SO YOU WANT TO GET FUNDED?

FUNDSEEKING BASICS (ESSENTIALS)



Los Angeles County Arts Commission

October 6, 2015

Presented by

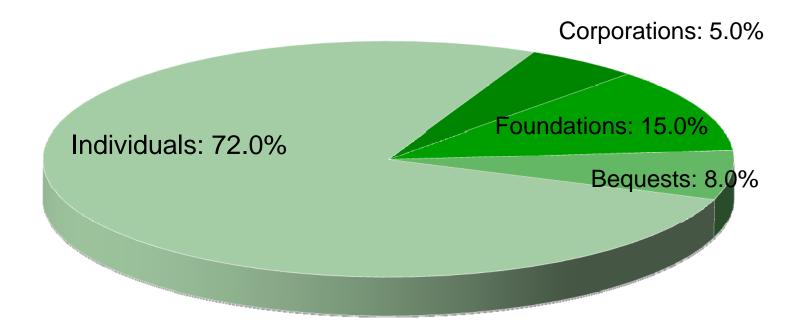
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WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

- How to locate funding opportunities
- Who gives grants/differences in funding sources
- How to determine if a funder is a good match
- How to identify organizational information essential for a grant proposal
- Tips for writing winning proposals
- What grant reviewers look for when evaluating

2014 CONTRIBUTIONS: \$358.38 BILLION



Source: Giving USA 2015 Report

2014 GIVING USA HIGHLIGHTS

- 7.1 percent increase in total contributions
- 5.7 percent increase by individuals
- 8.2 percent increase by foundations
- 15.5 percent increase in bequests
- 13.7 percent increase by corporations

MORE GIVING USA HIGHLIGHTS

- Estimated contributed amount to religious organizations has reached it's highest value ever.
- •Giving to education was strengthened by the contributions of several large gifts.
- •While modest in growth, giving to human services has not seen a decline since 2002.
- Rising 9.2 percent, giving to arts, culture and humanities saw the highest increase in giving among all subsectors.

KEY QUESTIONS

- Who are you?
- What is a grant?
- Who gets grants?
- Who gives grants?
- How do you get grants?

WHO ARE YOU? (KNOW THYSELF...)

- Public/mutual benefit, 501(c)(3), for profit
- Vision Mission (Purpose) Values
- Organizational structure
- Board of Directors
- Budget (institutional, programmatic)
- Financial statements
- Audit financial review
- 990 tax filing 501(c)(3) requirement
- Other funders partners, collaborations
- Letters of support testimonials

TELL US MORE...PROFILE

- What's compelling case statement
- Who do you serve?
- How many do you serve?
- How do you measure success?

WHY IS A CASE STATEMENT SO IMPORTANT?

- •A journalist can't write an article without answering the who, what, when, why and how. How can we expect to raise funds without answering the same questions about our organizations?
- •A case statement does precisely that—it answers the who, what, when, why and how of our organizations and their quest for charitable support. It is the principal written "argument" in the rationale for fundraising.
- •The case statement is one of the key building blocks that any organization should have in order to raise charitable support. In fact, it has been identified by the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) as one of the essential elements of successful fundraising.

WHAT A CASE STATEMENT ISN'T

- A strategic plan
- Everything there is to know about your organization
- A grant proposal (although grant proposals can be developed from it)
- A work of fiction
- •An insomnia cure (or, at least it shouldn't be!)

WHAT A CASE STATEMENT IS

- •A case statement is a clear statement of the need your agency addresses, how you address it, what makes you unique, and how others can help.
- Typically in "white paper format," it is a document that can be used to draft all other publications and presentations—Web sites, grant proposals, brochures, etc. It can also be used on its own.
- •The case also requires your board and staff to determine the central vision of your organization—in other words, it gets everyone on the same page!

