

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 1996 SESSION

CHAPTER 161

An Act to amend and reenact § 9-84.03 of the Code of Virginia, relating to duties of the Virginia Commission for the Arts.

[S 615]

Approved March 8, 1996

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 9-84.03 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 9-84.03. Duties.

The Commission shall perform among others the following duties:

1. Stimulate and encourage throughout the Commonwealth growth in artistic quality and excellence, public interest and participation in the arts, and access to high quality and affordable art for all Virginians;
2. Make recommendations concerning appropriate methods to encourage economic viability, an intellectually stimulating environment for artists, and participation in and appreciation of the arts to meet the legitimate needs and aspirations of persons in all parts of the Commonwealth;
3. Promote the development and implementation of a planned, sequential, and comprehensive program of arts education, taught by ~~certified~~ *licensed* teachers endorsed in arts education, in the public elementary and secondary schools of the Commonwealth;
4. Provide supplemental learning opportunities to the public school arts education curriculum;
5. Encourage the development of a network of professional arts organizations, the media, and arts promoters, including, but not limited to, the literary, visual, and performing arts for the production of classical and new works of art, and diversity in artistic expressions;
6. Provide funding for and technical assistance to artists, recognized nonprofit arts organizations, and arts organizations and activities which celebrate and preserve the various cultures represented among the citizens of the Commonwealth;
7. Encourage and support the creation of new works of art, arts organizations whose primary objective is to increase public access to the arts, particularly in underserved areas, and performing arts tours to increase the availability of this form of artistic expression throughout the Commonwealth;
8. Establish a program of financial assistance to provide scholarships, grants, and other awards to artists who demonstrate exceptional ability and talent;
9. Establish an advisory panel composed of artists, art administrators, and citizens to advise the Commission concerning fiscal matters;
10. Encourage arts organizations to dedicate to endowment at least one dollar of the price of each adult admission to performances or exhibitions or at least one percent of moneys collected in fund campaigns;
11. Encourage arts organizations to develop and implement endowment enlargement plans which yield enough income to underwrite one-third of the organizations' annual operating costs;
12. Apply to any appropriate agency or officer of the United States for participation in or receipt of aid from any federal program respecting the arts, and, in respect thereto, enter into contracts and agreements with the United States or any appropriate agency thereof;
13. Provide incentives to local governments to encourage public support and funding of the arts;
14. Accept gifts, contributions and bequests of money or any other thing to be used for carrying out the purposes of this chapter;
15. Develop specific procedures for the administration and implementation of a program, so long as any such program is for the benefit of a nonprofit organization, qualifying as a § 501 (c) (3) organization under the Internal Revenue Code, whereby interest earned on endowment funds donated to stimulate and encourage public interest and enjoyment of music and the performing arts may be matched by state funds appropriated for this program, and prepare written guidelines to govern such program; and
16. Administer any funds available to the Commission and disburse such funds in accordance with the purposes of this chapter. *In allocating funds to be disbursed to arts organizations, the Commission shall give preferential consideration to arts organizations actively implementing an endowment enlargement plan, either individually or as members of a regional consortium of arts organizations.*