

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given of the following determinations: Pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Act of October 19, 1965 (79 Stat. 985; 22 U.S.C. 2459), Executive Order 12047 of March 27, 1978, the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998 (112 Stat. 2681, *et seq.*; 22 U.S.C. 6501 note, *et seq.*), Delegation of Authority No. 234 of October 1, 1999, and Delegation of Authority No. 236 of October 19, 1999, as amended, I hereby determine that the objects to be included in the exhibition: "After the Scream: The Late Paintings of Edvard Munch," imported from abroad for temporary exhibition within the United States, are of cultural significance. The objects are imported pursuant to a loan agreement with the foreign owner. I also determine that the exhibition or display of the exhibit objects at the High Museum of Art, Atlanta, GA from on or about February 9, 2002 to on or about May 5, 2002, and at possible additional venues yet to be determined, is in the national interest. Public Notice of these Determinations is ordered to be published in the **Federal Register**.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For further information, including a list of the exhibit objects, contact David S. Newman, Attorney-Adviser, Office of the Legal Adviser, U.S. Department of State, (telephone: 202/619-6982). The address is U.S. Department of State, SA-44, 301 4th Street, SW., Room 700, Washington, DC 20547-0001.

Dated: January 7, 2002.

Patricia S. Harrison,

Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs, United States Department of State.

[FR Doc. 02-1262 Filed 1-16-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 3877]

Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs Request for Grant Proposals: Secondary School Partnership Program in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Belarus

SUMMARY: The Office of Citizen Exchanges, Youth Programs Division, of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs announces an open competition for the Secondary School Partnership Program in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Belarus. Public and private non-profit organizations meeting the provisions described in Internal Revenue Code section 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3) may submit

proposals to either enhance or expand existing partnerships or develop new school partnership programs with Armenia, Azerbaijan or Belarus. All proposals must have a thematic focus and feature on-going joint project activity between the schools, a student exchange component, and an educator (teacher/administrator) exchange component.

Program Information

The Secondary School Partnership Program is funded under the FREEDOM Support Act to assist young people in building an open society and developing democratic processes and institutions in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Belarus. This program provides grants to link schools in the three countries noted above with schools in the United States. The U.S. recipient of the grant is responsible for recruiting, selecting, and organizing a U.S. network of a minimum of two secondary schools; strengthening an existing working relationship with an organization or agency of government in Armenia, Azerbaijan, or Belarus responsible for a network of at least two schools there; and linking the two networks in one-to-one school partnerships through thematic projects and substantive exchange activities.

Overview

The short-term goal of the school partnership program is to provide partial funding for linkages between U.S. and Armenian, Azerbaijani, and Belarussian schools featuring collaborative substantive projects and reciprocal student and educator exchanges with strong academic content. The long-term goals are to: (1) Develop lasting, sustainable institutional ties between U.S. and Armenian, Azerbaijani and Belarussian schools and communities; (2) support democracy and educational reform in the above countries; (3) advance mutual understanding between youth and teachers; and (4) promote partnerships developed through governmental, educational, and not-for-profit sector cooperation that serve the needs and interests of the schools.

The program has several defining features to help the participating schools develop their partnership:

- Each partnership has a project theme and the students and teachers in the paired schools work on a joint project throughout the school year related to this theme;
- The two schools develop a relationship over the course of an academic year, through the planning process and the work on their joint project, which is highlighted by

exchanges from three weeks to ten months in duration. Exchanges take place while the host school is in session.

- The student and teacher exchanges must be reciprocal.
- The program includes educators (teachers and/or administrators) in order to involve them in all aspects of the partnership and to provide them access to resources for curriculum development and educational training.
- During the exchange, participants attend class, are involved in school-based activities, work on their joint project, perform community service, visit educational and cultural sites, and reside with host families.

Dates: Grants may begin on or about July 2002 and cover the 2002–2003 academic year. The exact starting date of the grant will be dependent on availability of funds.

Guidelines

A competitive proposal will present a project that builds upon previous contacts and interaction between the proposed schools to help ensure a solid foundation for the partnership. Partnerships should have an existence beyond the scope of this initiative; that is, there should be an inherent reason for the linkage apart from the availability of grant funds.

Organizers and school networks in the U.S. and Armenia, Azerbaijan and Belarus should collaborate in planning and preparation. Applicants must have an organizational partner that has its base of operation in the partner country. Proposals should support a working relationship that will produce something tangible and lasting in addressing the interests of both sides, beyond the confines of the funded project, such as the development of educational materials. The proposal should specify measurable goals and objectives of the program.

Proposals must clearly describe and define substantive thematically-based projects for each school partnership that are the focus of the exchange for both students and educators and on-going joint project activity between the two schools. Specific activities, products, curriculum materials, and pre-planning are areas that can be addressed. For example, what will the participants be doing and how is it relevant to the thematic focus of the program? Applicants should present a program that involves the greater school community. All participating schools must be identified. Proposals should describe the selected theme, its importance to the schools and

communities, the specific academic activities, and the expected outcome or product of the project. Possible themes include civic education, such as citizen activism, volunteerism or community service, youth leadership training, multicultural education, rule of law, and free and independent media.