TIPS FOR WRITING THE CASE STATEMENT

- Make it clear
- Make it urgent
- Make it complete
- Make it interesting
- Paint images in your readers' minds (testimonials are a great way to do this)
- Don't overstate the facts—this is NOT a work of fiction!
- Do your homework—make sure the facts are correct
- Summarize—particularly when it comes to facts, figures, financials, statistics, etc.
- Include a call to action
- Reread, revisit, revise

WHAT IS A GRANT?

- Contract/agreement/MOU
- Restricted and unrestricted funds
- Program/services specific
- Sometimes general operating
- Set time period (1 year, multi-yr)

WHO GETS GRANTS?

- Established 501(c)(3), for profit, other
- Start-ups less likely
- Sometimes faith-based/religious
- Seldom individuals
- Sometimes artists/PAF

WHO GIVES GRANTS?

- Private Foundations
- Government (local, state, federal)
- Corporations
- Clubs and organizations
- Religious institutions
- Sometimes individuals

ARTS-RELATED WEBSITES – WWW...

- <u>www.grants.gov</u> (main federal portal)
- <u>www.nea.gov</u> (main federal arts portal)
- <u>www.cac.ca.gov</u> (California Arts Council)
- <u>www.irvine.org</u> (James Irvine Foundation)
- www.lacountyarts.org (LACAC)
- <u>www.artslb.org</u> (Arts Council for Long Beach)

NUMBERS: GET THEM NOW!

- EIN Employer Identification Number
- DUNS Number: www.dnb.com/us
- Central Contractor Registry: www.ccr.gov
 - Only required if applying for federal grants

FINDING A (SEEMINGLY) PERFECT FEDERAL GRANT OPPORTUNITY

- RFP, RFA, RFQ or NOFA
- Federal Register: www.gpo.gov/fdsys
- Application guidelines posted online

WHAT TO LOOK FOR

- Total dollar allocation
- Grant size
- # of grants to be awarded
- # of years of funding
- Geographic area served
- Fit to mission/purpose
- What are our chances of winning grant?

FOUNDATION GRANTS HOW DO YOU GET THEM?

- Research potential funders
- Network
- Read industry and local news
- Develop <u>relationships</u>
- Involve your governing body (BoD)
- Attend grant maker panels

MONITOR FUNDER COMMUNITY WWW...

- <u>fdncenter.org</u> Foundation Center
- <u>philanthropy.com</u> Chronicle of Philanthropy
- charitychannel.com
- <u>socalgrantmakers.org</u> local funder news

FD ONLINE

- Grantmakers: 140,000 + foundations and corporate donors
- 3. 8 million recent grants
- Half million key decision makers
- Updated weekly
- Available locally and online

ONLINE DEMONSTRATION

FD Online

http://fconline.foundationcenter.org

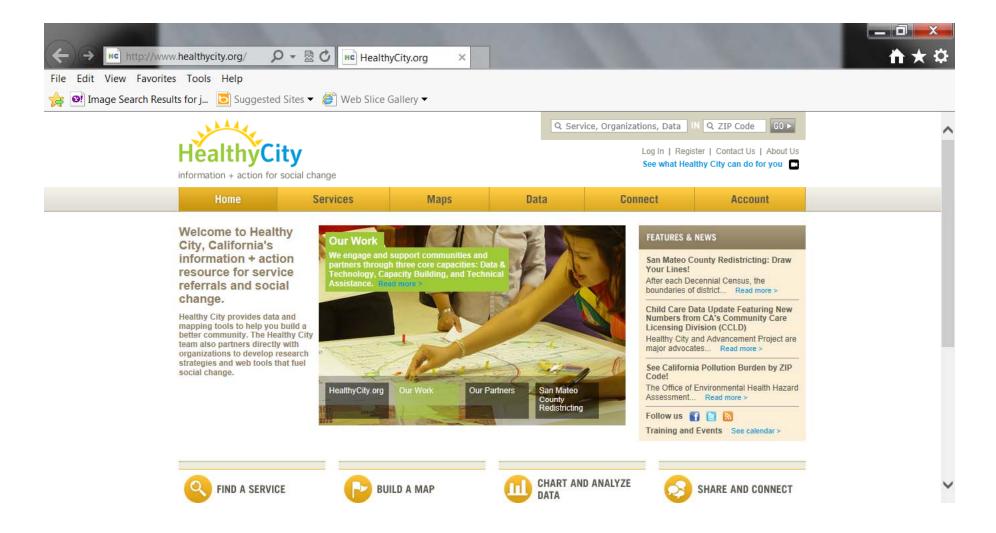
Cooperating collections in California

Grants.gov

SUPPORT YOUR CASE

- In-house research
- Census data
- www.healthycity.org data/maps resources
- Community resources library databases
- Testimonials

