



OREGON ARTS
COMMISSION

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**\$200,000 in Arts Learning grants awarded to 24 arts organizations;
Grants support residencies, teacher training and classes**

A total of 24 Oregon arts organizations have received \$200,000 in 2015 Arts Learning grants to support arts education projects across the state. The grants were approved at the June 27 Oregon Arts Commission meeting, held at Newberg's Chehalem Cultural Center.

The grants range from \$4,200, to Columbia Gorge Arts in Education for a year-long fashion and sports equipment design class at Hood River Valley High School, to \$12,000, for "The Geography of We: Humans, Wildlife and The Habitats We Share," a Caldera project providing 430 underserved students with intensive, year-long instruction in transmedia arts. Other grant projects include \$5,100 to the Ross Ragland Theatre to restore performing arts instruction for second through fourth graders in the Klamath County School District and \$7,700 to the Portland Children's Museum to expand its arts learning partnership with the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization.

"The variety of grant requests and projects demonstrates the capacity of art to help students learn," said Deborah Vaughn, the Arts Commission's arts education coordinator. "We applaud the creativity and collaboration behind this year's applications, and are confident that the lives of thousands of students will be enriched as a result."

Arts Learning grants are designed to: support projects that expand opportunities for K-12 students to learn in and through the arts; respond to an arts education issue; provide professional development opportunities to teaching artists, teachers and administrators; promote the arts as integral to a comprehensive education; embed meaningful evaluation practices in the project design; and include sustained and substantive interactions with students over time.

Grant applications are evaluated based on project quality and scope, project preparation and evaluation of student learning.

Organizations receiving 2015 Arts Learning grants, and their project descriptions, are:

Architecture Foundation of Oregon, Portland – \$5,700

To support an architects-in-residence program for third through fifth grade students comprised of teacher/architect training and residency preparation, six-weeks of professional architect involvement in the classroom and a public exhibit of student work.

Caldera, Portland – \$12,000

To support "The Geography of We: Humans, Wildlife, and The Habitats We Share," providing 430 underserved students with intensive, year-long instruction in transmedia arts. Students will receive instruction in storytelling techniques that range from traditional forms to cutting-edge digital media.

Columbia Gorge Arts in Education, Hood River – \$4,200

To support the Design Arts Project, bringing professional artists in the field of fashion and sports equipment design into Hood River Valley High School to work directly with students during a year-long design class.

Eugene Springfield Youth Orchestras, Eugene – \$8,800

To support an after-school, sequential music program that includes in-school enrichment activities, a curriculum aligned with in-school initiatives and intensity of instruction.

High Desert Museum, Bend – \$11,500

To support a year-long arts education program culminating in an exhibition at the Museum. An art educator will work in the schools, providing curriculum, materials and instruction.

Hollywood Theatre, Portland – \$11,500

To support an increase of the capacity of education programs at Open Meadow Middle school (OMMS) by building out an unused classroom at OMMS to create a state-of-the-art, mobile media studio.

Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, Eugene – \$10,000

To support revision of existing teacher resources, curriculum and lesson plans to meet new National Standards for the Visual Arts, Common Core and Oregon Visual Arts Standards.

Lane Arts Council, Eugene – \$7,900

To support multidisciplinary arts programs for Oaklea Middle School's sixth grade students including development of ArtCore modules, teacher training, a sustainable, school-wide strategy for the arts, increased capacity to replicate this model and understanding the impact of ArtCore on students' abilities and 21st Century Learning Skills.

Literary Arts, Portland – \$11,500To support 44 semester-long in-school creative writing residencies as part of the Writers in the Schools program across Multnomah County.

Majestic Theatre Management, Inc., Corvallis – \$9,700

To support an arts enrichment project in partnership with the Boys & Girls Club of Corvallis, Oak Creek Youth Correctional Facility & Organización de Latinas Unidas (OLU), during which stories of young women and girls will be expressed through playwrighting and performing.

Miracle Theatre Group, Portland – \$5,100

To support a year-long strategy with Evergreen Middle School in Hillsboro to create a bilingual experiential arts integrated approach for improving learning and teaching, including a teacher in-service, assemblies of bilingual theatre performances, and quarterly bilingual arts instruction.

My Voice Music Incorporated, Portland – \$5,200

To support teaching music and songwriting lessons to 103 middle and high school students at three alternative schools: Mt. Scott Learning Center, Elevate Oregon and Ackerman Academy.

Northwest Film Center, Portland – \$8,500

To support the GLOBAL CLASSROOM program, bringing the Portland International Film Festival to high school students and expanding professional development offerings.

Oregon Ballet Theatre, Portland – \$6,700

To support OBT L.A.B. (Learn About Ballet) at four schools, providing dance and integrated arts learning through six sessions over a three-week residency period, field trips to OBT studios and in-theatre performances.

Oregon Children's Theatre, Portland – \$4,700

To support the Loud and Clear program using theatrical performance techniques to teach public speaking. Teaching artists work with students through four in-school workshops and provide teachers with professional development training.

Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Ashland – \$12,000

To support three-year School Visit Partnerships in providing professional development opportunities, curricula and in-school residencies by OSF actors that include classroom workshops, assemblies and evening performances. Partnerships culminate in a three-year visit to Ashland with travel subsidies, free play tickets and free ancillary programming.

Portland Center Stage, Portland – \$12,000

To support youth education programs: Visions & Voices playwriting classes in area high schools, Stage Door matinees and workshops, and the new Alls Fair In Love And Shakespeare outreach program.

Portland Children’s Museum, Portland – \$7,700

To support an expansion of the arts learning partnership between Portland Children's Museum and the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization through family-focused arts programming such as Family Art Engagement workshops, a Family Art Night at the Museum, and museum access through family passes and a community membership.

Portland Playhouse, Portland – \$4,800

To support a Fall Festival of Shakespeare, an after-school storytelling program for middle school students.

Portland Taiko, Portland – \$8,300

To support a school residency program using the art of taiko drumming to support teaching in the classroom.

Regional Arts & Culture Council, Portland – \$12,000

To support the Right Brain Initiative, a systemic and equitable approach to arts education for K-8 students with direct connections to other core curriculum.

Rogue Gallery & Art Center, Medford – \$4,600

To support Elementary Arts Outreach in presenting visual arts education in collaboration with the Medford School District throughout the school year including art lessons in the classroom and on field trips, an exhibition of their art and art kits to take home.

Ross Ragland Theatre, Klamath Falls – \$5,100

To support the StARTS Early Learning Initiative, a collaboration with Klamath County School District to restore performing arts to grades 2-4 through residencies in classrooms.

Young Audiences of Oregon, Inc., Portland – \$10,500

To support implementation of the Teaching Artist (TA) Studio, a training program to build teaching and evaluation skills for teaching artists in Oregon.

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 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.

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