RACC Provides $89,600 in Grants for Special Opportunities & Emergencies

A new RACC grants program is providing extra help for local arts and culture organizations with emergency needs and unique special opportunities. In April, with new funding from the City of Portland, RACC allocated $89,600 in Opportunity Grants to five Portland-based arts and culture organizations.

- Hand2Mouth Theatre received $5,050 to help fund a special opportunity to collaborate on a major bi-lingual theatre project entitled Two Cities. RACC funding will support the initial rehearsal residency for H2M company members in San Miguel Allende, Mexico in May 2007. Upon return to Portland, H2M will host a public video showing and a small performance in June 2007. The complete performance will premiere in Portland at Teatro Milagro in July 2008.

- Pacific Northwest College of Art received $30,000 to co-present the world’s first Animation Installation Competition during the Platform International Animation Festival in Portland from June 25-30, 2007. PNCA developed this opportunity after Portland was selected as the site of the animation festival in the fall of 2006. The competition will showcase world class mixed-media artists, and installations will be presented throughout PNCA’s campus. PNCA will also host a symposium, lectures, and street party, and all events will be free and open to the public.

- Portland Actors Conservatory received $7,500 to help ensure national accreditation of its Conservatory Program. RACC funds will pay for a required audit of the organization’s last three fiscal years, and will help the Conservatory hire a Project Manager for six months to oversee implementation and fundraising for the new accredited program.

- Portland Taiko received $27,000 to recover from the sudden loss of a highly skilled artistic staff member. Unanticipated expenses resulting from this emergency include contract fees for replacing the artist, travel expenses, and recruitment funds that will help Portland Taiko maintain its commitments for an April concert in Portland and other school and touring shows this spring.

- Solo Flamenco received $20,050 for a special opportunity to bring eight renowned artists from the birthplace of the Flamenco – Jerez de la Frontera, Spain – to Portland for the NW International Flamenco Festival. These Sonidos Gitanos artists will provide local residents with the unique opportunity to view world-class performances and participate in five days of intimate workshops during the festival.
AROUND TOWN

All events funded in part by the Regional Arts & Culture Council

Continuing to 7/6 Sculpture Exhibition 2007, Clackamas Community College, 503.657.6958, www.clackamas.cc.or.us

Continuing to 7/29 Manuel Neri: The Figure in Relief, Portland Art Museum, 503.226.2611, www.pam.org

5/3-6/2 Photographs by Denise Keim & Bruce Hall, Blue Sky Gallery, 503.225.0210, www.blueskygallery.org

5/5-6 Childhood Memories in Song, Oregon Repertory Singers, 503.230.0652, www.orsingers.org

5/5-6 Intense and Powerful, Oregon Symphony, 503.228.1353, www.orsymphony.org


6/6-24 Small Tragedy, Portland Actors Conservatory, 503.274.1717, www.acmorny.org

6/9 Beethoven’s Choral Fantasy & Symphony #9, Portland Chamber Orchestra, 503.771.3250, www.portlandchamberorchestra.org


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

AT RACC

Work for Art wins Sunburst Award. Young Audiences is honoring Work for Art in May with a Sunburst award for arts education advocacy. Employees from more than 50 local companies are donating to the arts community through this workplace giving program, and funds are distributed to art organizations through RACC’s established grants process. See www.workforart.org and www.ya-or.org/new/new.cfm#sunburst.

On 4/12, RACC and NW/BCA presented “Fostering Innovation,” the second MetLife Foundation National Arts Forum of 2007. To explore inspired examples of innovation that resulted from this forum, visit www.portlandcreates.com.

RACC Artists Workshop. The 5/18 RACC Workshop - Grantwriting for Success - is full. But there will be another presentation on 6/9 by Gigi Rosenberg in Washington County, sponsored by RACC, Westside Cultural Alliance and the Hillsboro Arts & Cultural Council. Visit www.ci.hillsboro.or.us/wcac/Events.aspx. 10am-1pm at the Walters Cultural Arts Center, 527 East Main Street, Hillsboro. Do not contact RACC.

