For Immediate Release  
Sept. 8, 2023  
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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.

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
ten 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
Soulflags, 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.