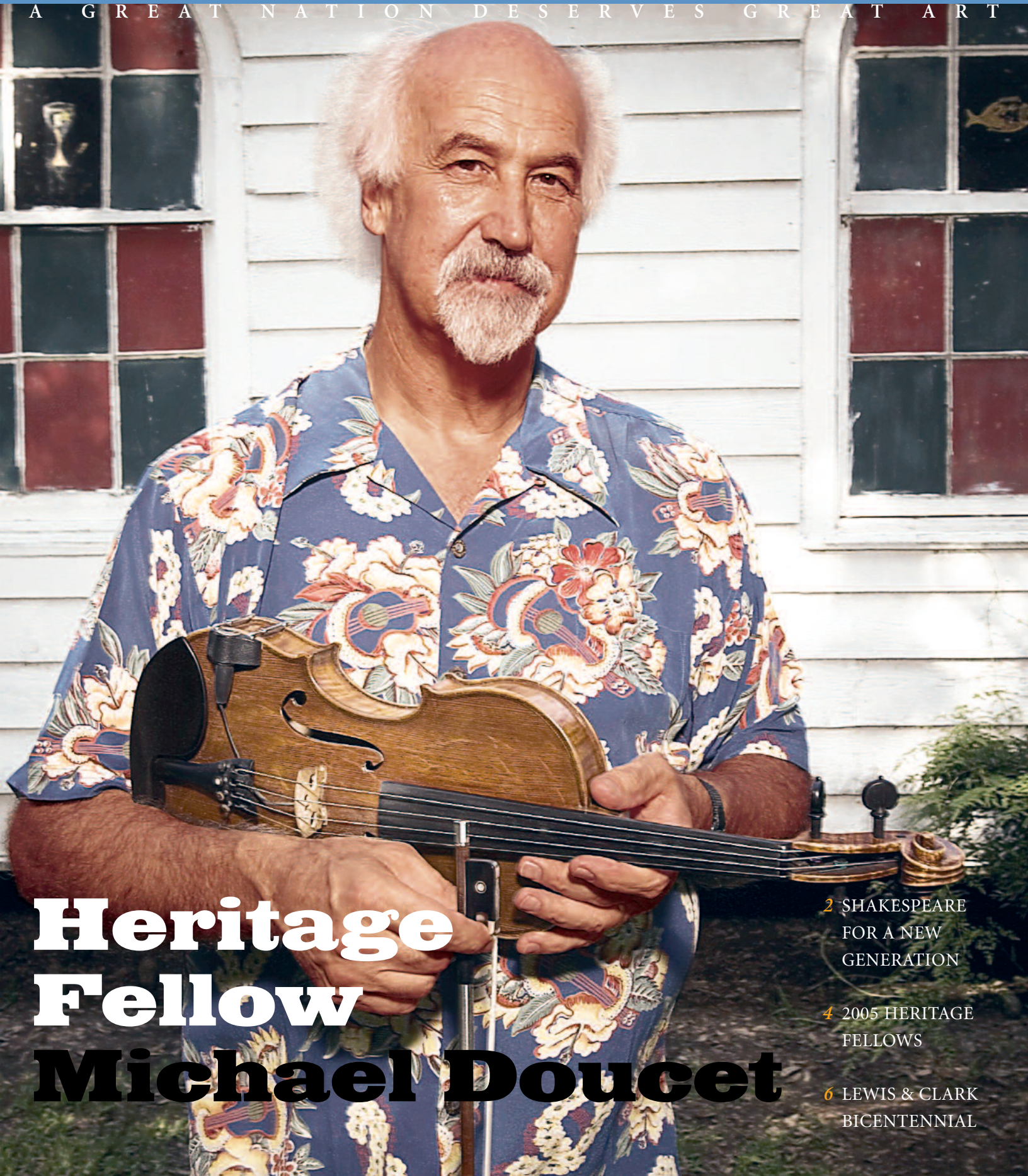


MAY / JULY 2005

NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE ARTS

NEARTS

A GREAT NATION DESERVES GREAT ART



Heritage Fellow Michael Doucet

2 SHAKESPEARE
FOR A NEW
GENERATION

4 2005 HERITAGE
FELLOWS

6 LEWIS & CLARK
BICENTENNIAL

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS
PRESENTS



SHAKESPEARE

SHAKESPEARE

FOR A NEW GENERATION

Mrs. Laura Bush at the headquarters of Shakespeare Festival LA.

