

multiplied by 19 trading days, resulting in a subsidy of \$190.<sup>14</sup>

When computing the threshold amounts, the Exchange intends to first count all customer-to-customer transactions and then all other customer-to-non-customer transactions.<sup>15</sup>

The Exchange also proposes to eliminate the floor brokerage assessment that is set forth on the Exchange's fee schedule in several places, specifically the Summary of Equity Option and RUT and RMN Charges, the Summary of Index Option Charges, the Summary of U.S. Dollar-Settled Foreign Currency Option Charges, and the Summary of Physical Delivery Currency Option Charges.

The Exchange states that purpose of providing for a subsidy and deleting the floor brokerage assessment is to attract additional floor brokerage business to the Exchange, which should, in turn, attract more consistent liquidity as the Exchange's market share increases. The purpose of deleting the floor brokerage assessment on the Summary of Physical Delivery Currency Option Charges is to delete a fee that is deemed no longer necessary by the Exchange at this time.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>14</sup> This example assumes that the threshold requirements have been met and the average daily customer-to-customer transactions are less than 75,001 contracts, which means that the subsidy will be paid starting with contract 75,001. To illustrate a subsidy covering two tiers, (again assuming the threshold requirements have been met (2,200,000 eligible contracts/20 days = 110,000, the average daily contract volume) and the average daily customer-to-customer transactions are less than 75,001 contracts), if a member organization has 2,200,000 eligible contracts in a month with 20 trading days, that member organization would receive \$0.01 per contract on 25,000 customer-to-non-customer contracts multiplied by 20 trading days, with the remaining 10,000 contracts receiving \$0.04 per contract multiplied by 20 trading days. Thus, that member organization would receive a subsidy for that month totaling \$13,000. To further illustrate the impact of customer-to-customer volume, assuming the threshold requirements have been met and the average daily customer-to-customer transactions are 85,000 contracts, if a member organization has 2,200,000 eligible contracts in a month with 20 trading days, that member organization would receive \$0.01 per contract on 15,000 customer-to-non-customer contracts multiplied by 20 trading days, with the remaining 10,000 contracts receiving \$0.04 per contract multiplied by 20 trading days. Thus, that member organization would receive a subsidy for that month totaling \$11,000.

<sup>15</sup> The exchange believes that this method of calculation should therefore help member organizations with Exchange registered floor brokers to maximize the subsidy that is paid to them because customer-to-customer transactions will help the member organization reach the threshold requirements and then qualifying transactions after the threshold requirements are met will be paid the applicable per contract subsidy. See footnotes 13 and 14 above for specific examples.

<sup>16</sup> To clarify, the floor broker subsidy set forth in this proposal does not apply to the physical

The Exchange represents that this proposal should not adversely affect its commitment of resources to its regulatory oversight program.

#### *B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition*

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

#### *C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others*

No written comments were solicited or received with respect to the proposed rule change.

### **III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action**

The foregoing proposed rule change has been designated as a fee change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act<sup>17</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(2)<sup>18</sup> thereunder, because it establishes or changes a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the Exchange. Accordingly, the proposal will take effect upon filing with the Commission. At any time within 60 days of the filing of such proposed rule change the Commission may summarily abrogate such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

### **IV. Solicitation of Comments**

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

#### *Electronic Comments*

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an e-mail to [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include File Number SR-Phlx-2008-08 on the subject line.

#### *Paper Comments*

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Nancy M. Morris, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission,

delivery currency options, as those options are not entered into FBMS.

<sup>17</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

<sup>18</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-Phlx-2008-08. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet Web site (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for inspection and copying in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-Phlx-2008-08 and should be submitted on or before February 28, 2008.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>19</sup>

**Florence E. Harmon,**

*Deputy Secretary.*

[FR Doc. E8-2245 Filed 2-6-08; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 8011-01-P**

## **DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

[Public Notice 6092]

### **Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA)**

*Request for Grant Proposals: Summer Institute for European Student Leaders.*

*Announcement Type: New Cooperative Agreement.*

*Funding Opportunity Number: ECA/A/E/EUR 08-04.*

*Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 00.000.*

*Key Dates: May 7, 2008-January 1, 2009.*

<sup>19</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

*Application Deadline:* March 17, 2008.

