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**National
Endowment
for the Arts**
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National Endowment for the Arts Awards More Than \$27.6 Million Across Nation

Includes \$10,000 awarded to Alia Musica Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh, PA—In its first 50 years, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) awarded more than \$5 billion in grants to recipients in every state and U.S. jurisdiction, the only arts funder in the nation to do so. Today, the NEA announced awards totaling more than \$27.6 million in its first funding round of fiscal year 2016, including an Art Works award of \$10,000 to Alia Musica Pittsburgh to support the **Pittsburgh Festival of New Music 2016**.

The *Art Works* category supports the creation of work and presentation of both new and existing work, lifelong learning in the arts, and public engagement with the arts through 13 arts disciplines or fields.

NEA Chairman Jane Chu said, “The arts are part of our everyday lives – no matter who you are or where you live – they have the power to transform individuals, spark economic vibrancy in communities, and transcend the boundaries across diverse sectors of society. Supporting projects like the one from Alia Musica offers more opportunities to engage in the arts every day.”

Alia Musica's **Artistic Director Federico Garcia-De Castro** said, “we are extremely honored and encouraged by this grant, and looking forward to continuing the artistic and organizational vision of the PFM. The first festival, in 2014, was a defining moment for Alia Musica, and it makes us all proud that the idea is a compelling one to support at the national level.”

The **Pittsburgh Festival of New Music** will take place in May 2016, and will feature the premiere of a new commission by **Ken Ueno** (part of Alia Musica's year-long residency with the California composer and vocalist), Pittsburgh-based composers and organizations, and soloists of international

stature like soprano **Tony Arnold** and guitarist Dieter Hennings. As in 2014, the Festival will have outdoor events as well as conventional events. Plans include a flashmob of **Stravinsky's *Firebird*** in Market Square, and a production of ***The Great Learning***, the 7+ hour masterpiece in seven roving parts by legendary American modernist Cornelius Cardew. Details will be announced in January 2016.

To join the Twitter conversation about this announcement, please use #NEAFall15. For more information on projects included in the NEA grant announcement, go to arts.gov

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