

*Public Diplomacy Office
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Vientiane, October 28, 2016

**Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation (AFCP-2017)
Small Grants – Calling for Project Proposals**

The U.S Embassy Vientiane is accepting project proposals for the U.S. Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation (AFCP)-2017 Small Grants Competition. Grants typically range from US\$10,000 to US\$200,000 per project; the deadline for submitting proposals to the U.S. Embassy is **January 5, 2017**.

BACKGROUND: Since 2001, Congress has directed the Department of State to support and implement the U.S. Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation (AFCP). The Senate report on this bill noted that the preservation of cultural heritage offers an opportunity to show a different American face to the world, one that is non-commercial, non-political, and non-military. The AFCP has supported more than 700 projects to preserve cultural heritage in more than 100 countries around the globe including Laos.

Qualified entities are reputable and accountable non-governmental organizations, museums, ministries of culture, or similar institutions that are able to demonstrate that they have the requisite experience and capacity to manage projects to preserve cultural heritage.

Project Types:

AFCP Program supports projects to preserve cultural heritage in the following three areas:

- A. CULTURAL SITES** – such as, but no limited to, historic buildings and archaeological sites
- B. CULTURAL OBJECTS AND COLLECTIONS** – from a museum, site, or similar institution-that include, but are not limited to, archaeological and ethnographic objects, paintings, sculpture, manuscripts and general museum conservation needs; and,
- C. FORMS OF TRADITIONAL CULTURAL EXPRESSION** - such as traditional music, indigenous languages, and crafts.

Proposals for projects that meet one or more of the following criteria will receive additional consideration in FY 2017:

- Directly support U.S treaty or bilateral agreement obligations, such as cultural property protection agreements;
- Support the preservation on inscribed UNESCO World Heritage sites;
- Engage Women, youth or under-served communities.

For more detail, please visit *Website:* <https://la.usembassy.gov/afcp>

HOW TO APPLY: Applicants must submit completed project proposals to the U.S. Embassy no later than **January 5, 2017.**

Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation Office (AFCP)- 2017

Public Diplomacy Section

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