

BCA awarded CCNSF grant

The Bronx Council on the Arts is the winner of a Communities of Color Nonprofit Stabilization Fund grant. BCA joins 81 community-based organizations, serving and representing communities of color across the city, that were funded in this inaugural grant cycle. The award ceremony took place at the Ford Foundation on February 5.

In spring 2014, the Hispanic Federation, Coalition for Asian American Children and Families and the NY Urban League formed an alliance to provide capacity building support to Black, Latino and Asian-led community-based organizations throughout the five boroughs. These organizations, along with the Asian American Federation and Black Agency Executives, developed this initiative to generate new levels of support for the city's organizations. As a result, in a historic vote in 2014, the NYC Council allocated \$2.5 million for the Communities of Color Nonprofit Stabilization Fund. The first NYC Council fund of its kind, CCNSF aims to build the capacity of NYC nonprofits, in key infrastructure areas such as management information systems, board development, financial management, leadership de-

velopment, program planning and strategy and organizational development.

BCA was awarded a grant for financial management and planning as they work to revamp and upgrade their fiscal administration. "This money comes at a pivotal time," said deputy director Ellen Pollan, "many of us are still struggling to recover from the lingering effects of the economic crisis and funding retrenchment. We are grateful for the leadership of NYC Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito, Council Members Andy King and Maria del Carmen Arroyo, the Black, Latino and Asian Caucus, the Hispanic Federation and the other key advocates and partners that made this grant a reality. The future looks brighter."

Through a competitive Request for Application process, hundreds of nonprofits were screened and vetted by the NYC Council and the NYC Department of Youth and Community Development -- the agency facilitating the fund. Other Bronx arts groups that received a CCNSF grant are: Casita Maria, Mind Builders Creative Arts Center, and Pregones Theater/Puerto Rican Traveling Theater.