



April 19, 2016

To our artists and colleagues,

In an effort to increase opportunities for unrestricted support for individual artists across the country, I want to let you know of some changes to individual artist awards from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation.

As planned, 2016 will be the final class of 20 Doris Duke Artist Awards—the awards of \$275,000 per artist, administered by Creative Capital. **One hundred awards were made through this program, totaling \$27,500,000 in direct funding to individual artists.** We are pleased to let you know that we plan to continue annually funding three of these major unrestricted awards in jazz, dance and theater, to be administered directly by DDCF.

However, we will make a significant change to the Doris Duke Impact Awards, of which the next group was scheduled to be awarded in 2017. In place of the Impact Awards, future DDCF-supported awards will now become part of the **United States Artists** unrestricted fellowship awards. DDCF has made an initial commitment to 12 awards per year for five years—a **total of 60 awards in jazz, dance and theater.** These awards, administered through the selection process of United States Artists, will be named “United States Artists Doris Duke Fellows” and will begin immediately in 2016. All existing Doris Duke Impact Awardees will continue to receive their awards as previously designed.

This change is being made to support a unique collaboration of national foundations making a commitment to solidify the infrastructure of United States Artists, so that there is a fair and sustainable system of unrestricted support to individual artists now and in the future. Responding to a significant challenge grant from the Ford Foundation, we are joining other foundations and individuals to help strengthen this system of unrestricted support for artists.

We are grateful to the staff of Creative Capital for the successful completion of their work on the Doris Duke Performing Artists Awards, which began in 2012. We will continue to support the work of Creative Capital through its project support and service to artists. Together, we are all working to establish better systems of support for our nation’s artists.

We wish you the best in your work,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ed Henry'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ed Henry
President