Photo: © Ryan Miller/Capture Imaging



When Mrs. Laura Bush dropped by the headquarters of Shakespeare Festival LA's Will Power to Youth program, and watched its young cast members perform the opening scenes of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, she said, "This was so great. But it wasn't enough. I'd like to see more."

Mrs. Bush is about to get her wish, along with thousands of American students. On May 12th, Arts Endowment Chairman Dana Gioia announced the participating theater companies for the third year of *Shakespeare in American Communities* and the second year of *Shakespeare for a New Generation*. This new phase will include theater companies that present full productions, along with those that present Shakespeare's work through model education programs. Arts Midwest, a regional arts organization based in Minneapolis, is managing the program.

ing funds to support activities targeting students from at least 10 schools in their communities, states, or regions during the 2005-06 school year.

Mrs. Bush commended the program's expansion: "*Shakespeare for a New Generation* brings the world of this great playwright to thousands of schoolchildren throughout the country."

Since its 2003 inauguration, *Shakespeare in American Communities* has reached more than 550 communities with more than 1,200 performances in areas as diverse as Monmouth, Maine and Douglar, Arkansas.

"This program helps actors, students, teachers, and theater companies while improving the quality of education across the country. It is a model of both artistic excellence and grassroots accessibility," said NEA Chairman Dana Gioia.

To enhance the educational impact of the program, the Arts Endowment will continue to provide educational materials, free of charge, to thousands of classrooms. Materials include a teacher's guide with lesson plans, two educational videos, and a CD featuring interviews and recitations by leading actors, and can be ordered free of charge by teachers at <http://www.vpw.com/partner/shakespeare>.

Above: Cast members of Shakespeare Festival LA's Will Power to Youth program. Photo: © Ryan Miller/Capture Imaging

Bottom, left to right: Adair Margo, Chair of President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, NEA Chairman Dana Gioia with Mrs. Laura Bush and Ben Donenberg, Artistic Director of Shakespeare Festival LA. Photo: © Ryan Miller/Capture Imaging

So far, 46 theater companies have participated in the program. (See the May 12th press release in the News Room of our Web site.) Companies will provide match-



2005 NEA National Heritage Fellows

A Celebration of Folk and Traditional Artists

Each year, the Arts Endowment celebrates folk and traditional artists by recognizing the NEA National Heritage Fellows. For 2005, twelve superlative makers—of rosemaling and *papel picado*, of Yiddish song, Cajun, gospel, and “go-go” music—will be given the highest federal recognition for their arts and crafts.

The process of finding the NEA National Heritage Fellows is comprehensive. In choosing them, our panel evaluated 270 individual nominations submitted by the public. Panelists read more than 4,500 pages of written nomination material and considered 1,114 visual images, 300 recorded-sound samples, and 183 audio-visual selections.

In September, the recipients are brought to Washington for programs honoring their contributions to our nation’s artistic heritage. Recipients are feted at a banquet held in the Great Hall of the Library of Congress. Later, Fellows receive a certificate in a ceremony on Capitol Hill, attended by family, friends, and members of Congress. The week culminates with a celebratory concert presenting the artists and their work to the general public.

The ceremony and related activities are generously supported by Cracker Barrel Old Country Stores.

2005 NEA National Heritage Fellows

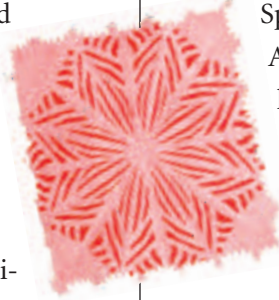
Eldrid Skjold Arntzen (Watertown, CT)—for rosemaling, which flourished in 18th-century Norway as a form of decoration on wood, and was used on objects and furnishings in rural churches and homes.