*Executive Summary:* The Office of Academic Exchange Programs, European and Eurasian Programs Branch (ECA/A/E/EUR) announces an open competition for a five-week Summer Institute for European Student Leaders. Accredited, post-secondary educational institutions in the United States may submit proposals to administer the program.

The Summer Institute for European Student Leaders will offer a group of twenty young Europeans from a broad range of ethnic, religious and socio-economic backgrounds the opportunity to learn about the United States and build leadership skills during a five-week program on an American campus. The Fulbright Commissions in Denmark, France, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom will recruit participants who are first- or second-year undergraduate students or recent high school graduates who will enter university in fall 2008. The goals of the Institute are to promote study and learning about the United States, leadership development, and civic engagement through academic coursework and participatory activities that will serve the participants in their academic and professional careers and to promote mutual understanding between the United States and their home countries. ECA anticipates that program dates will be for the approximate period of July 13–August 16, 2008.

### **I. Funding Opportunity Description**

**Authority:** Overall grant making authority for this program is contained in the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, Public Law 87–256, as amended, also known as the Fulbright-Hays Act. The purpose of the Act is “to enable the Government of the United States to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries \* \* \*; to strengthen the ties which unite us with other nations by demonstrating the educational and cultural interests, developments, and achievements of the people of the United States and other nations \* \* \* and thus to assist in the development of friendly, sympathetic and peaceful relations between the United States and the other countries of the world.” The funding authority for the program above is provided through legislation.

*Purpose:* The purpose of the Summer Institute for European Student Leaders is to provide undergraduate students from a broad range of ethnic, religious, geographic, and socioeconomic backgrounds, the opportunity to learn about the United States and to

participate in coursework that will serve them well in their academic and professional careers. The program will allow participants to explore the concepts of leadership and civic engagement from American perspectives. Please refer to the Project Objectives, Goals, and Implementation (POGI) document for the complete program description.

*Guidelines:* The program should be designed to support the following components:

(a) An academic program that will introduce participants to the important events, people, and documents that have shaped the United States and contemporary American life. The host institution is encouraged to identify or develop an academic course that Institute participants can take together with American students at the university.

(b) A cultural component that complements and reinforces the academic component. Activities should include visits to historical and cultural sites of interest and participation in extra-curricular activities that will allow an optimal level of interaction with American peers. This component should include plans for participants to be engaged in a community service activity one to two hours per week.

(c) An English language component designed to strengthen the English proficiency of all participants. While all program activities should aim to promote English-language learning, preparations should be in place to assist students through one-on-one or small group tutorials. Institute participants will be required to take the Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) administered by American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). The host institution will work with ACTFL to administer the OPI to participants before they depart Europe for the United States. The one-on-one and/or small group tutorials should be held at least three times a week throughout the duration of the Institute and will be mandatory for those participants deemed to require additional language instruction based on the OPI assessment.

(d) A U.S. student mentor program. The host institution should retain four qualified U.S. mentors/escorts (upper division or graduate students) who exhibit cultural sensitivity and an understanding of the Institute’s objectives to serve as cultural interpreters and accompany the participants throughout the program. The mentors should reside in the dormitories or other campus housing with the participants.

Applicants should take into account that the participants may not be familiar with the American student-centered classroom approach and will have varying degrees of experience in expressing their opinions in a classroom environment. All aspects of the Institute program should be designed to encourage the students to interact with each other and American counterparts.

