



# Celebrate diverse histories for America 250

Invest in grants to honor  
underrepresented communities  
for America's 250th anniversary

OPERATING BUDGET REQUEST

**\$550,000 annually**

Two-year funding

Washington's nonprofit arts and heritage organizations will be crucial for America's 250th Anniversary celebrations in 2025-2026. ArtsWA's America 250 Project aims to celebrate diversity, support underserved communities, and inspire future unity. **We seek funding for an America 250 grant program to support research and archiving and to showcase underrepresented histories and cultural heritage.**

## Highlight history on America's anniversary

The ArtsWA Grants to Organizations Program promotes diverse cultural expressions in Washington. The America 250 project builds on this by supporting events that foster reconciliation and celebrate marginalized communities. The grant enhances representation, allowing underrepresented groups, including Latine, LGBTQ+, disabled, and immigrant communities, to preserve and honor their histories.



Artist Dean Wong's photograph *Welcome*, part of the State Art Collection, captures the joyful expression of a young Laotian-American boy celebrating his mother's U.S. citizenship. The image was captured on the Fourth of July, 1993 as part of a naturalization ceremony at Seattle Center.



*Borderline (2020)* by John Werle, part of the Washington State Art Collection, located at Blaine High School.

## What does this fund?

ArtsWA will use these monies to:

- » Fund approximately 30 grants to eligible arts, heritage, and culture organizations for two years of public events recognizing diverse histories.
- » Fund approximately 20 individual projects for eligible nonprofits to nurture community engagement and recognize diverse histories through public events.
- » Dedicate \$100,000 for partnerships to facilitate workshops, event management, and consultations, including collaborations with groups like the Washington Museum Association and Washington Library Association to highlight underrepresented histories.

## The investment

ArtsWA seeks to honor America's 250th anniversary through operational support grants, community engagement projects, and strategic partnerships. This investment will sustain diverse organizations, support impactful community projects, and facilitate workshops with key partners, enhancing representation and preserving underrepresented histories.