HEALTHY CITY



FIND YOUR FUNDERS!

- Develop broad list/diversify
- Narrow list/search for best fit
- Obtain proposal guidelines
- Send Letter of Inquiry or call for specifics
- Review and clarify
- In-person or telephone meeting
- Submit LOI or proposal

ELEMENTS OF AN LOI

- Introduction
- Organization description
- Statement of need
- Project description
- Other funders
- Summary

BASIC PROPOSAL ELEMENTS

- Summary
- Introduction
- Project Plan
 - Who benefits?
 - What will be different/improved?
 - What are you going to do?
- Budget and Narrative
- Attachments

TIPS FOR WRITING WINNING PROPOSALS

- •Follow guidelines perfectly (font, size, margins, page numbers, spacing, etc.)
- Demonstrate your expertise
- Make reference to models of service
- •Include qualifications of staff resumes
- Strong measurement outcomes evaluation
- Relevant project budget goals and objectives

GRANT REVIEWER TIPS

- Subject matter experts, providers, expert grantwriters
- Read everything: Score 1-100, 1-60, etc.
- Pay attention to scoring allocation
- Prepare accurate Table of Contents
- Tell your story
- Do not exceed page limit

MORE TIPS

- Thorough budget and budget narrative
- Measurable objectives
- Use professional if you need one
- Ask for copy of review score/comments
- Obtain copy of winning proposal





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-Vice President, Development, Atlanta

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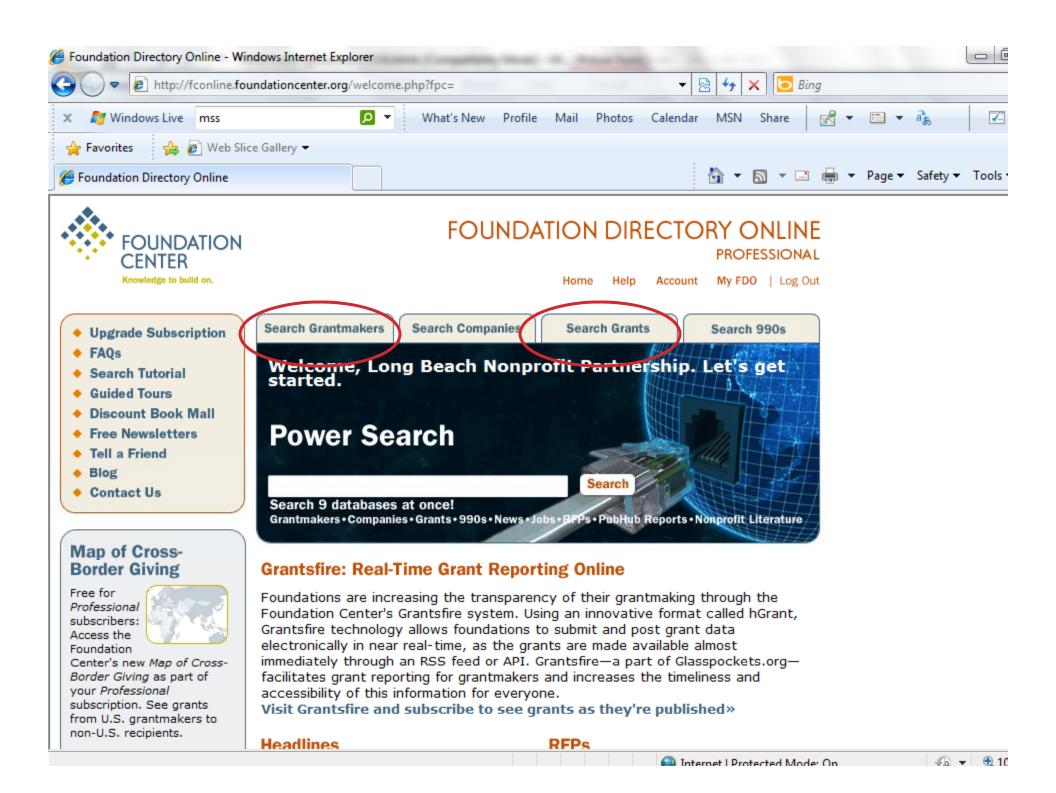
Take a Tour

