



For Immediate Release

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### **106 arts organizations to receive FY2023 Small Operating Grants**

Salem, Oregon – Small grants that often make a large difference in ensuring arts access for Oregonians, especially in rural areas, have been awarded statewide to 106 arts organizations by the Oregon Arts Commission for FY2023.

Awarded to arts organizations in virtually every region of the state, Small Operating Grants are designed to provide support to arts organizations with budgets under \$150,000. Eligibility is limited to organizations who have operated as an IRS recognized 501(c)(3) nonprofit for a minimum of two years and provide ongoing, sustained artistic programming and outreach programs. Each organization will receive \$2,261.

“Although the Drexel H. Foundation (Vale) and our community is rural and small compared to other parts of Oregon, our impact is HUGE,” said Sandijean Fuson, president of the Drexel H. Foundation. “This grant helps us keep an unbroken existence of programs we have had for over 25 years, reminding our community they are important.”

“Music is sanity,” said a participant in the Open Hearts Open Minds (Portland) Columbia River Correctional Institution Music Studio. “It has been my sanctuary, my sounding board, my therapy. Without it I truly believe I would have crumbled from the daily pressures of prison life and the immense stress involved in spending years in prison.”

“This grant program was developed to increase the Arts Commission’s support of Oregon’s small but mighty arts providers,” said Arts Commission Chair Jenny Green. “These organizations frequently represent the only arts presenter for remote and underserved regions of the state.”

For more information about the Small Operating Grant Program, contact Liora Sponko at (971) 345-1641 or via email at [liora.sponko@biz.oregon.gov](mailto:liora.sponko@biz.oregon.gov).

FY2023 Small Operating Grants, sorted alphabetically by region, will be awarded to:

**Central Region**

BEAT Children's Theatre, Bend  
High Desert Chamber Music, Bend  
Opera Bend, Bend  
Tananawit, Warm Springs

**Greater Eastern North Region**

Inland Northwest Musicians Inc, Hermiston

**Greater Eastern South Region**

Drexel H. Foundation, Vale

**Portland Metro Region**

Airlie Press, Portland  
All Ages Music, Portland  
Amadeus Chamber Orchestra, Portland  
Art in Oregon, Oregon City  
Bach Cantata Choir, Portland  
Bells of the Cascades, Tualatin  
Big Mouth Society, Portland  
Boom Arts, Portland  
Bridgetown Conservatory of Musical Theatre, Portland  
Bump in the Road Theatre, Portland  
Cathedral Park Performing Arts Collective, Portland  
Choro in Schola, Portland  
Classical Up Close, Tigard  
Conchords Chorale, Tualatin  
Dance Wire PDX, Portland  
Eastside Theater Company, Gresham  
en Taiko, Portland  
Experience Theatre Project, Beaverton  
Fear No Music, Portland  
Future Prairie, Portland  
Golden Road Arts, Hillsboro  
Greater Portland Flute Society, Portland  
Heidi Duckler Dance Theatre Northwest, Portland  
Hillsboro Symphony Orchestra, Hillsboro

Lovegood Performing Arts Company, Portland  
Media Institute for Social Change, Portland  
Media-Rites, Portland  
Montavilla Jazz Festival, Portland  
Northwest Print Council, Portland  
Open Hearts Open Minds, Portland  
Oregon ArtsWatch, Portland  
Oregon Bluegrass Association, Portland  
Original Practice Shakespeare Festival, Portland  
Performance Works NorthWest, Portland  
Piano Santa Foundation, Portland  
Portland Chamber Music, Portland  
Portland Chamber Orchestra, Portland  
Portland Child Art Studio, Portland  
Portland Jazz Composers Ensemble, Portland  
Portland Taiko, Portland  
Rasika Society for Arts of India, Hillsboro  
Resonance Vocal Ensemble, Portland  
Risk-Reward, Portland  
Siren Nation, Inc., Portland  
Soufflags, Oregon City  
Steps for Youth, Portland  
The Artback, Estacada  
The Geezer Gallery, Portland  
Tualatin Valley Community Band, Tigard  
Twilight Theater Company, Portland  
Valley Art Association, Forest Grove  
Willamette Writers, Portland  
Women in Film-Portland, Portland  
ZENAZEZZA INC, Portland

### **Mid-Valley Region**

Festival Chorale Oregon, Salem  
Keizer Creative Art Association, Salem  
Keizer Homegrown Theatre, Keizer  
McMinnville Short Film Festival, McMinnville  
Oregon Artists Series Foundation, Salem  
Oregon Spirit Chorus, Salem  
Paradise of Samoa, Keizer  
Salem Philharmonia Orchestra, Salem  
Salem Pops Orchestra, Salem  
Willamette University, Salem

### **North Central Region**

Columbia Gorge Orchestra Association, Hood River  
The Dalles Art Association, The Dalles

### **North Coast Region**

Astoria Arts and Movement Center, Astoria  
Astoria Visual Arts, Inc, Astoria  
Bay City Arts Center, Bay City  
Cannon Beach Arts Association, Cannon Beach  
Hoffman Center for the Arts, Manzanita  
Partners for the PAC, Astoria  
Tolovana Arts Colony, Cannon Beach

### **South Central Region**

Lost River Arts and Cultural Alliance, Keno

### **South Coast Region**

Pelican Bay Arts Association, Brookings  
Riverbend Live!, Winston  
Umpqua Symphony Association, Roseburg

### **South Valley/Mid Coast Region**

Arts and Business Alliance of Eugene, Eugene  
Corvallis Guitar Society, Corvallis  
Corvallis Repertory Singers, Corvallis  
DisOrient Asian American Film Festival of Oregon, Eugene  
Ditch Projects, Springfield  
Florence Regional Arts Alliance, Florence  
Gallery Calapooia, Albany  
Mid-Valley Prelude Sinfonia Inc., Albany  
Opal Center for Arts and Education, Cottage Grove  
Orchestra Next, Eugene  
Oregon Brass Society, Eugene  
Oregon Coast Youth Symphony Festival Association, Newport  
The Rural Art Center, Lorane  
Willamette Jazz Society, Eugene  
Willamette Valley Symphony, Albany  
Wordcrafters in Eugene, Eugene

### **Southern Region**

Anima Mundi Productions, Phoenix

Art Presence, Inc., Jacksonville  
Ashland New Plays Festival, Ashland  
Guitar Society of Southern Oregon, Ashland  
Rogue Valley Wind Ensemble, Ashland  
Southern Oregon Guild, Cave Junction

***Region key:***

*Central (Jefferson, Deschutes and Crook Counties)*  
*Greater Eastern North (Gilliam, Morrow, Umatilla and Wheeler Counties)*  
*Greater Eastern South (Grant, Harney and Malheur)*  
*Portland Metro (Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas Counties)*  
*Mid-Valley (Yamhill, Polk and Marion Counties)*  
*North Central (Hood River, Wasco and Sherman Counties)*  
*North Coast (Clatsop, Columbia and Tillamook Counties)*  
*Northeast (Wallowa, Union and Baker Counties)*  
*South Central (Klamath and Lake Counties)*  
*South Coast (Douglas, Coos and Curry Counties)*  
*South Valley/Mid-Coast (Lincoln, Benton, Linn and Lane Counties)*  
*Southern (Josephine and Jackson Counties)*

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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 Business Oregon (formerly Oregon Economic and Community 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](http://www.oregonartscommission.org).