



Pedro E. Segarra
Mayor

ARTS AND HERITAGE JOBS GRANT PROGRAM WINS NATIONAL AWARD

---NEWS AND COMMUNITY RELEASE---

(December 22, 2010) --- One day after the City of Hartford and Greater Hartford Arts Council announced the recipients of the 2011 Hartford Arts and Heritage Jobs Grant Awards; the City of Hartford itself is the recipient of an award in its own right. The National Community Development Association (NCDA) selected Hartford as a winner of the 2011 Audrey Nelson Community Development Achievement Award. Connecticut's Capital City is being honored for the "Hartford Arts and Heritage Jobs Grant Program. This national recognition identifies and exemplary uses of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds which best address the needs of low-income families and neighborhoods.

"This is a prestigious honor not just for the City of Hartford, but also the Greater Hartford Arts Council, our artists, and our Arts and Heritage Organizations. Winning this national award is the equivalent of winning an Oscar ® from the Community Development perspective. This is a big deal and we are humbled and motivated to do even more for our local artists, venues, and families," said Mayor Pedro E. Segarra.

The award will be formally presented January 21, 2011 in Washington D.C. The Mayor will be in the Nation's Capital at that time attending the U.S. Conference of Mayors and expects to attend this ceremony to accept this award.

Earlier this week, Christmas came early for 19 Hartford-based arts and heritage organizations that will receive a combined total of \$370,000 in grant funding through Phase One of the 2011 program. Funded by the City of Hartford and administered by the Greater Hartford Arts Council, this grant initiative is designed to create, expand, and preserve jobs across a wide variety of sectors by funding arts and heritage programming and projects within the City.

This latest round of funding completes Phase One. Phase Two will focus primarily on grants to Hartford-based individual artists funded through \$100,000 in CDBG funds. Information about the upcoming Phase Two information will be released early in the 2011 calendar year.