ECA anticipates that the participants will travel to the United States and directly to the host institution campus on approximately Sunday, July 13, 2008, and depart for Europe from Washington, DC, on Thursday, August 14, 2008. Round-trip international travel will be booked and paid for by the participating Fulbright Commissions.

*Please note that in a cooperative agreement, ECA/A/E/EUR is substantially involved in program activities above and beyond routine grant monitoring. ECA/A/E/EUR’s activities and responsibilities for this program are as follows:*

- ECA will select participants who are nominated by the participating Fulbright Commissions.
- ECA will facilitate sending pre-arrival orientation materials electronically to participants via the participating Fulbright Commissions.
- ECA will enroll all participants in the Accident and Sickness and Sickness Program for Exchanges (ASPE). This health benefits program will be of no cost to the host institution. The participants will be responsible for the co-pays for medical treatment.
- ECA will issue DS–2019s for the participants to enter the United States on J-visas.
- ECA will organize a debriefing session in Washington, DC, at the conclusion of the Institute. All costs for the debriefing (travel to Washington, lodging, meals) will be the responsibility of the host institution and should be included in the proposal budget.
- ECA will provide the host institution with biographical information about the participants and their travel itineraries.
- ECA will be available to provide additional guidance and consultation.

*Proposal Contents:* Applicants should submit a complete and thorough proposal describing the program in a convincing and comprehensive manner. Since there is no opportunity for applicants to meet with reviewing officials, the proposal should respond to the criteria set forth in the solicitation and other guidelines as clearly as possible.

## II. Award Information

*Type of Award:* ECA's level of involvement in this program is listed under number I above.

*Fiscal Year Funds:* 2008.

*Approximate Total Funding:* \$180,000.

*Approximate Number of Awards:* 1.

*Anticipated Award Date:* May 7, 2008.

*Anticipated Project Completion Date:* January 1, 2009.

*Additional Information:* Pending successful implementation of this program and the availability of funds in subsequent fiscal years, it is ECA's intent to renew this grant for two additional fiscal years, before openly competing it again.

## III. Eligibility Information

*III.1. Eligible applicants:* Applications may be submitted by public and private non-profit organizations meeting the provisions described in Internal Revenue Code section 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3).

*III.2. Cost Sharing or Matching Funds:* There is no minimum or maximum percentage required for this competition. However, the Bureau encourages applicants to provide maximum levels of cost sharing and funding in support of its programs.

When cost sharing is offered, it is understood and agreed that the applicant must provide the amount of cost sharing as stipulated in its proposal and later included in an approved grant agreement. Cost sharing may be in the form of allowable direct or indirect costs. For accountability, you must maintain written records to support all costs which are claimed as your contribution, as well as costs to be paid by the Federal government. Such records are subject to audit. The basis for determining the value of cash and in-kind contributions must be in accordance with OMB Circular A-110, (Revised), Subpart C.23—Cost Sharing and Matching. In the event you do not provide the minimum amount of cost sharing as stipulated in the approved budget, ECA's contribution will be reduced in like proportion.

### III.3. Other Eligibility Requirements

(a) Bureau grant guidelines require that organizations with less than four years experience in conducting international exchanges be limited to \$60,000 in Bureau funding. ECA anticipates awarding one grant, in an amount up to \$180,000 to support program and administrative costs required to implement this exchange program. Therefore, organizations with less than four years experience in

conducting international exchanges are ineligible to apply under this competition. The Bureau encourages applicants to provide maximum levels of cost sharing and funding in support of its programs.

## IV. Application and Submission Information

**Note:** Please read the complete announcement before sending inquiries or submitting proposals. Once the RFGP deadline has passed, Bureau staff may not discuss this competition with applicants until the proposal review process has been completed.

### IV.1. Contact Information to Request an Application Package:

Please contact the *Office of Academic Exchange Programs, European and Eurasian Programs, U.S. Department of State, SA-44, 301 4th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20547, 202-453-8524* to request a Solicitation Package. Please refer to the Funding Opportunity Number *ECA/A/E/EUR 08-04* located at the top of this announcement when making your request. Alternatively, an electronic application package may be obtained from grants.gov. Please see section IV.3f for further information.