Earl Barthé (New Orleans, LA)—for decorative plaster and stucco work that reflects an array of French, Spanish, Anglo-American neo-classical, and African American aesthetics, in sync with the historic architecture of New Orleans.

Chuck Brown (Brandywine, MD)—for a musical blend of Latin beats, African call-and-response chants, rhythm and blues, and jazz (“go-go”) that has been identified with the District of Columbia for more than 30 years.

Michael Doucet (Lafayette, LA)—a fiddler, composer, and bandleader, he is perhaps the single most important figure in the revitalization of Cajun music in the United States.

Jerry Grcevich (North Huntingdon, PA)— for his mastery of all five of the instruments of the tamburitza



Left to right: Grace Henderson Nez displays one of her handmade rugs. Photo: Ann Lane Hedlund. An example of Herminia Albarrán Romero’s masterful *papel picado* (Mexican paper cutting). Photo: courtesy of the artist



(Serbo-Croatian string music) ensemble—the *prim*, *braã*, cello, *bugarija*, and bass.

Wanda Jackson

(Oklahoma City, OK)—for her musical career spanning country ballads, early rock and roll, rockabilly, and gospel music.



Earl Barthé with one of his decorative plaster works.

Grace Henderson Nez (Ganado, AZ)—for her Navajo rugs in the “old style” as well as the distinct Ganado style. For more than seven decades, she has raised and sheared sheep, carded and dyed the wool, and woven intricate and distinctive designs at the Navajo Reservation in Arizona.

Herminia Albarrán Romero (San Francisco, CA)—for the art of *papel picado* (Mexican paper cutting) and altar-making. Her paper designs, flowers, and altars are used on special occasions such as weddings, Cinco de Mayo, and *Dia de los Muertos* (Day of the Dead).

Beyle Schaechter-Gottesman (Bronx, NY)—for her Yiddish poetry and song. The renaissance of *klezmer* music in the United States also allowed her large repertoire of traditional and original

material to be performed by various artists.

Albertina Walker (Chicago, IL)—for her lifetime of commitment to gospel music. To date she has recorded more than 60 albums, with 5 gold records and 10 Grammy nominations among them.

James Ka’upena Wong (Waianae, HI)—for the art of Hawaiian chant. He is also known as a “keeper of the word” and thus the language, and as a master of ancient poetic chant called *mele kahiko*.

