



OREGON ARTS
COMMISSION

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Oregon Arts Commission Announces Career Opportunity Grants to Artists

The Oregon Arts Commission announces 13 awards totaling \$17,786 in this year's second round of competitive grants that support artists' efforts to advance their careers through the development of artistic, business or professional skills.

The program may be used by Oregon artists to support opportunities and activities that enable them to advance their work or the presentation of their work both in and outside the state.

"Since the Arts Commission started this program as part of its Creative Oregon Initiative two years ago, it has become increasingly clear that the funds can jump start artists' careers in ways we did not imagine. Even relatively modest investments in our artists' future can snowball into real success stories," said Arts Commissioner Henry Sayre of Bend who chaired the panel review process. The range of activities supported in this round of grants includes travel to enable artists to participate in international residencies, digital documentation of new choreography and support for new marketing strategies for visual artists.

The next online deadline for Career Opportunity grants is February 11, 2010. Guidelines are available at www.oregonartscommission.org.

The following artists were awarded Career Opportunity Grants:

Eugene

Brian Knowles, \$643

To support Knowles' materials for and transportation of a site-specific sculpture for installation at the Wiseman & Firehouse galleries at Rogue Community College in Grants Pass.

Jessie Marquez, \$1,500

To support the Cuban singer's production of a live music video, strengthening her marketing ability to gain access to more Northwest performance venues.

Portland**Susan Banyas, \$1,500**

To support the documentation of and development of marketing materials for Banyas' "The Hillsboro Story", a play produced at PlayLab in August 2009 and chosen for Seattle's regional "Fertile Ground Festival."

Addie Kay Boswell, \$1,500

To support travel to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil to complete the writing of her young adult manuscript, *Fly*. While in Rio, Boswell will participate at an artist in residence program with homeless youth, contributing to her understanding of the lives of homeless children, the subject of her book.

Christine Clark, \$1,500

To support expanded marketing strategies for Clark's metal, jewelry and sculptural work through the development and use of a new website and software.

Allen Mathews, \$1,500

To support studio recording fees for a collaborative classical guitar recording project and concert with renowned percussionist Dr. John Pennington. Pennington will assist Mathews in expanding his recording career and presenting music events.

Paula Rebsom, \$1,500

To support the purchase of equipment for "Give me a Home," an installation at the *Art Gym* at Marylhurst University which will build on the artist's experience with large scale projects, incorporating wireless video technology and allowing greater access by viewers.

Evelyn Sharenov, \$1,328

To support travel to Red Cinder, an artist in residence program in Hawaii, to allow the writer, a psychiatric nurse and therapist, to work on her manuscript, *Notes from Bedlam*.

Heidi Schwegler, \$1,500

To support travel to two visual artist residencies and exhibitions, the Beijing International Artist Platform and the Nes Residency in Iceland.

Minh Tran, \$1,500

To support video production costs to document the dancer/choreographer's performances in January 2010 which were commissioned by White Bird Dance for the "Uncaged" series.

Heather Watkins, \$1,500

To support time as an artist in residence at Caldera where she will create and document large scale work in preparation for several anticipated exhibits.

Elizabeth Woody, \$815

To support travel to Te Tihi, the 4th Annual Gathering of Indigenous Visual Artists in New Zealand an opportunity for the writer to network with indigenous artists from around the world and support new work for publication.

Veneta

K. Celeste Peterson, \$1,500

To support travel to the Dance Ability International teacher certification course in Montevideo, Uruguay, for training that will enable Peterson to teach more dance classes throughout Oregon.

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The Oregon Arts Commission believes that the arts and culture are touchstones of community and civic life and that it is essential to preserve, stabilize and develop their central role in Oregon. The Commission provides leadership, funding and arts programs through its grants, special initiatives and services. Nine commissioners, appointed by the Governor, determine arts needs and establish policies for public support of the arts. The Arts Commission became part of the Oregon Business Development Department in 1993 in recognition of the expanding role the arts play in the broader social, economic and educational arenas of Oregon communities. In 2003, the Oregon legislature moved the operations of the Oregon Cultural Trust to the Arts Commission, streamlining operations and making use of the Commission's expertise in grantmaking, arts and cultural information and community cultural development. More information about the Oregon Arts Commission is available at www.oregonartscommission.org

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