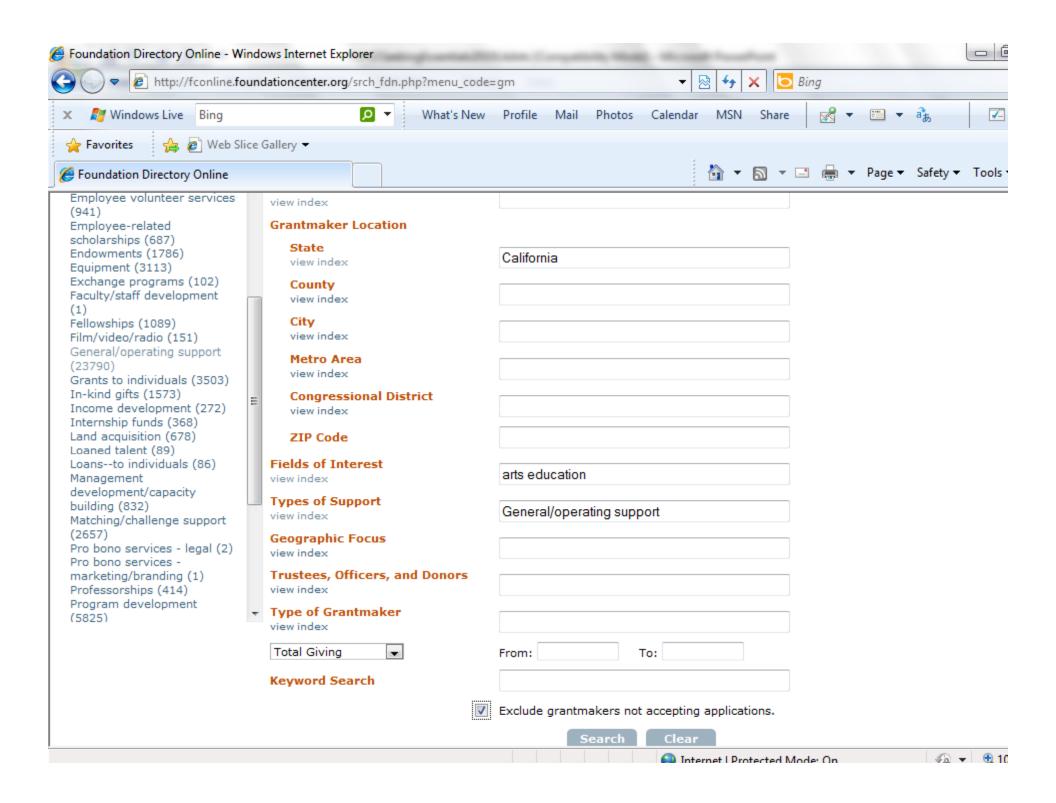
View Sample Profile

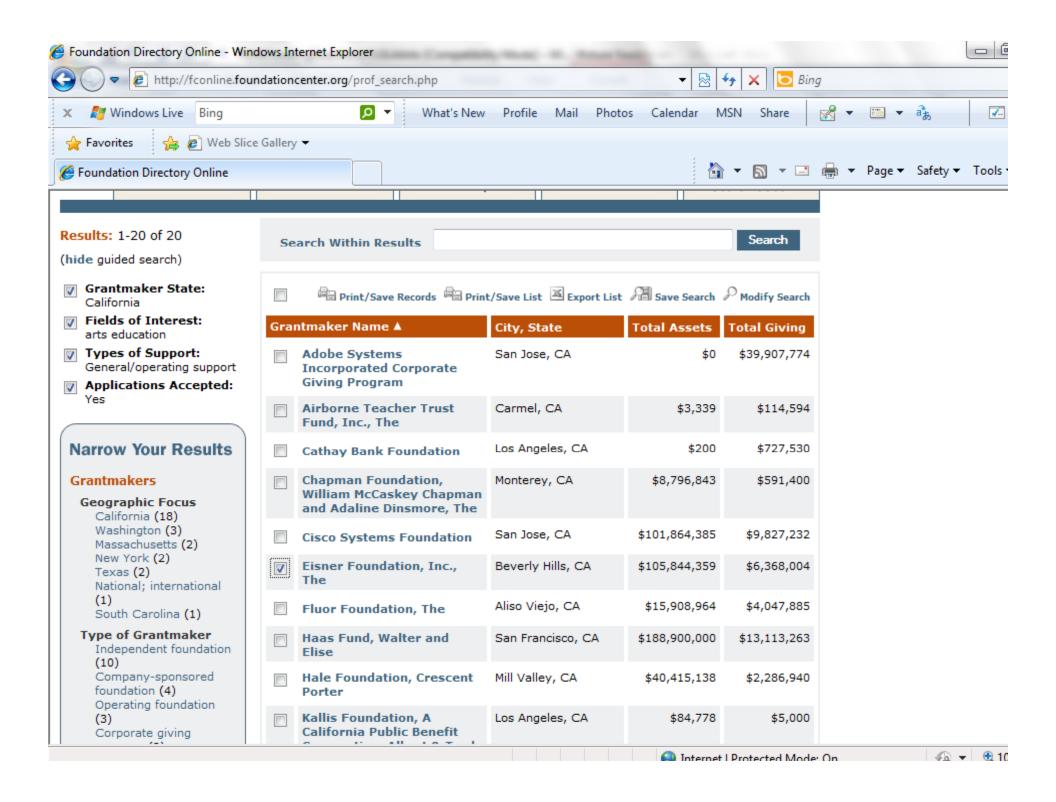
