

Southwestern Musician
Texas Commission on the Arts
Grants Made Available Through The Texas Music Project

On Labor Day 2003 the "Texas Music Project," an initiative of the Social Marketing Resource Center in Dallas, Texas launched the first in a series of "Don't Mess With Texas Music CD's" intended to support Music Education in Texas. Proceeds from sales of the CD will be provided to the Texas Commission on the Arts for distribution to school districts throughout the state through its ongoing grants programs. Funds from the project will become available to the Commission in September 2004.

The first deadline for application to the Commission for Texas Music Project Funds will be March 15, 2004. School districts may apply in the Arts Education Project category. The program provides funding support for projects demonstrating artistic merit and "best practices" in arts education. This program is directed toward the advancement of arts education curriculum, student achievement through hands on activity, teacher training, and assessment. Performances for youth and/or adults without these components will not be accepted as an Arts Education Project. The Arts Education - Resource Catalogue includes eligible projects for this category.

Application Limit: 1 application per organization for this program.

Request Limit: \$25,000

Match Requirement: 1:1

In-Kind Match: Up to 50% of the match for project assistance may be in-kind.

Deadline: Varies by organization type

Criteria: see [Education Review Criteria](#)

Led by the efforts of State Representative Elisabeth Ames Jones and Senator Jeff Wentworth, Texas House Bill 2582 supporting the Texas Music Project and music education was passed into law by the governor in June. The Bill enabled the expenditure of these funds by the Texas Commission on the Arts.

All school districts in Texas are eligible to apply in this funding category. However, at the request of the Texas Music Project all funds derived from the proceeds of the CD will be targeted to disadvantaged elementary schools. The Commission will define these applicants as elementary educational institutions within the Texas Education Agency's state school districts. A school serving disadvantaged populations would be a Title I School, zoned within an Enterprise Zone, or have a majority of students participate in the free school lunch program sponsored by the federal government.

Beginning in September 2004 a portion of the funds derived from the Texas Music Project will also support districts through the Commission's Team-Building Education Mini-Grant program. Districts may currently apply through this program for funds that are derived from other sources.

Districts who do not currently apply to TCA for funding should first contact the agency at (512) 463-5535 to establish an account for our Electronic Grant System. This initial contact must be made via phone. Those districts who currently have accounts may use that existing account to apply. The online grant system can be entered at the following: www.arts.state.tx.us.

The Commission would like to take this opportunity to thank Bruce Orr and Micheal Clay of the Social Marketing Resource Center for their vision and dedication to the Texas Music Project. In addition, it would be remiss to not thank Honorary Chair Willie Nelson, the other 20 musical contributors, and corporate sponsors that made this program possible.

Ricardo Hernandez
Executive Director
Texas Commission on the Arts