



OREGON ARTS
COMMISSION

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96 Oregon arts groups receive \$1,099,500 in Operating Support grants

Operating Support grants totaling \$1,099,500 have been awarded to 96 medium and large Oregon arts organizations across the state for fiscal year 2015. The grants, intended for arts groups whose prior year's cash operating revenue totaled at least \$75,000, range from \$4,000 to \$50,000.

Funds for Operating Support grants are designed to support an organization's full range of programming, including operating, administrative and personnel costs with the exception of capital expenditures. Applications are evaluated based on quality of artistic programming, organizational capacity/sustainability and community impact. They cannot exceed 10 percent of the applicant's prior year cash budget.

"These grants recognize arts groups who are making ongoing contributions to the quality of life in their communities," said Arts Commission Chair Julie Vigeland. "They are central to our mission to ensure access to quality arts programming across the state."

The organizations receiving 2015 Operating Support grants are (alphabetically by community):

Ashland: Dancing People Company - \$4,000

Dancing People's mission is to create and perform professional, original dance works that illuminate the commonality of human experience and to create opportunities for professional dancers, non-professional dancers and other community members to interact.

Ashland: Oregon Shakespeare Festival - \$50,000

The mission of the Shakespeare Festival: "Inspired by Shakespeare's work and the cultural richness of the United States, we reveal our collective humanity through illuminating interpretations of new and classic plays, deepened by the kaleidoscope of rotating repertory."

Ashland: Southern Oregon University Foundation/Chamber Music Concerts - \$4,900

Chamber Music Concerts' mission is to present the highest quality chamber music for the enjoyment, enrichment and education of the Southern Oregon, Northern California and Southern Oregon University communities.

Astoria: Astoria Music Festival - \$6,900

The Astoria Music Festival was founded in 2003 with the mission of bringing classical music and educational events to Astoria and the surrounding coastal and rural communities of Clatsop County and Oregon's North Coast.

Bend: High Desert Museum - \$11,700

The purpose of the High Desert Museum is to enable a deeper understanding of the region's arts, culture, history and natural sciences through the presentation and interpretation of visual art exhibits, historical artifacts, living history performances and wildlife encounters.

Coos Bay: Coos Art Museum - \$8,000

As outlined in its mission statement, "Coos Art Museum is the cornerstone of visual arts on Oregon's Southern Coast. Through collections, exhibitions and educational programs, we are building an arts and cultural community and promoting the appreciation, understanding and expression of visual art."

Cottage Grove: Cottage Theatre - \$4,000

Cottage Theatre: engaging and enriching our community through the magic of live theatre. Founded in 1982, Cottage Theatre is a non-profit community theatre located in Cottage Grove, a town of roughly 9,475 residents in the mid-Willamette Valley.

Enterprise: Fishtrap Inc. - \$9,000

Fishtrap's mission is to promote clear thinking and good writing in and about the West. We envision a network of creative writers, avid readers and innovative thinkers from throughout the West who come together in the remote Wallowa County mountains.

Enterprise: Wallowa Valley Music Alliance - \$8,300

The mission of the Wallowa Valley Music Alliance is to foster music education, music appreciation and greater participation in the musical arts in Wallowa County and northeast Oregon by offering performances and educational opportunities.

Eugene: Ballet Fantastique - \$5,000

Ballet Fantastique reimagines the future of dance—building new dance audiences through contemporary ballet premieres, training the next generation of artists and inspiring youth through visionary outreach.

Eugene: Chamber Music Amici - \$4,000

Chamber Music Amici's mission is to produce excellent, affordable chamber music concerts which appeal to all ages. With the motto, "Creating community through great music," they

also aim to promote the development of a new generation of music lovers.

Eugene: Eugene Ballet Company - \$21,400

The Eugene Ballet Company has a mission to provide quality professional dance productions and innovative educational services to a broad based audience throughout Oregon and the western United States.

Eugene: Eugene Concert Choir - \$8,000

The Eugene Concert Choir's mission is to engage, inspire and enrich the community and themselves through performance of choral masterworks, diverse musical experiences and educational outreach.

