RACC Awards General Support Grants for 2006-2008

Each year, the Regional Arts & Culture Council awards significant funding to artists and arts organizations throughout the region. On June 28, for the first time ever, the RACC board of directors approved more than $1 million in grants to 35 local arts organizations in the General Support category. These unrestricted grants help fund the complete missions of our community’s leading arts organizations for two consecutive years, helping them plan their budgets and programs for the future.

The largest General Support grant award is $141,100; the smallest is $6,600. Assuming that RACC funding holds steady, grantees will receive the same size award next year, or larger. Funding for RACC’s General Support grant program comes primarily from the government sector, including the City of Portland, Metro, Multnomah County, Clackamas County, and Washington County, along with growing revenues from Work for Art, RACC’s workplace giving program. These grants typically provide between 0.5% to 4.5% of an arts organization’s budget, although one of RACC’s long-term goals is to secure enough funding to represent 5% of all organizations’ budgets. RACC staff and board are working with our government partners to secure dedicated funds and other revenues to support this vital sector, which is proven to help drive the economy, enhance our children’s education, and improve our quality of life.

Last fall, business leaders throughout the region identified the Creative Services Sector (including nonprofit arts businesses) as a high-impact cluster in the Portland-Vancouver regional economy. In the Regional Business Plan, the arts are recognized as a driver...
Continuing to 7/30 David Schwarz: A Mid-Career Retrospective, Contemporary Crafts Museum & Gallery, 503.223.2654, www.contemporarycrafts.org

Continuing to 7/30 36th Chamber Music Northwest Summer Festival, 503.292.6400, www.cmnw.org

7/6 Write Around Portland, art opening and reading, 503.796.9224, www.writearound.org


7/7-29 Photos by Julie Blackmon (see Page 5) & Mike Smith, Blue Sky Gallery, 503.225.0210, www.blueskygallery.org


7/14-8/20 Midsummer Night’s Dream (See Page 1), Lakewood Theatre, 503.635.3901, www.lakewood-center.org


7/21-23 Just Add Water/West Public Events, Portland Center Stage, 503.432.2955, www.pcs.org


7/24-8/12 Northwest Professional Dance Project (See Page 4), 503.421.7434, www.nwpdp.com


8/11, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19 Guys & Dolls, Molalla Community Theater Group, 503.829.2359

8/20 India Festival (See Page 3), India Cultural Association, 503.645.7902, www.icaportland.org

For more: www.racc.org/resources/events

Work/Live Space Survey. Portland City Commissioner Sam Adams is working to establish more work/live space for artists in Portland. Local artists are invited to help the Commissioner assess what types of space are appropriate and at what price, and RACC encourages artists to fill out the Commissioner’s brief survey. Visit http://commissionersam.com/sam_adams/arts_culture/index.html.

7/5-7 RACC will host Vision Vessel at the Portland Building Installation Space. Vision Vessel (see below) is a bright kiosk where participants can respond to questions about the future of Portland. Sponsors include Public Media Works and Film Action Oregon who received a grant from visionPDX, a city-sponsored effort to involve community members in creating a plan for Portland over the next 30 years. Portland Building, 1120 SW 5th, open 7am-6pm, Monday through Friday.

Public Art Search - New & Improved! RACC’s Public Art Search page has been re-launched with improved functionality, so you can now find detailed information about virtually any currently sited artwork in our database. Try it out, and let us know what you think. Visit www.racc.org/pubartsearch.

7/11 RACC Grant Orientation for Organizations. RACC is offering an orientations for art and culture organizations who wish to apply for Project Grants (see description below). Attendees need to RSVP to Marci Cochran at least 24 hours in advance of the orientation date. Marci can be contacted at 503.823.5111 or mcochran@racc.org. 3-4:30pm at RACC Ottum Board Room, 108 NW 9th Avenue, Suite 202, Portland.

Upcoming RACC Grant Opportunities:
• FY 06-07 Project Grants will be available in 3 categories: Artistic Focus, Neighborhood Arts and Arts In Schools. All application information at www.racc.org. Intent to Apply Deadline: 8/14/06. Electronic Application Deadline: 8/21/06.
• FY 06-07 Professional Development Grants (Cycle II) assist artists or arts administrators with opportunities that specifically improve their business management development skills and/or bring the artist or the arts organization to another level artistically. Guidelines/applications will be available at www.racc.org. Deadline: 10/9/06.