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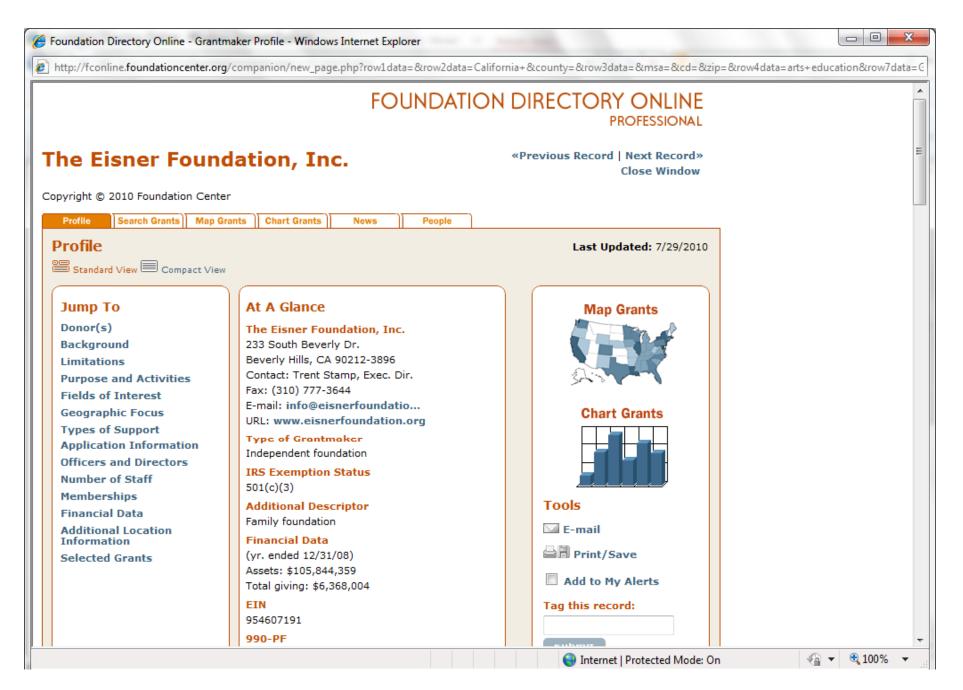


