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National Endowment for the Arts—FY 2022 Support of Literary Arts

Literature Fellowships

As part of the first grantmaking announcement of FY 2022, the National Endowment for the Arts announced **\$1.2 million in Literature Fellowships to 35 creative writers and 24 translators**, supporting both the creation of new works of American literature and the translation into English of literary prose, poetry, and drama from writers around the world.

“The National Endowment for the Arts’ Literature Fellowships provide creative writers and literary translators with crucial support, affording them the time and means and encouragement to focus on their work,” said the NEA’s Director of Literary Arts Amy Stolls. “In turn, these artists and translators enrich our culture, whether it’s through the Creative Writing Fellowships and the support of original prose, or the projects that bring writers from around the world to English-speaking readers through the translators’ skill and creativity.”

Visit [arts.gov](https://www.arts.gov) for a list of the 2022 Literature Fellowships to [creative writers](#) and [translators](#), including bios, statements from the fellows, and information on the translation projects.

Please note, there may be a delay in the distribution of some grant awards as the NEA and all of the federal government are operating under a continuing budget resolution which currently expires on February 18, 2022.

The National Endowment for the Arts will award 35 Creative Writing Fellowships of \$25,000 each, for a total of \$875,000. Fellowships alternate each year between poetry and prose and this year’s fellowships are to support prose. The Arts Endowment received 2,021 eligible applications, which were reviewed anonymously by a panel solely on the basis of artistic excellence of the writing sample submitted. These fellowships allow recipients to set aside time for writing, research, travel, and general career development.

The National Endowment for the Arts will award 24 Literature Translation Fellowships ranging from \$10,000 to \$20,000 for a total of \$325,000. These fellowships will support the English translation of works written in 16 languages and 18 countries, including two languages that have not previously been translated with support from an NEA translation fellowship: Kurdish and Náhuatl, one of Mexico's 68 recognized indigenous languages.

Since 1967, the National Endowment for the Arts has awarded more than 3,600 Creative Writing Fellowships totaling over \$57 million. Many recipients have gone on to receive the National Book Award, the National Book Critics Circle Award, and the Pulitzer Prize in Poetry and Fiction. These include Anthony Doerr, Louise Erdrich, Tyehimba Jess, Jennifer Egan, and Juan Felipe Herrera. Since 1981, the Arts Endowment has awarded 550 fellowships to 487 translators, with translations representing 78

languages and 88 countries. Past recipients include Natasha Wimmer, whose fellowship supported her translation of Roberto Bolaño's *2666*, and Jennifer Croft, whose fellowship supported her translation of Nobel Prize-winner Olga Tokarczuk's *Flights*.

Grants to Literary Arts Organizations

In addition to the Literature Fellowships, as part of the [first announcement of FY 2022 Grants for Arts Projects](#), the National Endowment for the Arts will award **59 grants totaling \$1,220,000** for literary arts projects. These grants are focused on publishing projects; grants for audience and professional development projects will be announced in Spring 2022. Information about each recommended project for this round of FY 2022 Grants for Arts Projects is available through the [Recent Grant Search tool](#).

Visit [arts.gov](https://www.arts.gov) to learn more about the agency's support of the literary arts, which also includes initiatives like the **NEA Big Read**—grants to support community reading programs—and **Poetry Out Loud**, a poetry recitation competition for high school students.