Internship Opportunities:
RACC has internship opportunities available in a variety of areas. These are unpaid positions. Please email Marci Cochran at info@racc.org to inquire about current openings.

For more updates: www.racc.org/resources/RACCopportunities

Oregon Biennial
Portland Art Museum
July 29-October 8. Juried and curated by Jennifer Gately, the new Arlene and Harold Schnitzer Curator of Northwest Art, this year’s Biennial features work by 34 established and emerging artists who vary widely in their mediums and aesthetics.

July 5-7. Appearing at the Portland Building Installation Space, Vision Vessel is a roving multi-media recording booth designed to gather input about the City’s future from those age 17-35.
Grants/Fellowships/Residencies

Art:21—Art in the Twenty-First Century Outreach Initiatives. Explore contemporary art in your community and make valuable connections to local institutions and resources by taking part in one of Art:21’s piloting outreach initiatives. Youth Engagement or Museum & Library Partnerships. Offering a limited number of incentive grants and free Art:21 materials. Email your name and affiliation to outreach@art21.org to receive the call for proposals. See www.art21.org. Rolling deadline with priority given to ones submitted by 7/14/06.

Meyer Memorial Trust’s Small Grants of $500 to $15,000 allow the Trust to assist a large number of worthy organizations through support of small projects that are of special importance to applicants and their communities. Visit www.mmt.org/grants_programs/sg. Deadline: 7/15/06.


Starbucks Foundation Youth & Literary grants qualifying 501(c)(3) organizations that work with underserved youth in reading, writing, creative/media arts, and environmental literacy. $5,000-$20,000. Visit www.starbucks.com/aboutus/grantinfo.asp. Deadline: 9/1/06.

Pacific Pioneer Fund offers support to documentary film & videomakers in CA, OR, WA. $1,000-$10,000 grant range. Contact: PPF, PO Box 20504, Stanford, CA 94309, www.pacificpioneerfund.com. Deadline: 9/1/06.

NEA’s Arts on Radio & TV Grants support the development, production, and national distribution of radio and television programs on the arts. Priority will be given to artistically excellent programs that have the potential to reach a significant national audience. Programs may deal with any art form as well as programs for youth/children. Contact the NEA’s Media Arts staff at 202.682.5738 or visit www.arts.gov/grants/apply/ RadioTV/. Deadline: 9/8/06.

Arts Build Communities from Oregon Arts Commission. Grants to arts and community-based organizations to strengthen communities through projects that connect the arts with local issues and opportunities. Contact Laurel MacMillan, 503.986.0083, or visit www.oregonartscommission.org/grants/commission_grant_programs.php. Deadline: 10/2/06.

For much more: www.racc.org/resources/grants

Competitions

The Portland International Short Short Film Festival (10/19-21) is seeking super short films (10 min or less). Visit http://zonkerfilms.com. Send submission and $20 to: Sour Apple Productions, Tara Johnson-Medinger, 1207 NE Alberta St. #109, Portland, OR 97211, 503.267.1126, tara@sourappleproductions.com. Deadline: 7/14/06; Final: 7/28/06.


Call for Entries: Art in the Orchard (8/4-6) benefit for St. Mary’s Home for Boys in Beaverton. For Northwest artists, all media. Contact kenneth.rigert.pc@verizon.net, 503.649.5575. Deadline: 7/15/06.

Call to Encaustic Artists for 2-D and 3-D artwork for an exhibition, Impulse: A contemporary look at Passions, Whims, and Wishes held at Portland Art Center (www.portlandart.org), curated by SparkplugArt. Fee $20 (checks to Portland Art Center). Entries to SparkPlugArt, 3060 NW Wilson, Portland, OR 97210. Karen Ehlers, Curator, 503.753.3895. For Postmarked Deadline: 7/30/06.

IRON ARTIST IV (8/10) sponsored by SCRAP (School and Community Reuse Action Project). 10 teams will create sculptures from reused materials. As this is a fundraiser, registration is $250 per team. Visit www.scrapaction.org/iron06. SCRAP, 300A N Williams Avenue, Portland, 503.294.0769. Deadline: 8/1/06.

Glenn & Viola Walters Cultural Arts Center (Hillsboro, OR) seeking submissions from individual artists/groups of artists working in all media, to exhibit in the Center’s galleries in 2007. Visit www.cijillsboro.or.us/wcac. Contact: Curator/c/o Glenn & Viola Walters Cultural Arts Center, 527 East Main Street, Hillsboro, OR 97123, 503.615.3485. Deadline: 8/1/06.