Bess Lomax Hawes National Heritage Fellowship

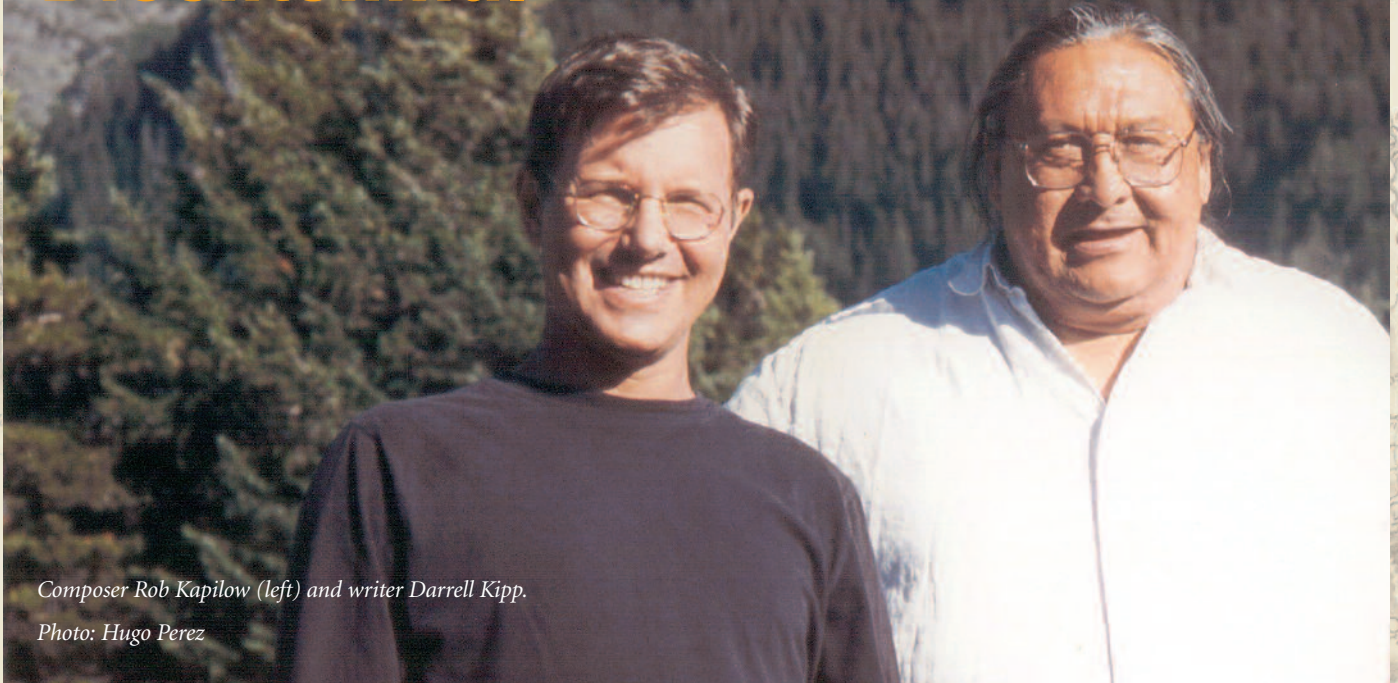
Janette Carter (Hiltons, VA)—for her support and promotion of the traditional music of the Appalachian region. Her parents and Aunt Maybelle made up the Carter Family, known as the “First Family of Country Music.” In 1976, she and community members built an 880-seat amphitheater, the Carter Family Fold, beside the family store. A regular series of concerts has been offered there ever since. Today the Carter Family Fold attracts more than 50,000 visitors a year to this family-run monument to early country music.



Chuck Brown, the “Godfather of Go-Go” music.
Photo: Eduardo Rodriguez

The NEA Supports

The Lewis and Clark Bicentennial



Composer Rob Kapilow (left) and writer Darrell Kipp.

Photo: Hugo Perez

When Meriwether Lewis and William Clark set out to explore the vast frontier that would later become the Western United States in 1804, they were searching for The Northwest Passage. Following the directives of President Thomas Jefferson, the pair attempted to find a waterway running East to West, but never did—since no such river exists. Instead, Lewis and Clark returned in 1806 with news of the West, “with room enough for our descendants, to the thousandth and thousandth generation,” according to President Jefferson.

This year, the Arts Endowment has provided funding for a number of significant works to commemorate the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial.

Summer Sun, Winter Moon

The composer Rob Kapilow has joined with writer Darrell Kipp, a member of the Blackfeet tribe of Montana, to create a large-scale choral and orchestra work for the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial. Commissioned by three symphony orchestras, *Summer Sun, Winter Moon* was premiered by the Kansas City Symphony with a 100-voice choir in September 2004, before an audience estimated at 1,000. The piece has since been performed by the St. Louis Symphony

and the Louisiana Symphony as well.

Kapilow, an exciting new voice in classical music today, has been called the “pied piper of classical music” because of his wide-ranging efforts at making classical music accessible to new audiences. Kipp is celebrated within his tribe for his campaign to save the Blackfeet language from extinction. Together, they spent nearly a year listening and collaborating, to create a work that “crosses the divide” that separates mainstream America and Native America.

Beginning in December 2003, Kapilow and Kipp engaged in dozens of conversations, audience dialogues, and town hall meetings. They visited tribal communities in North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, and Oregon—and involved those communities in the process. What

Opposite, clockwise from top right: Model of the land bridge planned for the Vancouver National Historic Reserve in Vancouver, Washington. Photo: Jones + Jones Architects. Artist and architect Maya Lin discusses plans for one of the seven Confluence Project sites with architects. Chief Timothy Park in Clarkston, Washington, where Maya Lin plans to create an outdoor amphitheater and a lookout point with excerpts from the Lewis & Clark journals. Photos: Betsy Henning

they learned and heard are reflected in music and song in *Summer Sun, Winter Moon*.

