



OREGON ARTS
COMMISSION
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Oregon Arts Commission Spotlights

Arts & Community Development Projects in New Report

Arts Build Communities Artists & Arts Groups Weave a Fabric Called Community

The Oregon Arts Commission announces the publication of a new monograph in its occasional series, "Connections." *Connections: Arts Build Communities 2006* highlights arts and community projects supported through the Commission's 2006 *Arts Build Communities* grant program. It profiles 22 ABC projects, undertaken between January 1 and December 31, 2006. Those 2006 projects invested a total of \$96,400 in underserved communities.

Christine D'Arcy, executive director of the Arts Commission, created the *Arts Build Communities* program in Oregon in 1996. It has since become nationally recognized for its power to create meaningful, collaborative projects of significant benefit to communities. ABC grants also serve as catalysts for other grant money to advance economic and community development through artistic projects.

Connections: Arts Build Communities showcases six particularly significant projects while offering snapshots of another 13. The six profile projects are:

- "Taking the Beast (and Beauty too) in Douglas County," an annual summer musical production at Umpqua Community College;
- "Finding Hidden (and Unhidden) Treasure in Salem," a collaboration between the Salem Art Association and the Mary Lou Zeek Gallery that exposed Salem's architectural details;
- "Remembering the Maestro of Agate Beach," a project documenting composer Ernest Bloch's creative life on the Oregon coast;
- "Capturing Animals and Art on the Cascade Canyon Trail," an art project at the Oregon Zoo;
- "Taking Art for a Ride in Central Oregon," the story of Van Go, Art Central's mobile art studio; and

- “Moving to the Rhythm of Life in Mosier,” a small school’s arts education efforts.

Connections: Arts Build Communities 2006 is available, without charge, by calling 503-986-0082 or emailing Oregon@artscomm.state.or.us . The publication is available online at http://www.oregonartscommission.org/pdf/ABC_2007_Monograph.pdf

Arts Build Communities grants range from \$3000 to \$7000. The application deadline for 2008 projects is October 2, 2007. The grant guidelines and application are posted at http://www.oregonartscommission.org/doc/ABC_guidelines_app.doc

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The Oregon Arts 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 Economic 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. The Arts Commission is supported with general funds appropriated by the Oregon legislature and with federal funds from the National Endowment for the Arts as well as funds from the Oregon Cultural Trust.

More information about the Oregon Arts Commission is available online at: www.oregonartscommission.org

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