Eugene: Eugene Opera - \$6,900

Eugene Opera is a resident company of the Hult Center for the Performing Arts in Eugene. Its mission is to present the highest quality opera possible to Eugene and surrounding areas, and to contribute to the art form by increasing audiences and resources.

Eugene: Eugene Springfield Youth Orchestras - \$9,100

The vision of Eugene-Springfield Youth Orchestras (formerly Arts Umbrella) is to inspire and lead students on a journey of discovery through orchestral instruction and performance. They offer high-quality instruction, progressing from beginning classes to advanced orchestras, offering need-based program and private lesson scholarships, and collaborating with area schools and arts organizations.

Eugene: Eugene Symphony Association, Inc. - \$32,300

Now in its 48th season, the Eugene Symphony Association is recognized as a cornerstone of the performing arts in Oregon's southern Willamette Valley and is committed to "enriching lives through the power of music."

Eugene: The John G Shedd Institute for the Arts - \$14,100

The John G Shedd Institute for the Arts' mission is to promote a deeper understanding of America's many rich musical traditions and to engender in community members the desire to participate actively in the preservation and cultivation of those traditions.

Eugene: Lord Leebrick Theatre Company/Oregon Contemporary Theatre - \$5,500

Oregon Contemporary Theatre creates bold entertainment, challenges expectation, inspires curiosity, encourages dialogue and supports positive change. They believe theatre can transform audiences, students, artists, our community and the world around us.

Eugene: Oregon Mozart Players - \$4,300

The mission of the Oregon Mozart Players is "to enrich the lives of audiences and players alike through the excellent performance and vigorous advocacy of chamber orchestra music."

Eugene: University of Oregon/Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art - \$15,600

With the vision to become one of the finest university art museums in the world and the belief that knowledge of art enriches people's lives, the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art "enhances the University of Oregon's academic mission and furthers the academic mission and furthers the appreciation and enjoyment of the visual arts for the general public."

Eugene: University of Oregon/Oregon Bach Festival - \$24,300

The Oregon Bach Festival exists to "inspire the human spirit with the art of music" with a diverse program of classical and popular music by and related to Bach. Based in Eugene, the Festival contributes to the economic and cultural growth of communities throughout Oregon.

Grants Pass: Grants Pass Museum of Art - \$7,700

Grants Pass Museum of Art has been the cultural hub and gem of Southern Oregon for the past 34 years. Its importance in its community continues to grow with an active board of directors, passionate staff, and strong corps of volunteers.

Hillsboro: Bag & Baggage Productions - \$8,900

As a group of ambitious, professional theatre practitioners and educators, the mission of Bag & Baggage Productions is to inspire Oregonians to engage in creative, accessible and moving live-theatre experiences.

Klamath Falls : Ross Ragland Theater - \$22,400

To provide high quality performances and educational experiences that enhance community life in the Klamath Basin is what drives the Ross Ragland Theater. Educational programs for all ages include special matinees and in-school residencies for children.

Marylhurst: Marylhurst University - \$9,100

The mission of The Art Gym is to increase public understanding of contemporary art in the Pacific Northwest through thoughtfully organized exhibitions, publications and public discussions.

Medford: Peter Britt Gardens Music & Arts Festival Association - \$7,000

Britt Festivals is a summer concert series presented at its 2,200-seat outdoor amphitheater in Jacksonville, Ore., featuring a broad spectrum of classical and popular music and helping new generations of listeners discover the wonder of music and live performance.

Medford: Rogue Gallery & Art Center - \$6,100

Founded in 1960, the Rogue Gallery and Art Center is a vital resource for the visual arts in Southern Oregon. The mission of the organization is to enliven the individual and enrich the community through inspirational visual art experiences.

Medford: Rogue Valley Chorale - \$6,100

The mission of Rogue Valley Chorale is to inspire and enrich its communities through great

choral music performed by choruses of all ages with a vision of “Celebrating the Joy of Singing.”

Medford: Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon - \$4,600

The Youth Symphony of Southern Oregon provides high-level training and exceptional performance experiences under the leadership of professional conductors and music coaches and fosters a lifelong appreciation of classical music and the arts.