3rd Annual Maryhill Arts Festival (9/16-17). $50 booth fee once accepted, 10% commission. Contact: Arts Festival, Maryhill Museum of Art, 35 Maryhill Museum Drive, Goldendale, WA 98620, 509.773.3733, lee@maryhillmuseum.org. Deadline: 8/1/06.
Northwest Film & Video Festival. Submit works of any length or genre. Open to residents of AK, BC, ID, MT, OR and WA. Contact: NW Film Center, 1219 SW Park, Portland, OR 97205, 503.276.4264, www.nwfilm.org.Deadline: 8/1/06.


North Clackamas Arts Guild’s Annual Show (9/15-17) at the Milwaukie Center, 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Drive, Milwaukie, OR. Call 503.653.1182 for entry forms. Send a SASE to N.C.A.G. 2006 Show, PO BOX 220004, Milwaukie, OR 97269. Deadline: 8/8/05.

Call for Artists for Works Night sponsored by Intown Presbyterian Church seeking work from local artists to be displayed at the Old Church (Portland) this Fall - showcasing visual and performing arts. Email Matthew Curl (Director of Music and Art, IPC) at matt@intownpres.org. Deadline: 8/10/06.


Call for Hispanic Artist by Oregon Health & Sciences University for an exhibition in celebration of Hispanic Heritage month, 10/06. Contact: Hispanic Heritage Exhibition, Marquam Hill Art Committee, Office of Community Relations, Oregon Health & Sciences University, 381 SW Sam Jackson Park Road, L-101, Portland, OR 97239. Deadline: 8/15/06.

Call for Entries for The Game Show. Contemporary Crafts’ showcase is open to all artists working in a craft media or using traditional craft techniques. Mixed-media works and non-traditional materials are welcome. Visit www.contemporarycrafts.org/gameshow/index.htm. Deadline: 8/15/06. For much more: www.racc.org/resources/competitions

Job Opportunities

Art Instructors. Emerald Art Center’s new children’s art program, TEACH Arts, needs creative, energetic art instructors Fall 2006 for children 2-12 years. Email john@johnholdway.com. Also need instructors for adult classes. Email leo.stauber@comcast.net. Deadline: 7/31/06.

Sculpture Studio Technician (P/T) sought by Mt. Hood Community College (for 2 years). Runs an open woodshop for students, assisting with foundry projects and maintaining sculpture area equipment. Contact: Tamisie Ringler/MHCC, Visual Arts Department, 26000 SE Stark St., Gresham, OR 97030. Deadline: 8/18/06.

Development/Marketing Assistant (P/T) sought by Oregon Children’s Theatre. Duties include: donor data entry and acknowledgements, direct mail coordination/processing, group sales and coordination, event support/administration, event registration coordination, filing, office reception. Contact: Tomi Douglas, tomi@octc.org or FAX to 503.328.3545.

Art handler/driver. Experience in fine art installation, packing and crating needed. Gallery or museum background preferred. Overnight interstate travel. Good driving record required. Send resume to: PO Box 20306, Portland, OR 97294.

Production Manager sought by Profile Theatre Project. Duties include: running production meetings, coordinate the hiring of technical/design staff, oversee all technical elements related to productions. Send a resume/cover letter to: Jane Unger, Profile Theatre Project, PO Box 14645, Portland, OR 97293. For much more: www.racc.org/resources/jobs

Workshops/Conferences/Lectures

7/10-14, 24-28 Joseph Mann Intensive Workshops: The Figure in the Landscape marshals the complexities of the landscape into forms that can be managed. To register visit www.josephemann.com, email josephemann@msn.com, 503.341.7940.

7/15-20 Portland Center Stage: Just Add Water/West Theatre Labs. Special workshops by playwrights and local directors open to the public during this week celebrating new dramatic works. To register: literary@pcs.org or call 503.432.2955.

7/29-30, 8/12-13 Two Working Artists Workshops. 1) The Artist as Teacher: for artists who do not possess a degree in art education but would like to teach art. 2) The Guerrilla Exhibitor: will give artists the background and resources to manage their careers. Each $325. Call Adrienne Fritze at 503.445.1268, or e-mail to wa@workingartistsonline.com. For much more: www.racc.org/resources/workshop

Other Opportunities & Information

Contemporary Crafts seeking fall interns. Email Katherine Bovee, kbovee@contemporarycrafts.org. Deadline: 8/1/06.

