

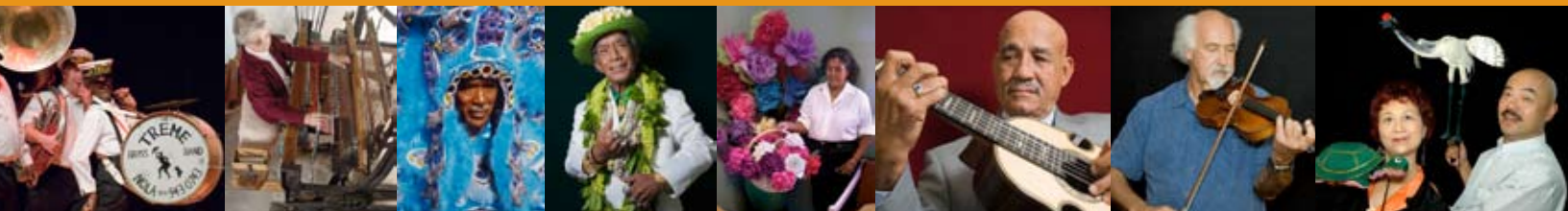


National Endowment for the Arts

National Heritage Fellowships



documentary
arts



Each year since 1982 the National Endowment for the Arts has honored a select group of folk and traditional artists with a National Heritage Fellowship.

These artists represent a remarkably diverse array of art forms and cultures.

This DVD-Rom is a journey across America through the lives and creativity of these extraordinary people.

Whether you are researching a particular art form or artist, or randomly exploring this vast cultural landscape, what you'll find is amazing.



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Getting Started



On a PC:

If the application doesn't automatically open when inserting the DVD-Rom, navigate to "My Computer" and find the DVD drive. Open the DVD-Rom and double click on the "NEA National Heritage Fellows" icon.

On a Mac:

When you insert the DVD-Rom a main window will open up. Double click the "NEA National Heritage Fellows" icon.

After a short introduction video, the main navigation interface will load. You can bypass the introduction video at any time simply by clicking on it.

From the main navigation screen, click on the Sampler button to get started. This DVD-Rom is meant to be explored, so start looking around and see what interesting things you can find.

Navigation Tips

At any time, you can get started by clicking on the Listing, Sampler, or Random buttons. From the Listing, you can sort through all of the recipients of the National Heritage Fellowship, 1982-2006. The Sampler button allows you to choose an artist from an animated montage, and the Random button selects one of more than 300 artists for you.



Once you have chosen an artist, the photographs, film & video, voice & music, and biography switches will activate.

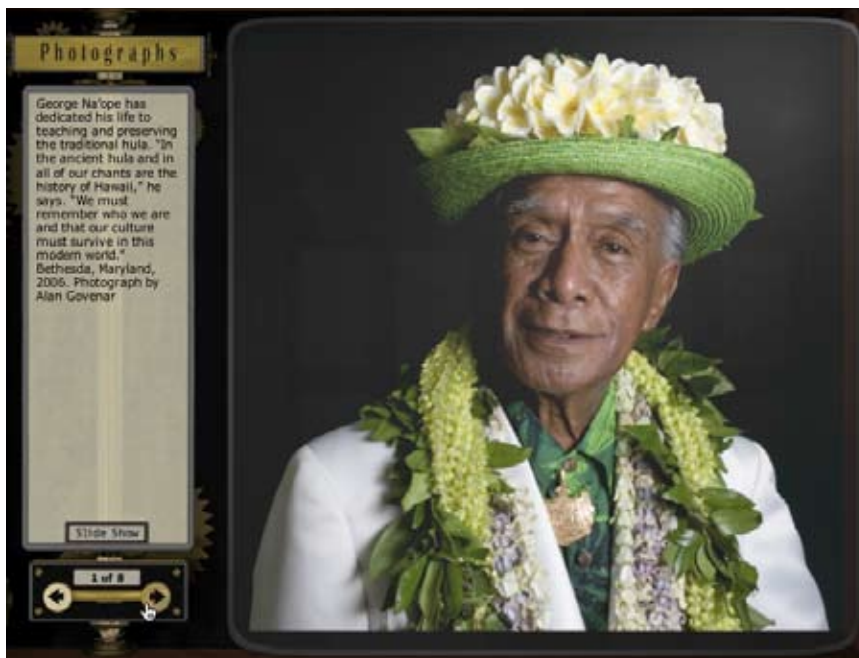


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The arrow buttons below enable you to cycle through the various files in each section.



In the photographs and film & video sections, you can click on the image to enlarge it. You can view photographs one at a time, and captions appear in the box to the left. You can click on an individual photograph to enlarge it. Or see them all in a full-screen slide show that includes the captions for every photograph.



At any point, you can return to the full list by clicking on the Listing button, and you can sort by name, state, ethnicity, tradition, or the year of the National Heritage Fellowship award. You can then filter the list using keywords, such as name, state, year, ethnicity (African American, Asian American, Cajun, Creole, etc.), or the name of a tradition (blues, zydeco, spoken word, fiddler, basket maker, potter, etc.).