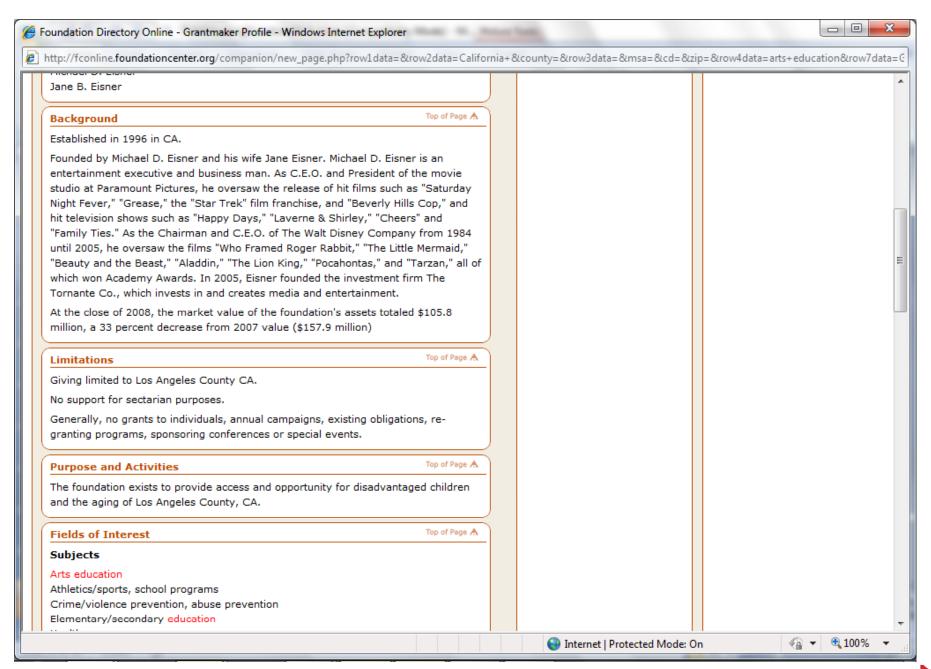
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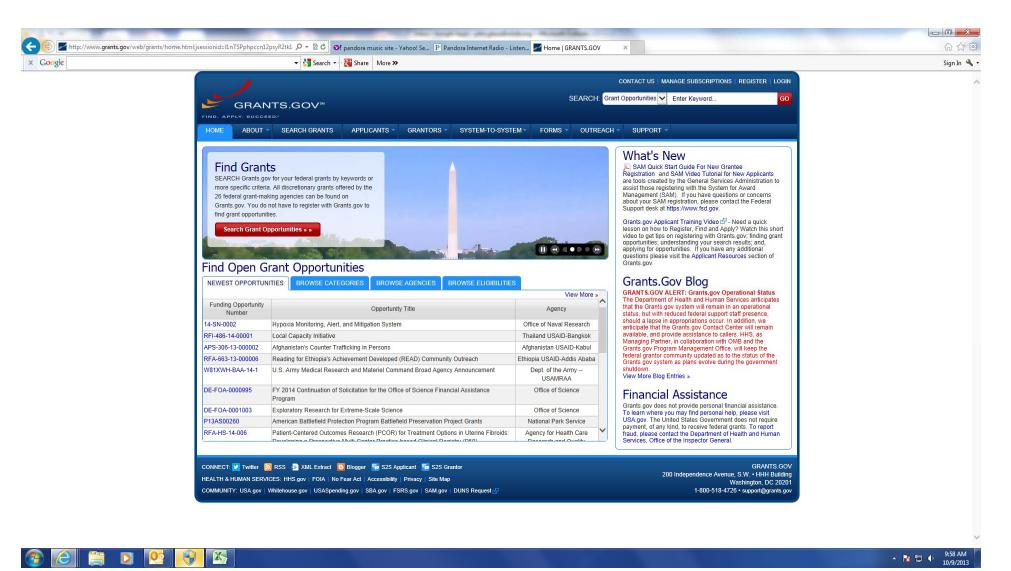