Newport: Newport Symphony Orchestra - \$4,000

The mission of the NSO is to enhance the quality of life in Oregon’s coastal communities with diverse, inspiring performances and engaging educational activities. NSO offers a five-program season and a summer festival with a free July 4 concert.

Oregon City: Clackamas Community College/Clackamas Repertory Theatre - \$5,000

Clackamas Repertory Theatre was founded in 2005 to offer financially and geographically accessible professional theatre to an underserved area of Clackamas County. Committed to producing a variety of genres, CRT has staged 26 shows of multiple styles.

Otis: Neskowin Coast Foundation - \$11,400

Founded in 1970, the Sitka Center for Art and Ecology fulfills its mission of expanding relationships between art, nature and humanity by offering intensive art and nature workshops and long-term residencies to artists, writers and musicians.

Pendleton: Crow's Shadow Institute - \$6,200

Crow’s Shadow Institute of the Arts, located on the Umatilla Reservation and now in its 22nd year, provides opportunities for Native Americans through artistic development using artists’ residencies, exhibitions and traditional arts workshops.

Pendleton: Oregon East Symphony - \$5,000

The Oregon East Symphony’s mission is to operate, support and maintain a symphony orchestra, chorale and youth programs in Northeastern Oregon in order to enhance the quality of life in the region.

Portland: All Classical Public Media, Inc. - \$11,000

All Classical Portland’s mission is to advance knowledge of and appreciation for classical music; to build and sustain culturally vibrant local and global communities around that art form; to reflect the spirit of the Pacific Northwest; and to foster integrity, quality, and innovation in all that they do.

Portland: Artists Repertory Theatre - \$8,000

Artists Repertory Theatre was founded in 1982 by an ensemble of six artists with a passion for performing new and challenging plays in an intimate setting. Since then, Artists Rep has grown into a significant presence in American Regional Theatre.

Portland: BodyVox - \$18,100

BodyVox is dedicated to the creation and performance of innovative dance works that entertain, inspire and uplift audiences of all ages. They produce a season of public performances, aid the development of emerging artistic talent and support the community.

Portland: Caldera - \$11,600

Caldera's mission is to be a catalyst for transformation of underserved youth through innovative, year-round art and environmental programs. Caldera believes that deep engagement of underserved youth in the arts leads them toward creative, positive lives.

Portland: Cappella Romana Vocal Ensemble - \$11,900

Cappella Romana's vision is to be the leading global proponent of early and contemporary vocal music inspired by Byzantium, Russia and Western Europe. Its highly focused programs offer a glimpse of the transcendent in vocal art.

Portland: Chamber Music Northwest - \$14,500

Chamber Music Northwest's mission is to inspire listeners through concerts celebrating the richness and diversity of chamber music, performed by artists of the highest caliber. The organization serves more than 60,000 people through 80 events annually.

Portland: Friends of Chamber Music - \$10,900

Friends of Chamber Music's mission is to present a broad range of the highest quality chamber music ensembles and educational outreach activities to further chamber music in their community.

Portland: The Circus Project - \$6,100

The Circus Project utilizes the unique power of circus arts to transcend social barriers and inspire personal transformation. Their cutting-edge, modern circus performances and expert training programs enrich the Northwest arts community.

Portland: CoHo Productions Ltd - \$4,000

CoHo nurtures and supports Portland area-based theatre artists through a model of theatrical co-production, championing exceptional local artists who share their passionate work with an engaged audience, deepening the theatrical landscape of the community.

Portland: Conduit Dance, Inc. - \$5,600

Conduit is an incubator for contemporary dancers and dance artists, enabling research and creation of new work, supporting the development of skills and artistry, fostering collaboration and peer connection and deepening dancer and audience interaction.

Portland: Disjecta Interdisciplinary Art Center - \$18,800

Disjecta builds ambitious programs to promote artists and engage communities. One of the

largest exhibition venues in the state, they present visual and performing arts - from local to international.

