



Eddie A. Perez
Mayor

MORE THAN 60 LETTERS OF INTENT RECEIVED
FOR PHASE 2 OF HARTFORD ARTS STIMULUS

---NEWS AND COMMUNITY RELEASE---

(February 5, 2010)--- Job retention and creation is a top priority in this difficult economy. So, Mayor Eddie A. Perez is encouraged by the number of small Hartford based organizations and artists who have applied for Phase Two of the Arts and Heritage Jobs Grant Program. In fact, more than 60 Intent to Apply (ITA) letters were received. Of the 62 letters, 58 met requirements. Of those 58, more than \$1.2 million were requested in Hartford Arts Stimulus funds. However, only about \$600,000 in federal grants is available. These dollars are dedicated to those artists, non-profits and micro-enterprise businesses that have five or fewer employees in which the money will go to creating or retaining employment opportunities. The letters of intent include requests for the following:

1. Individual Artists:	37 ITA's	\$750,156
2. Non-profits:	17 ITA's	\$370,800
3. Micro businesses:	8 ITA's	\$164,750

Mayor Perez announced this stimulus plan during his State of the City address last year as a way to create and retain as many as 350 employment opportunities in the Capital City. Phase One of the Arts Stimulus included approximately \$1 million in city investments. Phase Two uses CDBG funds. The administration of both phases has been in partnership with the Greater Hartford Arts Council.

The Mayor says, "The Arts Community is a vital financial force, attracting thousands of visitors and pumping about \$200 million into the local economy. This jobs effort continues to be extremely important as Hartford begins to celebrate its 375th Anniversary--- a time when more people will be drawn to our Arts and Heritage attractions."

As part of the Phase Two of the stimulus process, public information meetings were held on December 14, 2009 and January 7, 2010. The Intent to Apply Form was due January 25th. Approval to Apply deadline was January 29th. Those whose ITA letters met the program requirements are urged to attend a Technical Assistance Workshop to be held on February 17, 2010 at 6pm at the Hartford Courant Arts Center, 224 Farmington Avenue. The snow date is February 18. Applications are due March 15, 2010 before 3pm. Notification of awards will be in April.

Please note that all deadlines are delivery dates and not postmark dates. For more information, please contact Lionel Rigler at RIGLL001@hartford.gov or (860) 757-9277.