A documentary is being developed for public television on Kapilow and Kipp's journey in creating the symphony and bringing it to the concert hall.

The Confluence Project

The Confluence Project is a series of interpretative artworks by designer Maya Lin—best known as the architect of the National Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC. At seven sites along the Lewis and Clark Trail, Maya Lin will unite architectural and landscape design with environmental features to tell a story about the history, culture, and ecology of each site.

The Confluence Project is a collaboration among the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla, the Nez Perce Tribe, the Lewis and Clark Commemorative Committee

of Vancouver/Clark County, and the Friends of Lewis and Clark of Pacific County. The entire project is scheduled for completion in 2007. NEA grants will help fund projects at three sites.

In addition, *The Confluence Project in the Schools* uses the arts as a catalyst for programs that preserve and sustain our natural and cultural resources. This program includes professional development for teachers, permanent artworks created by students on their school campuses, and a symposium uniting participants from all the related communities.

"*The Confluence Project* is exactly the type of organization the NEA wants to empower," said Christine Olsen, principal of the Vancouver School of Arts and Academics. "The artwork these students will create will touch and inspire people for generations to come."



Beyond Glory:

A Senate Performance of the Play



On May 16th, Senators gathered in the Mansfield Room of the U.S. Capitol to witness an extraordinary theatrical event. As part of *Operation Homecoming: Writing the Wartime Experience*, the NEA presented acclaimed stage and film actor Stephen Lang in the one-man play *Beyond Glory*, which portrays the personal accounts of American servicemen who have been honored for their heroic deeds with the Medal of Honor.

Adapted from Larry Smith's book, *Beyond Glory: Medal of Honor Heroes*

in *Their Own Words*, Stephen Lang's stunning performance depicted veterans from World War II, Korea, and Vietnam, including Admiral James Stockdale and Senator Daniel Inouye. Senator Inouye watched the performance with his colleagues, and in a spontaneous tribute, they gave him a standing ovation for his service and sacrifice for his country. Majority Leader Bill Frist and Minority Leader Harry Reid hosted this special performance.

Operation Homecoming is made possible by The Boeing Company.

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

Dana Gioia *Chairman*
James Ballinger
Donald V. Cogman
Mary Costa
Katharine Cramer DeWitt
Makoto Fujimura
David H. Gelernter
Teresa Lozano Long
Maribeth Walton McGinley
Jerry Pinkney
Deedie Potter Rose
Gerard Schwarz
Terry Teachout
Dr. Karen Lias Wolff

EX-OFFICIO

Sen. Robert Bennett *R-UT*
Sen. Mike DeWine *R-OH*
Sen. Patrick J. Leahy *D-VT*
Rep. Betty McCollum *D-MN*
Rep. Howard "Buck" McKeon *R-CA*
Rep. Patrick J. Tiberi *R-OH*

NEA ARTS STAFF

Garrick Davis *Editor*
Anne Masters Design, Inc. *Design*

The National Endowment for the Arts is a public agency dedicated to supporting excellence in the arts—both new and established—bringing the arts to all Americans, and providing leadership in arts education. Established by Congress in 1965 as an independent agency of the federal government, the Endowment is the nation's largest annual funder of the arts, bringing great art to all 50 states, including rural areas, inner cities, and military bases.

Above, left to right: Majority Leader Bill Frist, NEA Chairman Dana Gioia, Senator Carl Levin, and Minority Leader Harry Reid attend the performance of Beyond Glory. Bottom right: Award-winning actor Stephen Lang meets Senator Daniel Inouye at a Senate performance presented by the National Endowment for the Arts. Photos: Steven Purcell

ON THE COVER: 2005 NEA National Heritage Fellow Michael Doucet. Photo: Rick Olivier



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE ARTS

1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20506

www.arts.gov