The Solicitation Package contains the Proposal Submission Instruction (PSI) document which consists of required application forms, and standard guidelines for proposal preparation.

It also contains the Project Objectives, Goals and Implementation (POGI) document, which provides specific information, award criteria and budget instructions tailored to this competition.

Please specify *Carolina Chavez, Program Officer*, and refer to the Funding Opportunity Number (*ECA/A/E/EUR 08-04*) located at the top of this announcement on all other inquiries and correspondence.

### IV.2. To Download a Solicitation Package Via Internet

The entire Solicitation Package may be downloaded from the Bureau's Web site at <http://exchanges.state.gov/education/rfgps/menu.htm>, or from the Grants.gov Web site at <http://www.grants.gov>.

*Please read all information before downloading.*

### IV.3. Content and Form of Submission

Applicants must follow all instructions in the Solicitation Package. The application should be submitted per the instructions under IV.3f. "Application Deadline and Methods of Submission" section below.

*IV.3a.* You are required to have a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal

Numbering System (DUNS) number to apply for a grant or cooperative agreement from the U.S. Government. This number is a nine-digit identification number, which uniquely identifies business entities. Obtaining a DUNS number is easy and there is no charge. To obtain a DUNS number, access <http://www.dunandbradstreet.com> or call 1-866-705-5711. Please ensure that your DUNS number is included in the appropriate box of the SF-424 which is part of the formal application package.

*IV.3b.* All proposals must contain an executive summary, proposal narrative and budget. Please refer to the Solicitation Package. It contains the mandatory Proposal Submission Instructions (PSI) document and the Project Objectives, Goals and Implementation (POGI) document for additional formatting and technical requirements.

*IV.3c.* You must have nonprofit status with the IRS at the time of application. If your organization is a private nonprofit which has not received a grant or cooperative agreement from ECA in the past three years, or if your organization received nonprofit status from the IRS within the past four years, you must submit the necessary documentation to verify nonprofit status as directed in the PSI document. Failure to do so will cause your proposal to be declared technically ineligible.

*IV.3d.* Please take into consideration the following information when preparing your proposal narrative:

#### *IV.3d.1 ADHERENCE TO ALL REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE J VISA*

The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs places critically important emphases on the security and proper administration of the Exchange Visitor (J visa) Programs and adherence by grantees and sponsors to all regulations governing the J visa. Therefore, proposals should demonstrate the applicant's capacity to meet all requirements governing the administration of the Exchange Visitor Programs as set forth in 22 CFR 62, including the oversight of Responsible Officers and Alternate Responsible Officers, screening and selection of program participants, provision of pre-arrival information and orientation to participants, monitoring of participants, proper maintenance and security of forms, record-keeping, reporting and other requirements. ECA will be responsible for issuing DS-2019 forms to participants in this program.

A copy of the complete regulations governing the administration of Exchange Visitor (J) programs is

available at <http://exchanges.state.gov> or from:

United States Department of State, Office of Exchange Coordination and Designation, ECA/EC/ECD—SA—44, Room 734, 301 4th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20547, Telephone: (202) 203-5029, FAX: (202) 453-8640.

Please refer to Solicitation Package for further information.

#### *IV.3d.2 Diversity, Freedom and Democracy Guidelines*

Pursuant to the Bureau's authorizing legislation, programs must maintain a non-political character and should be balanced and representative of the diversity of American political, social, and cultural life. "Diversity" should be interpreted in the broadest sense and encompass differences including, but not limited to ethnicity, race, gender, religion, geographic location, socio-economic status, and disabilities.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to adhere to the advancement of this principle both in program administration and in program content. Please refer to the review criteria under the 'Support for Diversity' section for specific suggestions on incorporating diversity into your proposal. Public Law 104-319 provides that "in carrying out programs of educational and cultural exchange in countries whose people do not fully enjoy freedom and democracy," the Bureau "shall take appropriate steps to provide opportunities for participation in such programs to human rights and democracy leaders of such countries." Public Law 106-113 requires that the governments of the countries described above do not have inappropriate influence in the selection process. Proposals should reflect advancement of these goals in their program contents, to the full extent deemed feasible.

