

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **NEW YORK FOLKLORE SOCIETY RECEIVES TWO NEA GRANTS**

SCHENECTADY, NY--The New York Folklore Society (NYFS) has received two grants from the National Endowment for the Arts in the funding cycle announced on May 10.

An NEA grant of \$13,000 will support ***Traditional Arts Learning: A Study and Convening***. The society's mentorship and professional development programs for folk artists, folklorists, and community organizers will be analyzed through surveys, phone conversations, and group discussions with the programs' participants. A conference will evaluate the findings and offer suggestions for improvements. The results of the survey and meeting will be published in a report that will be posted online. The project marks the organization's 25th year of conducting professional development programs.

NYFS has also been awarded \$40,000 through the NEA Partnership program to support statewide technical assistance and professional development services to the folk and traditional arts field. These services will expand to include field research, technical assistance, and programming in the Mohawk Valley, Finger Lakes, and Southern Tier regions of the state. Technical assistance and professional development services developed by New York Folklore Society and the New York State Council on the Arts will include activities such as organizational and board development assistance, artists' marketing and self-presentation, and community scholar field schools, as well as programs for emerging folklorists, including conferences, internships, and convenings.

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**The New York Folklore Society (NYFS)** is a non-profit, statewide membership organization that provides a wide range of programs and services to the field of folk and traditional arts and is the primary resource for folk culture scholarship in New York State. The mission of NYFS is "to strengthen and preserve the diverse heritage and cultural lives of the people of New York State through education, technical assistance, and advocacy for cultural equity – in collaboration with artists, organizations, and communities."