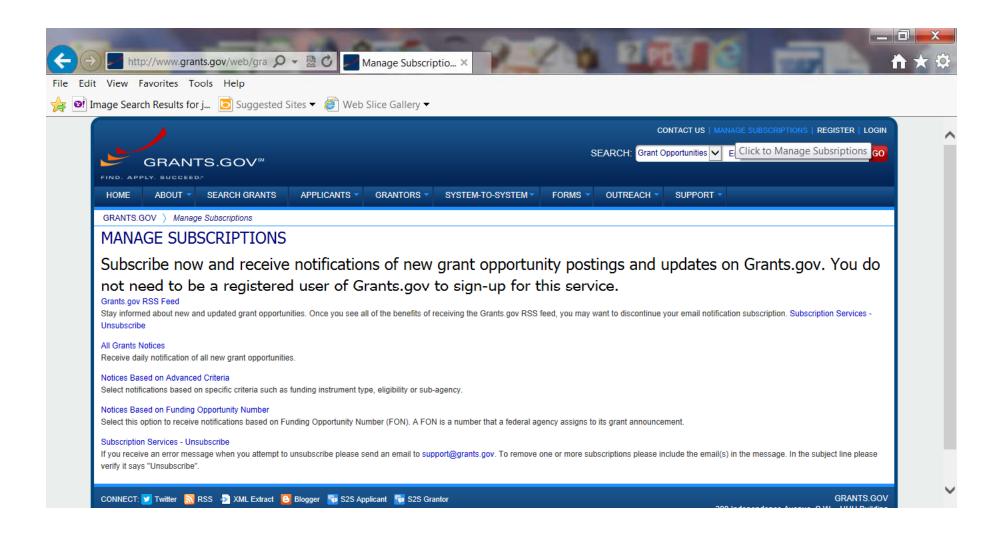




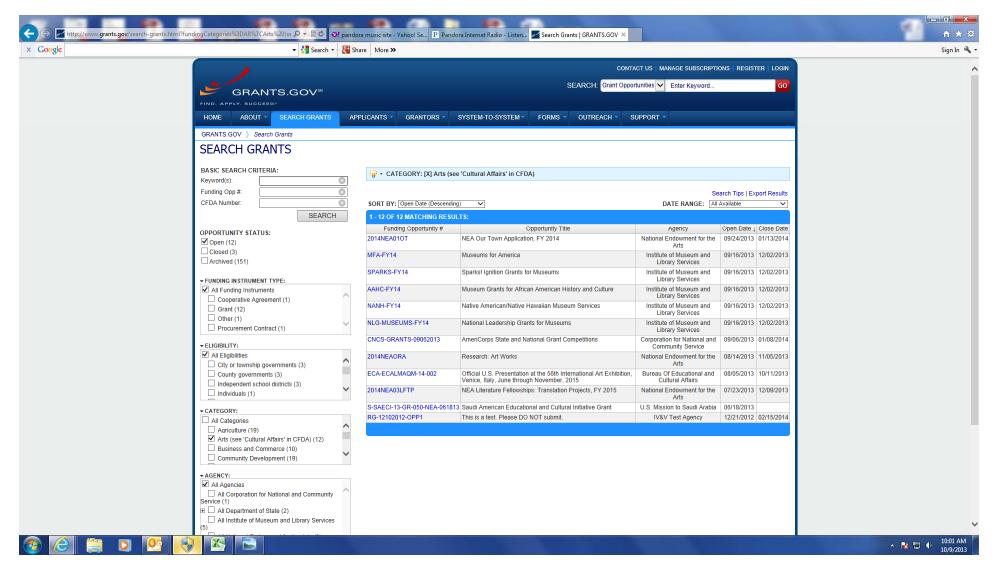
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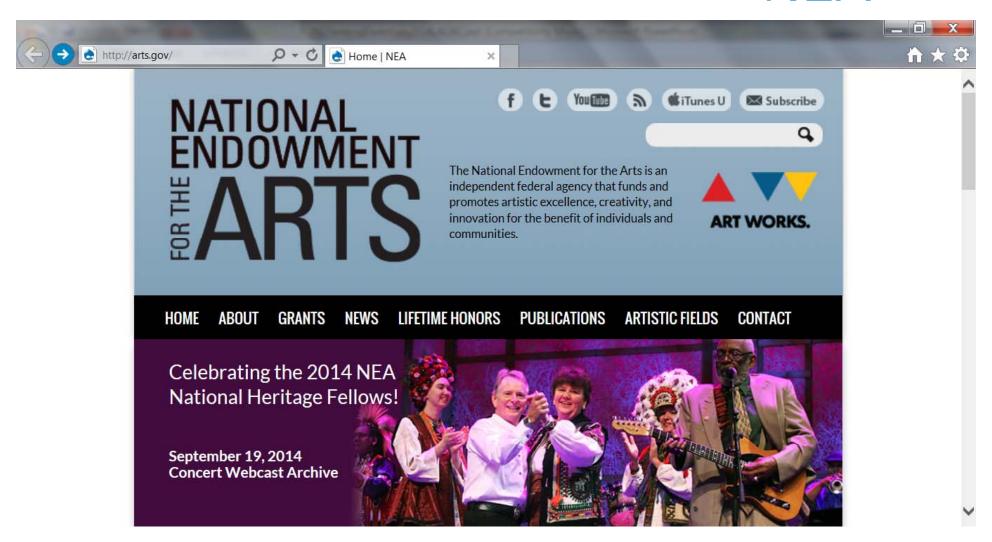