#### *IV.3d.3. Program Monitoring and Evaluation*

Proposals must include a plan to monitor and evaluate the project's success, both as the activities unfold and at the end of the program. The Bureau recommends that your proposal include a draft survey questionnaire or other technique plus a description of a methodology to use to link outcomes to original project objectives. The Bureau expects that the grantee will track participants or partners and be able to respond to key evaluation questions, including satisfaction with the program, learning as a result of the program, changes in behavior as a result of the program, and effects of the program on institutions (institutions in which participants work or partner institutions). The evaluation plan should include indicators that measure

gains in mutual understanding as well as substantive knowledge.

Successful monitoring and evaluation depend heavily on setting clear goals and outcomes at the outset of a program. Your evaluation plan should include a description of your project's objectives, your anticipated project outcomes, and how and when you intend to measure these outcomes (performance indicators). The more that outcomes are "smart" (specific, measurable, attainable, results-oriented, and placed in a reasonable time frame), the easier it will be to conduct the evaluation. You should also show how your project objectives link to the goals of the program described in this RFGP.

Your monitoring and evaluation plan should clearly distinguish between program *outputs* and *outcomes*. *Outputs* are products and services delivered, often stated as an amount. Output information is important to show the scope or size of project activities, but it cannot substitute for information about progress towards outcomes or the results achieved. Examples of outputs include the number of people trained or the number of seminars conducted. *Outcomes*, in contrast, represent specific results a project is intended to achieve and is usually measured as an extent of change. Findings on outputs and outcomes should both be reported, but the focus should be on outcomes.

We encourage you to assess the following four levels of outcomes, as they relate to the program goals set out in the RFGP (listed here in increasing order of importance):

1. Participant satisfaction with the program and exchange experience.
2. Participant learning, such as increased knowledge, aptitude, skills, and changed understanding and attitude. Learning includes both substantive (subject-specific) learning and mutual understanding.
3. Participant behavior, concrete actions to apply knowledge in work or community; greater participation and responsibility in civic organizations; interpretation and explanation of experiences and new knowledge gained; continued contacts between participants, community members, and others.
4. Institutional changes, such as increased collaboration and partnerships, policy reforms, new programming, and organizational improvements.

**Please note:** Consideration should be given to the appropriate timing of data collection for each level of outcome. For example, satisfaction is usually captured as a short-term outcome, whereas behavior and

institutional changes are normally considered longer-term outcomes.

Overall, the quality of your monitoring and evaluation plan will be judged on how well it (1) specifies intended outcomes; (2) gives clear descriptions of how each outcome will be measured; (3) identifies when particular outcomes will be measured; and (4) provides a clear description of the data collection strategies for each outcome (i.e., surveys, interviews, or focus groups). (Please note that evaluation plans that deal only with the first level of outcomes [satisfaction] will be deemed less competitive under the present evaluation criteria.)

Grantees will be required to provide reports analyzing their evaluation findings to the Bureau in their regular program reports. All data collected, including survey responses and contact information, must be maintained for a minimum of three years and provided to the Bureau upon request.

*IV.3e. Please take the following information into consideration when preparing your budget:*

*IV.3e.1.* Applicants must submit a comprehensive budget for the entire program. Budget requests may not exceed \$180,000. There must be a summary budget as well as breakdowns reflecting both administrative and program budgets. Applicants may provide separate sub-budgets for each program component, phase, location, or activity to provide clarification.

