

PRESS RELEASE

Association of Writers & Writing Programs
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AWP to Receive \$40,000 Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts

Riverdale Park, MD—AWP (Association of Writers & Writing Programs) has been approved for a \$40,000 [Grants for Arts Projects](#) award to support the 2023 AWP Conference & Bookfair.

The AWP Conference & Bookfair is the largest annual gathering of creative writers and creative writing college and university programs in the US. This past conference gathering, AWP held over 300 events and 600-plus exhibitors at the bookfair. The conference and bookfair plays a crucial role in providing a space for professional development, networking, and exchange of ideas among writers and literary arts organizations nationwide in the spirit of AWP's mission to "champion diversity and excellence in creative writing." The AWP Conference & Bookfair is among the 1,498 awards to be received across the US, totaling nearly \$33.2 million for the 2022 fiscal year.

"The work of the NEA and the need for arts and creativity are more important now than ever. In addition to serving as an economic engine, arts and creativity are core to what it takes to heal our nation, our communities, and ourselves..." stated NEA Chairman [Dr. Maria Rosario Jackson](#).

AWP Executive Director Cynthia Sherman said, "We are grateful for the support provided by the NEA and appreciate their caring staff dedicated to nurturing the arts. This grant allows AWP to bring together creative writers from all backgrounds and the academic writing programs and community writing centers that sustain them in a safe and inclusive space."

Since 1973, the AWP Conference & Bookfair has been a place of connection, reunion, and joy for the literary arts sector. The funds from Grants for Arts Projects will ensure that the 2023 conference in Seattle, Washington will perpetuate and build upon AWP's long legacy of supporting creative writers.

For more information on the projects included in the Arts Endowment grant announcement, visit [arts.gov/news](https://www.arts.gov/news).