



Request for Proposals

for the

RGK Center-ARNOVA Presidents Award for 2011

The Award — The RGK Center for Philanthropy and Community Service (at the University of Texas at Austin) and the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Action [ARNOVA] offer this *annual award to encourage innovative, foundational research in the field of nonprofit and philanthropic studies*. This is not a typical research grant. The **RGK Center-ARNOVA Presidents Award** provides a \$10,000 prize to a member of ARNOVA to support basic research and theory building in the field of philanthropic, nonprofit and voluntary action studies. We are looking for new, creative work, and especially encourage projects that incorporate and apply insights, frameworks and theories from the social sciences to the study of nonprofit organizations, philanthropy and volunteerism. One award will be made each year, assuming a worthy proposal is submitted.

The Award recipient will be expected to produce a working paper that can be made available on the RGK Center website (www.rgkcenter.org) when finished, and a presentation of that paper can be made at the ARNOVA Conference the year it is completed. The recipient will be expected to produce the final paper within 12 months of the announcement of the Award.



Proposal Submission and Selection — Proposal narratives should not exceed 5 pages in length. They should describe the concepts, issues or problem to be explored, and the theoretical framework for that exploration. The author may attach a summary of literature that their project will draw on, and should include a cover letter describing the author's background and experience, and how that prepares them to undertake this research successfully. A brief budget may be submitted to explain how the awards funds will be used, if that will help clarify the design of this research.

The proposal narrative should describe the character of and approach to the research to be pursued. If it involves data gathering and analysis, the proposal should describe in some detail data sources the project will use (or develop), and the methodologies to be employed in collection and analysis. It should explain the expected significance of this research, and how it will advance a broader and deeper understand of one or more of the important elements of philanthropy, nonprofits, voluntary action or civil society.

All proposals must be submitted electronically. **The deadline for submissions will be March 21st, 2011.** *Late submissions will not be considered.* Proposals should be e-mailed to RGKPresidentsAward@arnova.org. **A copy of the proposer's *Vita* should be attached.**

An Awards Committee composed of current and former Presidents of ARNOVA will review applications, and the recipient of the Award will be notified by May 23, 2011.

Inquiries about this program can be directed to Thomas Jeavons, Executive Director of ARNOVA, at tjeavons@arnova.org.