#### *IV.3f. Application Deadline and Methods of Submission:*

*Application Deadline Date:* March 17, 2008.

*Reference Number:* ECA/A/E/EUR 08-04.

#### *Methods of Submission:*

Applications may be submitted in one of two ways:

- (1) In hard-copy, via a nationally recognized overnight delivery service (i.e., DHL, Federal Express, UPS, Airborne Express, or U.S. Postal Service Express Overnight Mail, etc.), or
- (2) Electronically through <http://www.grants.gov>.

Along with the Project Title, all applicants must enter the above Reference Number in Box 11 on the SF-424 contained in the mandatory Proposal Submission Instructions (PSI) of the solicitation document.

#### *IV.3f.1. Submitting Printed Applications*

Applications must be shipped no later than the above deadline. Delivery services used by applicants must have in-place, centralized shipping identification and tracking systems that may be accessed via the Internet and

delivery people who are identifiable by commonly recognized uniforms and delivery vehicles. Proposals shipped on or before the above deadline but received at ECA more than seven days after the deadline will be ineligible for further consideration under this competition. Proposals shipped after the established deadlines are ineligible for consideration under this competition. ECA will *not* notify you upon receipt of application. It is each applicant's responsibility to ensure that each package is marked with a legible tracking number and to monitor/confirm delivery to ECA via the Internet. Delivery of proposal packages *may not* be made via local courier service or in person for this competition. Faxed documents will not be accepted at any time. Only proposals submitted as stated above will be considered.

**Important note:** When preparing your submission please make sure to include one extra copy of the completed SF-424 form and place it in an envelope addressed to "ECA/EX/PM".

The original and 8 copies of the application should be sent to: U.S. Department of State, SA-44, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Ref.: ECA/A/E/EUR-08-04, Program Management, ECA/EX/PM, Room 534, 301 4th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20547.

Applicants submitting hard-copy applications must also submit the "Executive Summary" and "Proposal Narrative" sections of the proposal in a Microsoft Word format on a CD-ROM.

**IV.3f.2.—Submitting Electronic Applications** Applicants have the option of submitting proposals electronically through *Grants.gov* (<http://www.grants.gov>). Complete solicitation packages are available at *Grants.gov* in the "Find" portion of the system. Please follow the instructions available in the "Get Started" portion of the site (<http://www.grants.gov/GetStarted>).

Several of the steps in the *Grants.gov* registration process could take several weeks. Therefore, applicants should check with appropriate staff within their organizations immediately after reviewing this RFGP to confirm or determine their registration status with *Grants.gov*. Once registered, the amount of time it can take to upload an application will vary depending on a variety of factors including the size of the application and the speed of your Internet connection. Therefore, we strongly recommend that you not wait until the application deadline to begin the submission process through *Grants.gov*.

Direct all questions regarding *Grants.gov* registration and submission to: *Grants.gov* Customer Support, Contact Center Phone: 800-518-4726, Business Hours: Monday-Friday, 7 a.m.-9 p.m. Eastern Time, E-mail: [support@Grants.gov](mailto:support@Grants.gov).

Applicants have until midnight (12 a.m.), Washington, DC time of the closing date to ensure that their entire application has been uploaded to the *Grants.gov* site. There are no exceptions to the above deadline. Applications uploaded to the site after midnight of the application deadline date will be automatically rejected by the *Grants.gov* system, and will be technically ineligible.

Applicants will receive a confirmation e-mail from *Grants.gov* upon the successful submission of an application. ECA will *not* notify you upon receipt of electronic applications.

It is the responsibility of all applicants submitting proposals via the *Grants.gov* Web portal to ensure that proposals have been received by *Grants.gov* in their entirety, and ECA bears no responsibility for data errors resulting from transmission or conversion processes.