Volunteer for Art in the Pearl (9/2-4) a prominent, unique juried arts event in Portland, drawing around 50,000 visitors to the North Park Blocks in the Pearl. Contact 503.233.5663 or babetteharvey@earthlink.net.

7th Showcase of Performers (9/30) sponsored by The Oregon Library Association’s Children’s Services Section for all artists to showcase their work for interested librarians and teachers from around the state. 10am-4pm, Salem Public Library, 585 Liberty St. SE, Salem, OR. To register contact BJ Quinlan at 503.233.5663 or babetteharvey@earthlink.net.


Creative Office Space Available at Portland Center for the Performing Arts (PCPA). 2,000sf office space in the Newmark Theater building available this Fall. Contact Cindy Sturm at 503.356.8567 for more details. For much more: www.racc.org/resources/other

July 42-August 12 Northwest Professional Dance Project

Young dancers study and work with leading dance makers and companies on innovative choreography, process original movement and develop their artistry on-stage. A public showing of works in progress August 11 concludes the program. This project was funded in part by a RACC Project Grant. For more on NWPPD see www.nwppdp.com.
27% of all visitors come here specifically to attend a cultural event. The Portland Oregon Visitors Association (POVA) found that 76% of all visitors to the Portland metropolitan area participate in cultural events while they are here.

In all, the 35 groups receiving General Support will serve more than 2.2 million patrons next year—local residents and cultural tourists alike. We know from our polling last spring that 89% of tri-county residents believe that arts and culture are important to the growth and development of the community, and the Portland Oregon Visitor’s Association (POVA) found that 76% of all visitors to the Portland metropolitan area participate in cultural events while they are here. 27% of all visitors come here specifically to attend a cultural event.

A panel of local citizens reviewed all applications and recommended General Support funding to these 35 groups based on artistic excellence, proven service to the community, and administrative and fiscal responsibility. Nonprofit arts organizations in the tri-county area with budgets of at least $80,000, at least one paid professional staff person, and a track record of three years of community service were eligible to apply.

Clearly, local arts organizations are a vital part of the community, and RACC is delighted to support these 35 important arts organizations. For a complete list of General Support grants awarded in FY06-08, visit www.racc.org/grantawards.

Applications for RACC’s other significant grants program—Project Grants—are now available. Artists, schools, and arts organizations headquartered in Clackamas, Multnomah, or Washington County must submit letters of intent by August 14. Visit www.racc.org/grants for more details.

Blue Sky Gallery presents photography by Julie Blackmon, portraying the artistic alchemy allied to childhood imagination (at left). Also the Gallery will be exhibiting photographs by Mike Smith, July 6-29. Blue Sky Gallery was a recipient of a RACC FY 2006-08 General Support Grant. Visit www.blueskygallery.org

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for the creative economy, an attractor of talent, and a catalyst for maintaining a high quality of life here in Portland.

Arts organizations use approximately 20% of their General Support grant to fund a variety of outreach programs that serve neighborhoods beyond the central city, and education programs that serve tens of thousands of schoolchildren each year. Arts education activities are proven to help boost student performance in other academic subjects including reading, writing, math and science. General Support grants like these help support this aspect of many arts organizations’ missions, and many organizations received additional funding from RACC specifically designed to reward their education and outreach programs.
Vera Katz Statue Unveiled on Esplanade

On June 2nd a new artwork was unveiled on the Vera Katz Esplanade to honor Portland’s former Mayor. Mayor Katz has been a life-long lover of the arts and was very supportive of arts and culture during her years as Mayor. In addition, she was pivotal in the development of the Eastbank Esplanade and it seems fitting that her political leadership and love for the arts should come together in a public tribute to her.

Local sculptor Bill Bane crafted the bronze statue, which was funded by a group of generous Portlanders. RACC managed the commission with help from former staff who served under Mayor Katz. Map this and other Public Art in Portland at our new site, www.racc.org/pubartsearch.

“As you know, art is the soul of the city. Without the arts and without that creativity, we are only a city. (The Arts) make us very, very special.”

----- Mayor Vera Katz

Jesse Katz (left) joins his mother Vera Katz and Mayor Tom Potter at the dedication.