

The materials listed here are gathered from around the National Endowment for the Arts website and are intended to compliment the Bright Spots projects. The materials provide information to help envision, develop, describe, and measure projects exploring the intersection of the arts, healing, and health. Funding opportunities in this area are in the [Apply for a Grant section](#).

HEARING FROM PRACTITIONERS AND EXPERTS

[Meaningful Moments in the Most Unlikely of Times](#) discusses the finding in Arts-Based Interventions and Dementia authored by Kate de Medeiros, Robert H. and Nancy J. Blayney Professor Gerontology at Miami University

[Healing Properties: Art + Health](#) is an issue of NEA Arts that looks at some of the innovative ways that organizations are using art as an instrument of healing.

FINDING RESOURCES: PRESENTATIONS

The Interagency Taskforce on the Arts and Human Development Webinars: Beginning in 2011, the NEA convened a Federal Interagency Task Force on the Arts and Human Development to share research exploring the arts' role in improving health and educational outcomes throughout the lifespan. Taskforce members represented 20 different federal agencies and departments and met quarterly for webinars on varying topics. Webinars include the following:

[Music Therapy, Music Listening, and the Cancer Experience](#) featured:

- Dr. Andi Farbman, Executive Director, American Music Therapy Association presenting on Music Therapy and the Cancer Experience
- Dr. Debra Burns, Associate Professor and Department Chair, Music and Arts Technology, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis presenting on Music Therapy to Improve the Cancer Experience
- Dr. Sheri L. Robb, Associate Professor, School of Nursing, IUPUI presenting on Music Therapy for Adolescent Young Adults Undergoing Hemapoietic Stem Cell Transplant for Cancer: SMART Trial Findings
- Dr. Nolan Gasser, Ph.D., composer, pianist, musicologist presenting on the Interplay of Music Therapy and Individual Music Tastes

[New Resources on the Arts and Aging](#) featured:

- Marie A. Benard, Deputy Director, National Institute on Aging presenting on Research Gaps and Opportunities for Exploring the Relationship of the Arts to Health and Well-Being in Older Adults
- Lisbeth Nielsen, Program Director, Division of Behavioral and Social Research, National Institute on Aging presenting on an NIA Research Opportunity: Translational Research to Help Older Adults Maintain their Health and Independence in the Community
- Dr. Julene Johnson, Institute for Health and Aging, University of California presenting on Using Community Choirs to Promote the Health of Older Adults



FINDING RESOURCES: PUBLICATIONS

[The Summit on Creativity and Aging](#) looks at how the federal government can leverage the arts to foster healthy aging and inclusive design for this growing population. This white paper features recommendations from the May 2015 Summit on Creativity and Aging in America, a convening of more than 70 experts hosted by the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Center for Creative Aging.

[“The Arts and Aging - Building the Science”](#) In September 2012, the National Endowment for the Arts teamed with the National Institutes of Health to sponsor a National Academies workshop titled Research Gaps and Opportunities for Exploring the Relationship of the Arts to Health and Well-Being in Older Adults. This report from the workshop includes a summary of the proceedings as well as observations and recommendations on how to strengthen the quality of such research.

GRANTEE RESEARCH

The NEA funds research through the [Research: Art Works](#) category. Final reports are posted as they are received and cover a wide range of topics. For example, [Joining the Spectrum: An Interdisciplinary Inquiry into Theatre as an Intervention for Autism Diagnosed Teens](#).