Summer Art Camps Listing. RACC will provide a listing of summer art camps in the tri-county region. Visit www.racc.org and link to the listing of camps for youth offered in all artistic disciplines throughout the summer. If you want to submit a listing, email mbauer@racc.org.

RACC Grant Opportunities:

• FY 07-08 RACC Fellowship Award in Media Arts (film/video/audio) helps artists of high merit sustain or enhance their creative process. Application available at www.racc.org. Deadline for Intent to Apply: 5/2/07.

• Opportunity Grant Program (Cycle 3). Funding to Portland-based nonprofit arts and cultural organizations to help meet special opportunities or assist with emergencies that arise. Visit www.racc.org. Deadline for Letter of Intent: 5/16/07.

RACC Public Art Opportunity:

• The Public Art Mural program is a Portland city-wide program administered by RACC. Businesses and artists or artist teams are eligible to apply for this program. Visit www.racc.org/murals. Deadline: 6/1/07.

RACC Job Opportunity:


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

From 5/4-6 Monica Huggett (above) completes Portland Baroque Orchestra’s 23rd Season with Young Romantics. Visit www.pbo.org. (RACC General Support)
Grants/Fellowships/Residencies

Cultural Development Grants from Oregon Cultural Trust. Only Oregon arts, heritage and humanities nonprofits (501(c)(3) organizations with culture at the heart of their missions are eligible to apply. These grants provide recognition and support to significant artistic, preservation and capacity-building projects. Visit www.culturaltrust.org/programs/grant_opportunities.php or 503.686.0088. Postmarked Deadline: 5/15/07.


Oregon Symphony’s 2007-09 Community Music Partnership Grant is an intensive two-year music residency program designed specifically to serve rural or remote communities in the state of Oregon with populations of 30,000 or less. Communities located east of the Cascade Mountains with a population of 30,000 or less can apply. Visit www.orsymphony.org/edu/cmp_rfp0709.pdf or 503.228.4294. Deadline: 5/16/07, 5pm.

Lilla Jewel Award for Oregon Women Artists in Media Arts in honor of the vital role that women artists play in enlivening movements for social justice. Applicants must be women residents of Oregon. The award is up to $4,000. Contact the McKenzie River Gathering Foundation at info@mrgfoundation.org, 503.289.1517, www.mrgfoundation.org. Deadline: 5/18/07.

Multnomah County Cultural Coalition Grants for Multnomah County based nonprofit arts, heritage or humanities organizations. $1,000 grants. Funds are given for cultural events, programs, or activities that are accessible and affordable. Funding for these grants comes from the Oregon Cultural Trust. Visit www.racc.org/CountyApps to download application and guidelines or contact Helen Daltoso at RACC, hdaltoso@racc.org. Deadline: 5/23/07, 5pm.

MetLife Foundation Partners in Arts Education Project’s goal is to improve teaching and learning in the arts by advancing high-quality, sustainable partnerships between community-based arts education organizations and public schools. Awards up to $25,000. Visit www.nationalguild.org/programs/partners.htm. For more information, contact: Kenneth T. Cole, Program Director, National Guild of Community Schools of the Arts, 212.268.3337 ext. 18, kencole@nationalguild.org. Deadline: 5/25/07.


Oregon Literary Fellowships. For Writers: helping Oregon writers initiate, develop or complete literary projects in poetry, fiction, literary nonfiction, drama and young readers literature. For Publishers: supporting Oregon’s independent publishers, small presses or magazines for publishing in the areas of poetry, fiction, literary nonfiction, drama and young readers literature. Visit www.literary-arts.org/linkto/pubform2007.pdf. Deadline for both: 6/29/07.

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

Competitions

3rd Annual National Photographic Exhibition Competition (7/6-29). Open to all photographic processes and themes, made in the last 2 years. The entry fee is $25 for 5 images. Visit www.newspacephoto.org or contact Newspace, 1632 SE 10th Ave., Portland, OR 97214. Deadline: 5/11/07.

