



Date: May 11, 2015

Media contact: Casey Blake, 480-644-6620, casey.blake@mesaartscenter.com

**Mesa Arts Center to Receive National Endowment for the Arts Grant
*Award is among 1,023 Made Nationally***



Mesa, AZ—Through its grant-making to thousands of nonprofits each year, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) promotes opportunities for people in communities across America to experience the arts and exercise their creativity.

In the second major grant announcement of fiscal year 2015, the NEA will make a \$50,000 award to Mesa Arts Center to support [Jazz from A to Z](#). The NEA will make 1,023 awards totaling \$74.3 million nationwide in this funding round.

NEA Chairman Jane Chu said, “The NEA is committed to advancing learning, fueling creativity, and celebrating the arts in cities and towns across the United States. Funding these new projects like the one from Mesa Arts Center represents an investment in both local communities and our nation’s creative vitality.”

[Jazz from A to Z](#) is a comprehensive jazz program for students and teachers that fosters an understanding and appreciation of jazz music, its impact on history, and its importance as one of America’s greatest cultural resources. In addition to live performances, the program includes professional development workshops, a Band Director’s Academy, jazz clinics, National History Day exhibit, jazz performances, and a regional Essentially Ellington Band competition.

Jazz from A to Z is a program of Mesa Arts Center and Arizona State University's School of Historical, Philosophical and Religious Studies in partnership with Jazz at Lincoln Center.

Mesa Arts Center is located at One East Main Street in downtown Mesa.

Editor's Note: Images are available for download via Mesa Arts Center's online Press Room at <http://www.mesaartscenter.com/index.php/misc/about/press-room/login>. Password is macmedia.

###

About Mesa Arts Center

The Mesa Arts Center mission is to inspire people through engaging arts experiences that are diverse, accessible, and relevant. Owned and operated by the City of Mesa, Arizona's largest arts center is recognized as an international award-winning venue. The unique and architecturally stunning facility is home to four theaters, five art galleries, and 14 art studios and an artist cooperative gallery. For more information, visit [mesaartscenter.com](http://www.mesaartscenter.com).