

RESOURCES FOR CHANGE

FISCAL YEAR 2001 FACTS AND FIGURES Resources for Changes

Dollar Amount of
Resources for Change
Grants: \$3,099,000

In FY 2001, the National Endowment for the Arts funded a new program, Resources for Change—a series of initiatives designed to address the organizational development needs of arts organizations. The first series of grants focused on technology and assisting nonprofit arts organizations in applying technology to enhance their business operations and better serve their audiences. Projects included developing or adapting software; developing archival, documentation, and preservation standards and techniques; adapting technology developed for the commercial world to the nonprofit world; and enhancing the arts experience of audience members with special needs. The NEA awarded 25 grants to nonprofit organizations in 15 states.



Michael Tilson Thomas of the New World Symphony in Miami Beach, Florida conducts a seminar via Internet2 with student conductors and an ensemble at Columbia University in New York in October 2001. *Image courtesy of New World Symphony*

NEW WORLD SYMPHONY IN FLORIDA EXPLORES NEW TECHNOLOGY FOR MUSICAL EDUCATION

Established in 1986, the New World Symphony (NWS) in Miami Beach, Florida, is a unique orchestral academy that offers an intensive three-year fellowship program for aspiring classical musicians and conductors. NWS annually invites stellar artists from world-renowned institutions to coach fellows on musical technique.

Since 1996, NWS has been investigating ways to extend the benefits of its educational activities through real-time distance learning. This investigation led to NWS becoming an affiliate member of the Internet2 community in 2000. Internet2 is a high-speed Internet system with an extremely wide bandwidth, allowing high fidelity communication that eliminates time delays and loss of sound quality in transmission.

This technology is crucial to long-distance musical training. Internet2 has been used mainly for educational experimentation in engineering and science, but NWS will explore the possibilities of teaching and community outreach using this promising system.

In FY 2001, NWS received a \$200,000 NEA Resources for Change grant to support its use of Internet2 for master classes, auditions, and coaching and rehearsal sessions among participants across the country. NWS will be able to provide its educational programs with greater ease and less cost by eliminating expenses for transporting instructors and guest artists to students—or students traveling to auditions and training sessions. NWS also will be able to reach more people with its outreach activities, which currently serve approximately 11,500 children, and with its free concerts, which are attended by an estimated 38,000 people.

NWS plans over the next three years to create a pilot project involving Internet2 connections with three universities: the University of Mississippi at Jackson, Indiana University, and Yale University. Activities will include coaching student musicians, providing access to NWS master classes, and accessing online libraries of printed and digitally recorded music for study and concert preparation.