Proposals must clearly present independent educator programs for teachers/administrators. These programs could include curriculum development seminars, shadowing of host peers in the classroom, university-level courses, or other substantive activities, with an emphasis on such themes as parent-teacher cooperation, model schools, teacher training, and collaboration with local businesses. A program that relies on the educator to act as just an escort will not be competitive.

Competitive proposals will demonstrate a solid and comprehensive follow-on plan to sustain the partnerships after the grant has expired.

Responsibilities

The U.S. organization receiving the grant will (1) design the overall plan that integrates the joint project activity and the exchange components of the partnership; (2) ensure quality control for all program elements; (3) keep the Bureau informed of its progress; (4) manage all travel arrangements, logistics, travel documents, etc.; (5) provide competent and informed escorts for student groups; and (6) disburse and account for grant funds. Recipients of a grant are responsible for ensuring the selection of exchange participants who are most suited for the program and for providing them with a meaningful pre-departure orientation. Selection of individual participants in the exchange components of the program must be open, competitive, and merit-based; the proposal should describe the mechanisms used for participant selection. All participants from the U.S. and Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Belarus should represent the full diversity of their communities (racial, ethnic, economic status, religious, etc.) to give greater understanding to the culture and society as a whole.

Preference will be given to proposals that include schools that have not already received funding under the NIS Secondary School Initiative for a total of three years or more.

Significant cost-sharing is mandatory in all proposals, and those that show more generous and creative cost-sharing will be more favorably viewed. The Bureau encourages proposals that include non-Bureau funded components such as additional students and/or educators on the exchange, U.S.

participants paying for some of their own costs, computer software purchases, cultural excursions, or capital city civics programs. However, participants from Armenia, Azerbaijan and Belarus may not be charged to participate in the program, aside from paying for home country costs, (such as transportation to the point of departure the costs of hosting the U.S. students and educators, and miscellaneous expenses such as pocket money.

Please be sure to refer to the Project Objectives, Goals, and Implementation (POGI) section of the Solicitation Package for greater detail regarding the design of the component parts as well as other program information. Also consult the Proposal Submission Instructions (PSI) for information on budget presentation and required forms.

Budget Guidelines

Applicants must submit a comprehensive budget for the entire program. Only partnerships between secondary schools in the United States and these three countries are eligible for this competition. Organizations may apply to work in more than one country. Funding for each country is expected to be as follows: Armenia, \$100,000, Azerbaijan, \$150,000; and Belarus, \$50,000. The Bureau reserves the right to reduce, revise, or increase proposal budgets in accordance with the needs of the program and the availability of funds.

Grants awarded to eligible organizations with less than four years of experience in conducting international exchange programs will be limited to \$60,000.

There must be a summary budget as well as breakdowns reflecting both administrative and program budgets. Applicants may provide separate sub-budgets for each program component, phase, location, or activity to provide clarification. All program costs should clearly indicate whether they cover U.S., Armenian, Azerbaijani, or Belarussian participants. Be sure to note the statement on cost-sharing in the Guidelines section. Please refer to the Solicitation Package for complete budget guidelines and formatting instructions.

Announcement Title and Number

All correspondence with the Bureau concerning this RFGP should reference the above title and number ECA/PE/C/PY-02-50.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: The Youth Programs Division, Office of Citizen Exchanges, ECA/PE/C/PY, Room 568, U.S. Department of State, 301 4th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20547,

telephone (202) 619-4788; fax (202) 619-5311; E-mail: lbeach@pd.state.gov to request a Solicitation Package. The Solicitation Package contains detailed award criteria, required application forms, specific budget instructions, and standard guidelines for proposal preparation. Please specify Bureau Program Officer Randall Biggers on all other inquiries and correspondence, email: rbiggers@pd.state.gov, tel: (202) 401-7356.

Please read the complete **Federal Register** announcement before sending inquiries or submitting proposals. Once the RFGP deadline has passed, Bureau staff may not discuss this competition with applicants until the proposal review process has been completed.

To Download a Solicitation Package Via Internet

The entire Solicitation Package may be downloaded from the Bureau's website at <http://exchanges.state.gov/education/rfgps>. Please read all information before downloading.

Deadline for Proposals

All proposal copies must be received at the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs by 5 p.m. Washington, DC time on *Friday, March 1, 2002*. Faxed documents will not be accepted at any time. Documents postmarked the due date but received on a later date will not be accepted. Each applicant must ensure that the proposals are received by the above deadline.

Applicants must follow all instructions in the Solicitation Package. The original proposal, one fully-tabbed copy, and six copies including tabs A-E and appendices should be sent to: U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Ref.: ECA/PE/C/PY-02-50, Program Management, ECA/EX/PM, Room 534, 301 4th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20547.