Portland: Ethos Music Center - \$4,000

Ethos is dedicated to the promotion of music education for youth in underserved communities. Ethos' statewide programming currently enriches over 7,000, K-12 students each year through music classes, multicultural performances and workshops.

Portland: Hand2Mouth Theatre - \$4,200

Hand2Mouth creates, produces and tours original theatre productions. Drawing from dance, music, theatre and design, the organization's ensemble of artists create adventurous new performances that rigorously investigate contemporary life.

Portland: Imago the Theatre Mask Ensemble - \$5,400

Imago's transformative theater has crossed boundaries traditionally associated with language, age and physical limitations. The company's vision integrates mask, movement and clown theater with witty social commentary.

Portland: Independent Publishing Resource Center - \$14,000

Since its inception in 1998, the IPRC's mission has been to encourage creative expression, identity and community by providing access to tools and resources for creating independently published media and artwork.

Portland: Know Your City - \$4,000

Know Your City (formerly Dill Pickle Club) engages the public in art and social justice through creative placemaking projects. Its programs and publications aim to educate people to better know their communities and empower them to take action.

Portland: Kúkátónón Children's African Dance Troupe - \$4,000

Kúkátónón Children's African Dance Troupe's mission is to broaden awareness of African and African-American cultural traditions throughout Oregon, and to inspire confidence, commitment and vitality among the children in the dance troupe.

Portland: Literary Arts - \$16,500

Literary Arts engages readers, supports writers and inspires the next generation with great literature. Its organizational strategy is to make programs mutually reinforcing, which fosters the creation of a community of readers and writers of all ages.

Portland: Live Wire Radio - \$12,400

The mission of Live Wire is to harness the intimacy of the theater experience and the power of public radio to enliven, inspire and engage audiences – connecting communities through live music and performance, unpredictable conversation and original comedy.

Portland: Metropolitan Youth Symphony - \$7,900

The Metropolitan Youth Symphony was founded in 1974 by Lajos Balogh on the belief that the study of music is an integral part of a child becoming a well-rounded adult. In 2012, Maestro Andres Lopera joined the symphony as music director and conductor.

Portland: Miracle Theatre Group - \$40,000

Milagro's mission is to provide extraordinary Latino theatre, culture and arts education experiences for the enrichment of all communities. Its vision: a community-centered Latino arts epicenter inspiring a new generation of art, artists and patrons.

Portland: My Voice Music Incorporated - \$6,900

Portland-based My Voice Music engages youth in music and performance in order to promote self-esteem, social skills and emotional expression. Its philosophy is anchored by a belief in the power of music, relationship and story.

Portland: Newspace Center for Photography - \$10,000

Newspace Center for Photography is an educational and cultural nonprofit with a mission dedicated to promoting photographic education and appreciation to the public as well as providing a space and building a community where photo enthusiasts can learn.

Portland: Northwest Children's Theater & School - \$6,600

Northwest Children's Theater and School operates with a mission to educate, entertain and enrich the lives of young audiences. Education is accomplished through Theater Arts School, offering intro to advanced classes to 3,500 children ages 3-18 annually.

Portland: Oregon Ballet Theatre - \$14,200

Oregon Ballet Theatre creates and preserves the art of ballet through the highest quality performance, training and educational programming by producing compelling and diverse works that consistently inspire and entice audiences.

Portland: Oregon Center for Photographic Arts - \$6,100

Founded in 1975 as the Oregon Center for the Photographic Arts, Blue Sky is a nonprofit gallery in Portland's Pearl District dedicated to the exhibition of original contemporary photography with a special emphasis on emerging artists and public education.

Portland: Oregon Children's Theatre - \$14,800

Oregon Children's Theatre's mission is to advance growth, development and creativity through exceptional theater experiences. Each year, they select great scripts, collaborate with professional actors and artists, and use Portland's finest stages to produce quality theater for their audiences.

Portland: Oregon Public Broadcasting - \$24,600

OPB's mission is to give voice to communities, connect Oregon and its neighbors and illuminate

a wider world. OPB's arts and culture programming serves this mission by providing free access to the best of the region's arts to all Oregonians.

