## TRUMP'S SPENDING PLAN



Alena Zhang from Dance Centre North in "Dasher's Magical Gift," a production sponsored by CNY Arts, whose funding is targeted. *Matt Hutchinson Photography* 

## Money 'crisis' looms for arts, humanities

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Arts and education groups in Central New York lose out on hundreds of thousands of dollars in the federal budget proposed by President Donald Trump.

Trump would eliminate the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Company for Public Broadcasting and the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

Together, those four agencies account for \$1.02 billion in the federal budget, less than 1 percent of the total. Each channels money into Central New York's non-for-profit cultural and educational organizations.

In Syracuse, cutting the NEA would have the most visible impact.

CNY Jazz Central Executive Director Larry Luttinger said eliminating the NEA would create an "existential crisis" for local arts organizations like his.

"The overall domino effect from this action would be devastating," he said. "It's challenging enough running an arts organization in Central New York. We don't need a tsunami."

Over the last 10 years, the NEA has awarded more than \$1 million to local organizations, including CNY Jazz, CNY Arts, the Erie Canal Museum, Light Work, the Everson Museum, Syracuse Stage, the Redhouse and Syracuse Opera, among others.

Additionally, about 40 percent of the NEA's funding goes to the New York State Council on the Arts, which last year distributed \$751,675 to local arts groups, including the Everson Museum, the Onondaga Historical Association and the YMCA.

Light Work, a non-for-profit group that supports photographers, has been receiving NEA grants since the 1970s, including \$40,000 this year to support an artist-in-residence program. Executive Director Jeffrey Hoone said the money is a small part of the organization's budget, but is used to leverage other investment.

"Grants are done through peer review — you're in competition across the country," he said. "When you get a grant, it means you've met a certain standard of excellence. That's important in getting other funders to give money."

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