NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS FY 2013

Introduction

Federal funding of the National Gallery of Art provides crucial support for its renowned Special Exhibitions. This activity, which is the most important part of the Gallery's educational mission, is an example of the public and private sectors working together for the benefit of the American public by bringing major works of art from public and private collections around the world for the many millions of visitors to the Gallery and to its web site.

With this Federal support, the Gallery plays a significant leadership role nationally and internationally through its involvement in the organization and presentation of special exhibitions seen by millions around the world. More than half of the special exhibitions organized by the Gallery travel to cities outside Washington.

The Gallery's special exhibitions enhance the core strengths of its collection and present works of exceptional quality and merit from other cultures and periods, bringing great art treasures to Washington and the nation.

The Gallery's special exhibitions also extend the educational mission of the Gallery by contributing to a variety of complementary educational events, including adult tours, student tours, family workshops, and teacher workshops. In addition, the Gallery produces a variety of educational materials that contribute to scholarship in the field, including special exhibition brochures and catalogues, features, virtual tours, podcasts, and video podcasts on the Gallery's web site, as well as films, videos and DVD's that are distributed free of charge to thousands of schools and community organizations.

The Public-Private Partnership

Federal funds have provided vital support to the Gallery's Special Exhibitions for over 39 years. Funding, provided by both the public and private sectors, has enabled the Gallery to conduct long-term planning for special exhibitions with private collectors, museums and governments throughout the world. Due to the complexity of coordinating loans of works of art, insurance, transportation, exhibition space design and catalogue research and production, the Gallery's exhibition planning process typically begins four to five years in advance of the show's opening. Because of this lead-time, a large portion of the planning and research costs must be incurred before the exhibition can be formally presented for private sector support. Federal no-year funding therefore is needed to cover these costs.

Organization of Special Exhibitions

Organizing special exhibitions requires significant expertise and resources. The curatorial, special exhibitions, legal, registrar and design and installation staffs of the Gallery organize about a dozen special exhibitions annually. Each one requires varying degrees of knowledge and experience in such areas as contract negotiations, insurance, transportation of art, design of the exhibition space, designing and editing exhibition catalogues, and developing educational materials. In addition, significant costs may be incurred for travel, art transportation, insurance premiums, exhibition space design and construction, curatorial services, and catalogue publishing.

As a result of its successful, longstanding reputation for mounting special exhibitions, the Gallery serves as a model for other museums coast to coast. Many American museums now look to the Gallery to take the lead in organizing exhibitions that will travel to their city or town. Federal funding, which provides the crucial support for the necessary planning and development of an exhibition, has thereby enabled the Gallery to share the benefit of its organizational expertise with other museums in all regions of the country. These efforts extend a special exhibition's impact beyond those who view it in Washington to others throughout the country who are unable to attend the exhibition.

Conclusion

The National Gallery of Art's Special Exhibitions provide the public with a unique opportunity to personally experience great works of art from around the world. Representing the nation, the Gallery serves as America's cultural ambassador and as an international showcase for cultural diplomacy by bringing to the United States art from the international community as well as sharing with it art from the Gallery's own collections.

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET REQUEST FY 2012 - FY 2013 (Dollars in Thousands)

Description	FY 2012 Enacted *		FY 2013 Request		FY 2013 Increase / (Decrease FY 2012		
Personnel Compensation	\$	1,033	\$	1,061	\$	28	
Personnel Benefits		320	·	329	·	9	
Travel		50		50		-	
Transportation		300		300		-	
Services		1,572		1,578		6	
Supplies & Materials		200		200		-	
Total - Special Exhibitions	\$	3,475	\$	3,518	\$	43	

* The FY 2012 Enacted Budget reflects a 0.16% across-the-board rescission.

The FY 2013 Special Exhibitions Budget Request is included as part of the FY 2013 Art Care Request on pages 4-1 to 4-7.

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS FUNDING SOURCES FY 1988 - 2013 (Dollars in Thousands)

		Funding	Percent of Funding			
	Federal	Nonfederal	Total	Federal	Nonfederal	
1988 Actual	\$ 1,597	\$ 4,313	\$ 5,910	27	73	
1989 Actual	3,241	5,877	9,118	36	64	
1990 Actual	2,412	6,114	8,526	28	72	
1991 Actual	2,929	4,957	7,886	37	63	
1992 Actual	5,671	6,030	11,701	48	52	
1993 Actual	1,953	3,552	5,505	35	65	
1994 Actual	2,692	1,997	4,689	57	43	
1995 Actual	2,946	3,318	6,264	47	53	
1996 Actual	3,176	3,963	7,139	44	56	
1997 Actual	3,439	3,649	7,088	49	51	
1998 Actual	3,748	3,225	6,973	54	46	
1999 Actual	3,041	5,917	8,958	34	66	
2000 Actual	3,319	3,172	6,491	51	49	
2001 Actual	2,816	4,259	7,075	40	60	
2002 Actual	3,208	4,055	7,263	44	56	
2003 Actual	3,174	4,104	7,278	44	56	
2004 Actual	3,041	3,495	6,536	47	53	
2005 Actual	2,982	3,207	6,747	44	48	
2006 Actual	3,122	4,363	7,485	42	58	
2007 Actual	2,912	2,531	5,443	53	47	
2008 Actual	3,415	4,390	7,805	44	56	
2009 Actual	3,380	3,176	6,556	52	48	
2010 Actual	3,436	2,263	5,699	60	40	
2011 Actual	3,383	2,873	6,256	54	46	
FY 2012 Enacted **	3,475	3,664 *	7,139	49	51	
FY 2013 Request	\$ 3,518	\$ 3,515 *	\$ 7,033	50	50	

* Amount and percentage of nonfederal funding in FY 2012 and FY 2013 are dependent upon the amount of funds the Gallery is able to raise from the private sector.

** The FY 2012 Enacted Budget reflects a 0.16% across-the-board rescission.

Description	FY 2012 Enacted			FY 2013 Request		FY 2013 Increase / (Decrease FY 2012	
Special Exhibitions	\$	3,475	\$	3,518	\$	43	

Note: The Salaries & Expenses account includes no-year funding for special exhibitions.

Special Exhibitions bring master works of art from public and private collections around the world to Washington. As an integral part of the Gallery's educational role on a national and international level, this is the Gallery's most popular program with its visitors. In addition to rising costs in all areas of exhibition planning and organization, weakness in the nation's economy has made it increasingly difficult to secure private sector support. Federal support, which has always been essential to ensuring the Gallery's leadership in organizing and presenting special exhibitions of distinction for the American public, is vital.