

PRESS RELEASE

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Chapman University to Receive \$25,000 Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts

Orange, CA — Chapman University is pleased to announce it has been approved by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) for a Grants for Arts Projects award of \$25,000. This grant will support the Creative Sovereignty Lab (CSL) project, which aims to address the issue of Native American communities being defined by cinema without active participation in their own representations. In total, the NEA will award 1,135 Grants for Arts Projects awards totaling more than \$37 million as part of its second round of fiscal year 2024 grants.

“Projects like Creative Sovereignty Lab exemplify the creativity and care with which communities are telling their stories, creating connection, and responding to challenges and opportunities in their communities—all through the arts,” said NEA Chair Maria Rosario Jackson, PhD. “So many aspects of our communities such as cultural vitality, health and wellbeing, infrastructure, and the economy are advanced and improved through investments in art and design, and the National Endowment for the Arts is committed to ensuring people across the country benefit.”

By exploring Indigenous approaches, CSL provides increased training and opportunities for Native filmmakers, fostering career advancement and a diverse film and media arts landscape. CSL makes films through inclusive, Indigenous-based processes, championing equity-based approaches. Making films that matter, combined with a robust professional apprenticeship program, empowers Native American communities with professional skills and opportunities to transform the film and media arts field.

For more information on other projects included in the NEA’s grant announcement, visit [arts.gov/news](https://www.arts.gov/news).