Applicants must also submit the "Executive Summary" and "Proposal Narrative" sections of the proposal on a 3.5" diskette, formatted for DOS. These documents must be provided in ASCII text (DOS) format with a maximum line length of 65 characters. Applicants are also encouraged to submit proposals as Microsoft Word or Excel documents as well. The Bureau will transmit these files electronically to the Public Affairs section at the U.S. Embassy for its review, with the goal of reducing the time it takes to get embassy comments for the Bureau's grants review process.

Diversity, Freedom and Democracy Guidelines

Pursuant to the Bureau's authorizing legislation, programs must maintain a non-political character and should be balanced and representative of the diversity of American political, social, and cultural life. "Diversity" should be interpreted in the broadest sense and encompass differences including, but not limited to ethnicity, race, gender, religion, geographic location, socio-economic status, and physical challenges. Applicants are strongly encouraged to adhere to the advancement of this principle both in program administration and in program content. Please refer to the review criteria under the "Support for Diversity" section for specific suggestions on incorporating diversity into the total proposal. Public Law 104-319 provides that "in carrying out programs of educational and cultural exchange in countries whose people do not fully enjoy freedom and democracy," the Bureau "shall take appropriate steps to provide opportunities for participation in such programs to human rights and democracy leaders of such countries." Public Law 106-113 requires that the governments of the countries described above do not have inappropriate influence in the selection process. Proposals should reflect advancement of these goals in their program contents, to the full extent deemed feasible.

Review Process

The Bureau will acknowledge receipt of all proposals and will review them for technical eligibility. Proposals will be deemed ineligible if they do not fully adhere to the guidelines stated herein and in the Solicitation Package. All eligible proposals will be reviewed by the program office, as well as the Public Diplomacy section overseas, where appropriate. Eligible proposals will be subject to compliance with Federal and Bureau regulations and guidelines and forwarded to Bureau grant panels for advisory review. Proposals may also be reviewed by the Office of the Legal Adviser or by other Department elements. Final funding decisions are at the discretion of the Department of State's Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs. Final technical authority for assistance awards (grants or cooperative agreements) resides with the Bureau's Grants Officer.

Authority

Overall grant making authority for this program is contained in the Mutual

Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, Public Law 87-256, as amended, also known as the Fulbright-Hays Act. The purpose of the Act is "to enable the Government of the United States to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries * * *; to strengthen the ties which unite us with other nations by demonstrating the educational and cultural interests, developments, and achievements of the people of the United States and other nations * * * and thus to assist in the development of friendly, sympathetic and peaceful relations between the United States and the other countries of the world." The funding authority for the program above is provided through the FREEDOM Support Act of 1992.

Notice

The terms and conditions published in this RFGP are binding and may not be modified by any Bureau representative. Explanatory information provided by the Bureau that contradicts published language will not be binding. Issuance of the RFGP does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government. The Bureau reserves the right to reduce, revise, or increase proposal budgets in accordance with the needs of the program and the availability of funds. Awards made will be subject to periodic reporting and evaluation requirements.

Notification

Final awards cannot be made until funds have been appropriated by Congress, allocated and committed through internal Bureau procedures.

Dated: January 7, 2002.

Patricia S. Harrison,

Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs, U.S. Department of State.
[FR Doc. 02-1261 Filed 1-16-02; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 3875]

Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs Request for Grant Proposals: Development of a Professional Journal and Research Service for Overseas U.S. Educational Advising Centers

SUMMARY: The Educational Information and Resources Branch, Office of Global Educational Programs, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (the Bureau) announces an open competition for a professional journal and research service for overseas educational advising centers. Public or private non-

profit organizations meeting the provisions described in IRS regulation 26 USC 501(c)(3) are invited to submit proposals to produce a professional journal to provide timely and in-depth information on trends and developments in U.S. higher education and other issues and topics relevant to the Department of State-affiliated overseas educational advising and information centers. The selected organization will also answer reference inquiries from Department of State-designated educational advising offices overseas. The Bureau anticipates awarding up to \$97,000 to one organization for these activities.

Program Information

Overview

This grant funds a professional journal for overseas advisers to assist them in providing comprehensive information about the strengths and diversity of the U.S. higher educational system to foreign audiences. Proposals should illustrate how the organization will produce a professional journal, including an internet web site and publication, to provide timely and in-depth information for the staff of Department of State-affiliated overseas educational advising and information centers that advise foreign nationals about educational opportunities in the United States. The information provided to advisers should focus on the field of U.S. education and offer skill-building content for practitioners of advising (for example, the resource could train advisers in the ethics of the profession and teach them how to enhance their communication and listening skills). The information should also feature current information on university programs, new advising resources, short-term training programs, current testing announcements, news briefs, reference questions of world-wide interest, and scholarship and financial information useful to overseas educational advisers in the conduct of their duties. E-mail updates on timely topics relating to U.S. education must be distributed regularly to advisers between issues of the electronic and print journals.

Guidelines

The organization should produce four issues of the publication (Summer 2002, Fall 2002, Winter 2002 and Spring 2003), and describe what publishing capacity will be used to assure that each issue of the publication is produced quickly and efficiently. Five hundred copies of the publication must be shipped to the Department of State's