With over 30 hours of audio and video, thousands of photographs, and tens of thousands of words, you are bound to find something or someone to entertain, inform, and even inspire you. Have a look!



Education Guide

The award-winning 70-page **Masters of Traditional Arts Education Guide** is now available on this DVD-Rom. Activities, standards-based lessons, worksheets, and resources will help educators, librarians, parents, and students explore the artistry of the NEA National Heritage Fellows meaningfully. Lessons also introduce young people to the fieldwork research techniques that folklorists employ to identify important traditions and artists in their own communities and regions.

About NEA National Heritage Fellowships

To honor and preserve our nation's diverse cultural heritage, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) annually awards one-time-only NEA National Heritage Fellowships to master folk and traditional artists. These fellowships recognize lifetime achievement, artistic excellence, and contributions to our nation's traditional arts heritage. From the program's inception in 1982 through 2006, 326 master artists have received a fellowship.

Nominees must be worthy of national recognition and have a record of continuing artistic accomplishment. They must be actively participating in their art form, either as practitioners or as teachers. Fellows are selected according to criteria of authenticity, excellence, and significance within the particular artistic tradition.

In addition, one fellowship, named after noted folklorist and former NEA Folk & Traditional Arts Director Bess Lomax Hawes, is presented to those who have made a major contribution to the excellence, vitality, and public appreciation of the folk and traditional arts through teaching, collecting, advocacy, or preservation work.

Fellowships are awarded on the basis of nominations from the public. Nominations may be for individuals or for a group of individuals (for example, a duo). The recipients must be citizens or permanent residents of the United States. Posthumous fellowships will not be awarded.

Nominations can be made either online or by mail. Information on the nomination process can be found at www.nea.gov/honors/heritage/

A national panel reviews the nominations and makes recommendations to the National Council on the Arts, which subsequently forwards the names to the NEA Chairman for final approval.

Each year, the fellows are invited to Washington, DC, to receive the award in a special ceremony on Capitol Hill, followed by a concert celebrating the artists and presenting their art to the general public.



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More Information



About the National Endowment For The Arts

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is a public agency dedicated to supporting excellence in the arts, both new and established; bringing the arts to all Americans; and providing leadership in arts education. Established by Congress in 1965 as an independent agency of the federal government, the Endowment is the nation's largest annual funder of the arts, bringing great art to all 50 states, including rural areas, inner cities, and military bases.

More information about the NEA can be found at www.arts.gov.



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System Requirements



Mac

Mac OS 10.2 or higher

256 MB RAM

1 Ghz Processor or faster

PC

Windows XP or greater

256 MB RAM

1 Ghz Processor or faster

The NEA National Heritage Fellows DVD-Rom is designed to run on a 1024x768 resolution screen for best results. Running the NEA National Heritage Fellows DVD-Rom at a higher resolution will simply make the display area smaller.

To change your display resolution on a Mac, go to System Preferences under the blue apple in the left corner. Choose Displays and select a resolution of 1024x768 or greater. On a PC, go to Start -> Settings -> Control Panel. Double click the Display icon and in the Settings tab increase the resolution to 1024x768 or greater.

**Problem:**

The application crashes after playing the opening movie.

Solution:

You need a newer version of the Flash plugin installed on your computer. You'll need Adobe Flash plugin version 9 or newer. You can get the newest version at <http://adobe.com/go/getflash/>

Problem:

The application crashes randomly when hitting a button.

Solution:

You need a newer version of the Flash plugin installed on your computer. You'll need Adobe Flash plugin version 9 or newer. You can get the newest version at <http://adobe.com/go/getflash/>

Problem:

The application won't open.

Solution:

On some computers in government and educational institutions, new programs have to be given permission from the system administrator to run the first time. This is a virus prevention mechanism and if it is enabled on your computer, then you will need to notify your system administrator before being able to use the NEA National Heritage Fellows DVD-Rom.

Problem:

The videos aren't playing smoothly.

Solution:

Your computer's processor isn't able to decode the videos fast enough. Try quitting any other open applications. It takes more processing power to play the movies full screen, so try watching them only at the small size. If they still play poorly, your computer may not be fast enough to use the NEA National Heritage Fellows DVD-Rom.

Use of Media and Permissions



Media contained on the NEA National Heritage Fellows DVD-Rom may be used for research purposes. However, reproduction of any of these materials for any purpose requires permission from the copyright owner(s) of the media.

Media may be accessed from the data folder on the root level of the NEA National Heritage Fellows DVD-Rom, within folders organized by a truncated version of the artist's last name. Inside each are audio, videos, photos, and text folders as well as an assets.txt file, which contains all the caption materials for that artist's media. The video files are Flash video encoded. Audio files are MP3s with a jpeg still image as cover art. The photos are all jpegs, while biographies are Rich Text Format.

The most important part of navigating this DVD-Rom is to just start clicking. The audio and video media alone will take over 35 hours to play. As you experience the artistry of these remarkable NEA National Heritage Fellows, think about the traditions and creativity in the world in which you live and that flourish across the vast cultural landscape of America.

Enjoy!

The Production Team
Documentary Arts, Inc.