Portland: Oregon Symphony Association - \$25,600

Now in its 118th season, the Oregon Symphony is dedicated to making transformative music accessible to people of all ages through performances and outreach throughout the metro area.

Portland: Pacific Northwest College of Art - \$9,200

The Pacific Northwest College of Art mission and privilege is to prepare students for a life of creative practice while committed to delivering an education that is high impact, affordable and socially responsible.

Portland: Pacific Youth Choir - \$4,400

Pacific Youth Choir is a community of 11 choruses of singers ages 5 through 19 operating under a mission to instill a lifelong love of music in each student. Through practice, performance and education, singers build their skills and emerge as confident artists.

Portland: Pendulum Aerial Arts - \$4,000

Pendulum Aerial Arts operates under the mission to develop character and community through transformative aerial performance and training. They fulfill that mission through original full-length public productions and year-round training.

Portland: Portland Art Museum - \$43,100

Founded in 1892, the Portland Art Museum has developed a collection of more than 52,000 works of art through gifts and acquisitions. The collection is distinguished for its Native American art, English silver, Asian art, graphic art and Northwest art.

Portland: The Portland Ballet - \$8,200

The Portland Ballet fosters the future of ballet by building the next generation of dancers and audiences by imparting the lineage of ballet to young dancers, preparing them to achieve their highest potential in an environment that is challenging and disciplined.

Portland: Portland Baroque Orchestra - \$24,200

The mission of Portland Baroque Orchestra is to produce intimate and historically informed interpretations of music composed before 1840 for a wide audience, and to educate the community, including its youth, about the composers, themes and performance practices.

Portland: Portland Center Stage - \$21,200

With a mission to "inspire our community by bringing stories to life in unexpected ways," Portland Center Stage's vision is to reclaim theater's capacity to stand at the center of a community's daily life, as well as to contribute significantly to the vitality of the community.

Portland: Portland Gay Men's Chorus - \$7,500

Portland Gay Men's Chorus expands, redefines and perfects choral art through eclectic performances that honor and uplift the Gay community and affirm the worth of all people. The organization's programs appeal to aficionados of choral music while being accessible to all.

Portland: Portland Institute for Contemporary Art - \$21,300

Portland Institute for Contemporary Art (PICA) acknowledges and advances new developments in contemporary art while fostering the creative explorations of artists and audiences. Since 1995, PICA has championed contemporary artists from around the world who push disciplinary boundaries.

Portland: Portland Jazz Festival - \$4,000

The Mission of PDX Jazz, the presenting organization of the Portland Jazz Festival, is to present, preserve and promote jazz in the Pacific Northwest and to inspire, educate and develop jazz audiences for future generations to come.

Portland: Portland Opera Association - \$49,100

Portland Opera exists to inspire, challenge and uplift its audiences by creating productions of high artistic quality that celebrate the beauty and breadth of opera. Each season they share opera with 400,000 individuals and 70 schools and communities.

Portland: Portland Piano International - \$6,200

Portland Piano International is dedicated to presenting excellence in piano performance and to educating and enriching their community through outreach. For 36 years PPI has presented solo recitals by the best pianists in the world.

Portland: Portland Symphonic Choir - \$6,600

The Portland Symphonic Choir's mission is to sing the choral masterworks with excellence and passion and to engage, enrich, educate and inspire its members and the community. It is Portland's oldest and largest choral ensemble.

Portland: Portland Taiko - \$8,800

Through artistic excellence and innovation in taiko, Portland Taiko affirms Asian American pride, inspires audiences, builds community and educates about its culture and heritage.

Portland: Profile Theatre - \$4,000

Profile's mission is to produce a season of plays devoted to a single playwright, engaging with its community to explore that writer's vision and influence on theatre and the world at large, through large-scale professional productions, In Dialogue Series readings and educational activities.

Portland: Tears of Joy Theatre - \$17,600

Tears of Joy Theatre's mission is to produce, develop and present puppet theatre that celebrates the diversity of world cultures; and to teach children and enrich their lives by helping them experience, create and perform art with professional artists.