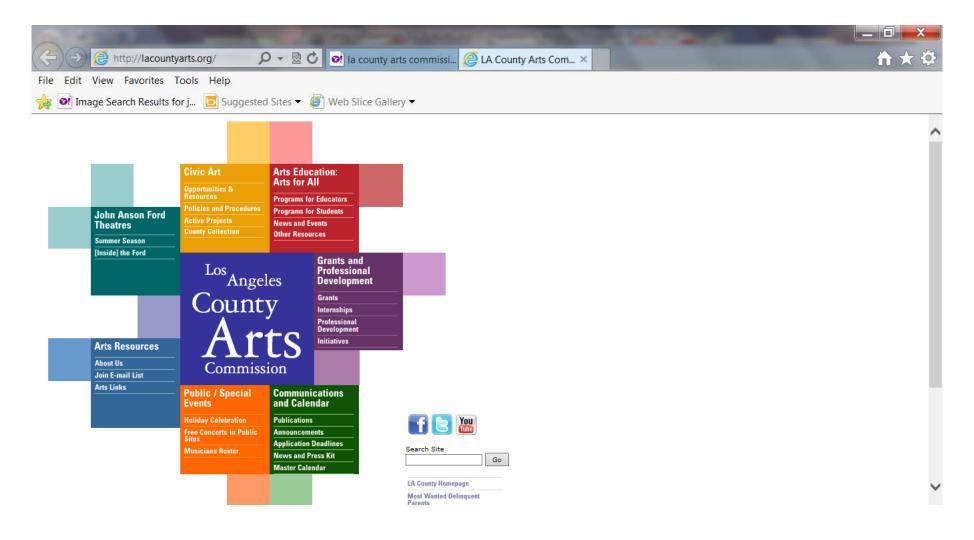
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NEA



LA COUNTY ARTS COMMISSION



FINAL THOUGHT....

Funders need to give away their money...

why not you?