**IV.3g. Intergovernmental Review of Applications:** Executive Order 12372 does not apply to this program.

## V. Application Review Information

### V.1. Review Process

The Bureau will review all proposals for technical eligibility. Proposals will be deemed ineligible if they do not fully adhere to the guidelines stated herein and in the Solicitation Package. All eligible proposals will be reviewed by the program office, as well as the Public Diplomacy section overseas, where appropriate. Eligible proposals will be subject to compliance with Federal and Bureau regulations and guidelines and forwarded to Bureau grant panels for advisory review. Proposals may also be reviewed by the Office of the Legal Adviser or by other Department elements. Final funding decisions are at the discretion of the Department of State's Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs. Final technical authority for cooperative agreements resides with the Bureau's Grants Officer.

### Review Criteria

Technically eligible applications will be competitively reviewed according to the criteria stated below. These criteria are not rank ordered and all carry equal weight in the proposal evaluation:

1. **Quality of Program Idea/Plan:** Your proposal should exhibit originality,

substance, precision, and relevance to the Bureau's mission. Detailed agenda and relevant work plan should demonstrate substantive undertakings and logistical capacity.

2. **Ability To Achieve Overall Program Objectives:** Objectives should be reasonable, feasible, and flexible. Your proposal should clearly demonstrate how the institution will meet the program's objectives and plan.

3. **Support for Diversity:** Your proposal should demonstrate substantive support of the Bureau's policy on diversity. Achievable and relevant features should be cited in both program administration (selection of presenters, program venue and program evaluation) and program content (orientation and wrap-up sessions, program meetings and resource materials).

4. **Evaluation and Follow-Up:** Your proposal should include a plan to evaluate the activity's success, both as the activities unfold and at the end of the program. Your proposal should also discuss provisions made for follow-up with returned grantees as a means of establishing longer-term individual and institutional linkages.

5. **Cost-effectiveness/Cost-sharing:** The overhead and administrative components of the proposal, including salaries and honoraria, should be kept as low as possible. All other items should be necessary and appropriate. Your proposal should maximize cost-sharing through other private sector support as well as institutional direct funding contributions.

6. **Institutional Track Record/Ability:** Your proposal should demonstrate an institutional record of successful exchange programs, including responsible fiscal management and full compliance with all reporting requirements for past Bureau grants as determined by Bureau Grants Staff. The Bureau will consider the past performance of prior recipients and the demonstrated potential of new applicants. Proposed personnel and institutional resources should be fully qualified to achieve the project's goals.

## VI. Award Administration Information

**VI.1a. Award Notices:** Final awards cannot be made until funds have been appropriated by Congress, allocated and committed through internal Bureau procedures. Successful applicants will receive an Assistance Award Document (AAD) from the Bureau's Grants Office. The AAD and the original grant proposal with subsequent modifications (if applicable) shall be the only binding authorizing document between the recipient and the U.S. Government. The

AAD will be signed by an authorized Grants Officer, and mailed to the recipient's responsible officer identified in the application.

Unsuccessful applicants will receive notification of the results of the application review from the ECA program office coordinating this competition.

#### VI.2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Terms and Conditions for the Administration of ECA agreements include the following:

Office of Management and Budget Circular A-122, "Cost Principles for Nonprofit Organizations."

Office of Management and Budget Circular A-21, "Cost Principles for Educational Institutions."

OMB Circular A-87, "Cost Principles for State, Local and Indian Governments".

OMB Circular No. A-110 (Revised), Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and other Nonprofit Organizations.

OMB Circular No. A-102, Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants-in-Aid to State and Local Governments.

OMB Circular No. A-133, Audits of States, Local Government, and Non-profit Organizations

Please reference the following Web sites for additional information: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants>. <http://exchanges.state.gov/education/grantsdiv/terms.htm#articleI>.

#### VI.3. Reporting Requirements

You must provide ECA with a hard copy original plus 8 copies of the following reports:

(1) A final program and financial report no more than 90 days after the expiration of the award;

Grantees will be required to provide reports analyzing their evaluation findings to the Bureau in their regular program reports. (Please refer to IV. Application and Submission Instructions (IV.3.d.3) above for Program Monitoring and Evaluation information.)

