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VI Artists Eligible for Thousands of Dollars in Aid Provided Through CARES Act

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Art by VI Artist Lucien Downes By. LUCIEN DOWNES VIA FACEBOOK

The VI Council on the Arts (VICA) has announced the availability of funds to provide short-term financial relief to those in the arts, cultural, and creative industries impacted by the COVID19 pandemic in the territory. The funding — over \$200,000 — is being made available through the CARES Act by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), the Dept. of Planning and Natural Resources has announced.

According to D.P.N.R., eligible individuals and organizations whose primary mission is "to promote and provide connections through creative expression by sharing creative experiences, expressing our own creativity, or connecting us with others and ourselves are encouraged to

apply."

VICA said many artists, contract workers and cultural organizations, particularly those dependent on revenue from admissions and ticket sales, have been greatly impacted by this pandemic due to the widespread cancellation of events and production contracts.

Eligible applicants may apply from May 6, 2020 to May 18, 2020. Individuals can receive up to \$5,000 and arts and cultural organizations can receive up to \$20,000. For additional information and technical assistance call (340) 774-5984 or email vicastt@hotmail.com vicastt@yahoo.com or tasida.kelch@dpnr.vi.gov.

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Trump on March 27th, 2020. This over \$2 trillion economic relief package provides economic assistance for American workers, families, and small businesses, and preserve jobs for our American industries.

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