



About Assembly 2007

State arts agency staff, volunteer leaders and colleagues from across the nation will gather December 6-8, 2007 in Baltimore, Maryland to:

- Examine the role of the arts in a thriving democracy
- Highlight the essential contributions that the public sector makes to American cultural life
- Provide essential education, networking and leadership opportunities for state arts agency staff and volunteers
- Celebrate the 40th anniversaries of the Maryland State Arts Council, NASAA and many other state arts agencies
- Set the stage for the next 40 years of the state arts agency movement

What is an “Assembly”?

- A gathering or rally of individuals convened for a special purpose or celebration
- An association or community of individuals who share a common cause
- A group holding the authority and responsibility to shape public policy

NASAA is a year-round assembly that amplifies the resources—expertise, influence, money and vision—that state arts agencies employ on behalf of every American. Our association exists to strengthen and serve state arts agencies by representing state arts agency interests, empowering members through knowledge and creating a rewarding and welcoming professional community.

Assembly 2007 is an in-person convening of our entire membership—the staff, volunteers, affiliates and colleagues who serve the public through their work with state arts agencies.

Why You Should Participate

- **NASAA is *your* community.** Whether you are a staff member or volunteer, NASAA meetings are a singular opportunity to compare notes with your colleagues and be part of an influential national network of arts leaders.
- **A variety of peer groups** will be meeting in Baltimore. There will be sessions and events relevant to every state arts agency staff and council member, so take advantage of the team discounts.

- **Learn new ideas and skills that you can adapt to your work.** Hear the latest ideas and innovations from inside and outside of the state arts agency field. Briefings, workshops and provocative speakers and performers will address a wide range of current issues and offer informative and participatory learning experiences.
- **Get inspired.** Stimulate your own creative thinking and enthusiasm, and learn how to inspire others to recognize (and invest in!) the essential work of state arts agencies.
- **The entire assembly benefits from your participation.** Every individual has unique perspectives and valuable experiences to share. By participating in the conference, you enhance the learning and networking opportunities available to all.
- Enjoy lots of **art**, lots of **fun**, and experience **the unique culture of Baltimore, Maryland!**

Travel Justification Tips

NASAA can help members make the case for participation in *Assembly 2007*.

- This is a national policy forum in which every single state and jurisdiction is represented. NASAA's meetings shape public policies that affect every state, and our state needs to have a voice in the proceedings.
- NASAA conferences are a unique opportunity to bring national visibility to the work of our agency/program and to promote the cultural assets of our state.
- NASAA is the *only* organization dedicated exclusively to the needs and interests of state arts agencies. The training and information provided at NASAA conferences enhance my ability to serve the citizens of our state by addressing my unique policy, planning, management and leadership development needs.
- Participation in this event will help me better determine how our agency/program can contribute to our state's economic vitality, educational excellence and community development priorities.
- Our state receives significant federal dollars, including funds to the state arts agency and funds to many other key organizations. Joining the National Endowment for the Arts staff at this convention helps me establish and maintain productive funding relationships that benefit our state as a whole.
- The participation of multiple staff and volunteers is essential. One individual alone cannot adequately represent our state, nor secure all of the vital information that will be shared in the more than 25 sessions that will be taking place.

Furthermore, NASAA can offer a variety of flexible options for processing registration and travel expenses. Contact dennis@nasaa-arts.org for additional information.