All data collected, including survey responses and contact information, must be maintained for a minimum of three years and provided to the Bureau upon request.

All reports must be sent to the ECA Grants Officer and ECA Program Officer listed in the final assistance award document.

#### VII. Agency Contacts

For questions about this announcement, contact: Carolina Chavez, ECA/A/E/EUR, Room 246, ECA/A/E/EUR 08-04, U.S. Department of State, SA-44, 301 4th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20547, 202-453-8524, [ChavezCC@state.gov](mailto:ChavezCC@state.gov).

All correspondence with the Bureau concerning this RFGP should reference the above title and number ECA/A/E/EUR 08-03.

Please read the complete announcement before sending inquiries or submitting proposals. Once the RFGP deadline has passed, Bureau staff may not discuss this competition with applicants until the proposal review process has been completed.

#### VIII. Other Information

##### Notice

The terms and conditions published in this RFGP are binding and may not be modified by any Bureau representative. Explanatory information provided by the Bureau that contradicts published language will not be binding. Issuance of the RFGP does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government. The Bureau reserves the right to reduce, revise, or increase proposal budgets in accordance with the needs of the program and the availability of funds. Awards made will be subject to periodic reporting and evaluation requirements per section VI.3 above.

Dated: January 30, 2008.

C. Miller Crouch,

Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.

[FR Doc. E8-2268 Filed 2-6-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-05-P

#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 6093]

#### Culturally Significant Objects Imported for Exhibition Determinations: "Gilbert & George"

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given of the following determinations: Pursuant to the authority vested in me by the Act of October 19, 1965 (79 Stat. 985; 22 U.S.C. 2459), Executive Order 12047 of March 27, 1978, the Foreign Affairs Reform and Restructuring Act of 1998 (112 Stat. 2681, *et seq.*; 22 U.S.C. 6501 note, *et seq.*), Delegation of Authority No. 234 of October 1, 1999, Delegation of Authority No. 236 of October 19, 1999, as amended, and Delegation of Authority No. 257 of April 15, 2003 [68 FR 19875], I hereby determine that an object to be

included in the exhibition "Gilbert & George", imported from abroad for temporary exhibition within the United States, is of cultural significance. The object is imported pursuant to loan agreements with the foreign owners or custodians. I also determine that the exhibition or display of the exhibit object at the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, de Young Museum, San Francisco, CA, from on or about February 16, 2008, until on or about May 18, 2008, and at possible additional exhibitions or venues yet to be determined, is in the national interest. Public Notice of these Determinations is ordered to be published in the **Federal Register**.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For further information, including a list of the exhibit objects, contact Richard Lahne, Attorney-Adviser, Office of the Legal Adviser, U.S. Department of State (telephone: 202/453-8058). The address is U.S. Department of State, SA-44, 301 4th Street, SW., Room 700, Washington, DC 20547-0001.

Dated: February 1, 2008.

C. Miller Crouch,

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.

[FR Doc. E8-2272 Filed 2-6-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-05-P

#### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 6073]

#### U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy; Notice of Meeting

The U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy will hold a public meeting on February 21, 2008, in Room 602 (Lindner Family Commons) at the Elliot School of International Affairs, George Washington University, 1957 E Street NW., Washington, DC. The meeting will be held from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. The Commissioners will discuss public diplomacy issues, including the application of political communication theory, and associated disciplines, in U.S. government public diplomacy efforts.

The Advisory Commission was originally established under 604 of the United States Information and Exchange Act of 1948, as amended (22 U.S.C. 1469) and section 8 of Reorganization Plan Numbered 2 of 1977. It was reauthorized pursuant to Public Law 110-21 (2007). The Commission is a bipartisan panel created by Congress in 1948 to assess public diplomacy policies and programs of the U.S. government and publicly funded