Portland: Third Angle New Music Ensemble, Inc. - \$4,400

Founded in 1985, Third Angle Ensemble has become a creative force in the cultural landscape of the Northwest. Over the past 29 seasons, Third Angle has presented more than 140 programs of contemporary music, commissioned over 60 works, and released 12 recordings.

Portland: Third Rail Repertory Theatre - \$11,300

Third Rail's mission is to provide a dynamic artistic home for theatre audiences in Portland; foster a professional locally-based company of highly-skilled actors, designers and directors; and bring to life exceptional stories that provoke dialogue.

Portland: Triangle Productions!- \$8,000

Triangle's mission is to entertain and educate through the celebration and presentation of contemporary live theatre, and to promote diversity and tolerance through the presentation of accessible, high-quality productions.

Portland: Vibe of Portland - \$6,200

Vibe of Portland's mission "To Empower Portland's Underserved Youth through Art & Music" is realized by providing long-term quality and affordable art and music education programs for students in the Portland Metro area.

Portland: White Bird - \$10,900

White Bird's mission is to make dance exciting, educational and accessible to everyone. They bring the best contemporary dance to Portland, presenting 12 of the world's leading companies annually.

Portland: Write Around Portland - \$18,800

Write Around Portland changes lives through the power of writing. They bring 10-week creative writing workshops to homeless youth shelters, senior centers, schools, hospitals, prisons and treatment facilities, serving nearly 500 adults and young people each year.

Portland: YU Contemporary - \$8,100

Yale Union is led by a desire to support emerging and under-acknowledged artists, propose new modes of production and stimulate the ongoing public discourse around art.

Portland: Northwest Professional Dance Project - \$10,200

Northwest Dance Project celebrates excellence in dance and remains dedicated to the creation of

innovative new dance works. They commission inspired choreographers to create for their professional company, premiering more than 160 works since their inception.

Salem: Oregon Symphony Association in Salem - \$12,000

The Oregon Symphony Association in Salem is an independent, non-profit organization established 58 years ago, whose mission is "to enrich lives through the cultivation of appreciation for instrumental and vocal musicianship in the mid-Willamette Valley.

Salem: Salem Multicultural Institute - \$10,900

In folk and traditional communities, art is a thread sewn into the fabric of culture. The Salem Multicultural Institute's mission is to create places where cultural heritage arts thrive, make them accessible to all, and so promote an appreciation and understanding of cultural diversity.

Salem: Willamette Art Center - \$5,200

The Friends of the Visual Arts was founded on the belief that self-expression is important to the health of the individual and that access to the arts for self-expression is important to the health of the community.

Salem: Willamette University/Hallie Ford Museum of Art - \$8,100

The Hallie Ford Museum of Art exists to support the liberal arts curriculum of Willamette University, and to serve as an intellectual, cultural and artistic resource for Salem, the mid-Willamette Valley and beyond.

Sisters : Sisters Folk Festival - \$6,000

Sisters Folk Festival, Inc. enriches lives through music, arts and cultural events that serve a diverse, multi-generational community. The organization hosts an annual three-day music festival bringing high caliber musicians to Sisters for performances, workshops and other events.

Summer: Lake Playa - \$13,200

Playa's mission is to support the arts, literature, natural sciences and other fields of creative inquiry through its Residency Program. Its main purpose is to provide individuals with the gift of space, solitude and community to reflect and to engage.

Sunriver: Sunriver Music Festival - \$4,000

The mission of the Sunriver Music Festival is to produce meaningful classical music performances of the highest quality in the cultural interest of the community and to support excellence in music education programs for the youth of Central Oregon.

The Dalles: The Dalles Art Association - \$4,000

The Dalles Art Association promotes a love and knowledge of the arts in its community through thoughtful and deliberate operation of The Dalles Art Center located in the historic Carnegie Library in downtown The Dalles.

Tigard: Broadway Rose Theatre Company - \$16,300

The Broadway Rose Theatre Company mission is to create unparalleled musical theater experiences that invigorate audiences and enrich its communities. Its vision is to be the premiere training ground for musical theater artists, produce musicals of exceptional quality and produce original works.

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.