Call to Artists for IFCC 25th Anniversary Gallery Exhibitors (9/07-10/07). All mediums from professional and emerging artists are welcome. Contact: Adrienne Flagg at adrienne@ifcc-arts.org, 503.823.2070, Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, 5340 N Interstate, Portland, OR 97217. Deadline: 5/15/07.


Call for Entries for the 31st Young People's Film & Video Festival. For grades K-12 from OR, WA, ID, MT, AK, or UT, in drama, documentary, comedy, and animated movie or other media. Visit www.nwfilm.org/youngfilmmakers/festivals.html. Postmarked Deadline: 6/1/07.


Call for Artwork for the All-Oregon Art Annual (8/24-9/3), a state-wide art competition, held in conjunction with Oregon State Fair. All media eligible, except video, performance art. Prospectus will be available on the Oregon State Fair website at www.oregonstatefair.org in mid-May. Contact: Eileen Cotter Howell 503.362.5386. For more information, contact Rich Wandeford, Exec Director at 541.426.3623.

Call for Artwork for “Touching Warms the Art” (Jan–March, 8) at Museum of Contemporary Craft, Portland (at new Pearl District location). Open to international artists and designers. Media: art jewelry/mixed media. Inviting artists to explore questions of materiality, construction, design and wearability. Invite makers of art jewelry to create objects that give audiences the freedom to touch—and temporarily wear—these adornments. Jurors: Rebecca Scheer, Rachelle Thiewes, Namita Gupta Wiggers. Entry fee: $15. Visit www.museumofcontemporarycraft.org or contact Kat Perez, Curatorial Assistant: kperez@contemporarycrafts.org. Deadline: 8/15/07, 5pm. For much more: www.racc.org/resources/other

Open Call for Artists 5th Annual Alberta Art Hop Art Show Looking for 2D & 3D artwork that addresses the theme of “We Are Alberta” with choreography by Artistic Director Mary Oslund, set design by Christine Bourdette, music score by John Berendzen, lighting design by Jeff Forbes, and costume design by Rinda Chambers. Visit www.oslundandco.org. (RACC Project Grant) Deadline: 5/10/07.
Nine eligible applications were received between January 1 and February 5 for Cycle 1. Applications are still coming in for the Cycle 2, and those awards will be announced on May 25. Funds will be available for several more cycles throughout the year, and in future years as well.

“These Opportunity Grants are designed to provide one-time assistance for Portland-based arts and culture organizations when unique opportunities arise outside of their regular programming,” said Cindy Knapp, Director of Operations of the Regional Arts & Culture Council. “Funds can also be requested to respond to an organizational emergency. It’s a way for RACC and the City to help when our arts and culture organizations have a special need.”

Funds typically go to arts and culture organizations that can demonstrate a unique artistic opportunity with benefits for the local community, and to those with an emergency beyond their control. Organizations that could submit a similar proposal through RACC’s existing grant programs (general support grants, project grants, and professional development grants) are less competitive in this program. In addition, the guidelines state that capital projects, scholarships, and funding deficits are not eligible for funding through this program. For complete guidelines, visit www.racc.org/grants.

All Opportunity Grant funding decisions are recommended by a panel that consists of: Jesse Beason, Office of Commissioner Adams; Eloise Damrosch, RACC Executive Director; Jeanette Pilak, Arts Administrator and Consultant; and Tad Savinar, Artist and RACC Board member. The RACC Board of Directors ultimately approves the panel’s recommendations. Because these grants are designed to assist with special one-time needs, organizations that receive funding through the Opportunity Grants program cannot apply for these funds again for 24 months after the activity is completed (although they remain eligible for funding through RACC’s other grant programs).

The next Opportunity Grants (Cycle 3) Intent to Apply deadline is May 16. For a complete list of all RACC deadlines throughout the calendar year and other information about the Opportunity Grants program, visit www.racc.org/grants or call 503.823.5111.

From 5/12-15 Oregon Cultural Access will present the Disability Pride Art and Culture Festival. The festival brings together dancers and performance artists for three days of film screenings, live performance, and workshops to celebrate the work of regional artists and provide the general public with an alternative view of the lives of people with disabilities. Visit www.dacphome.org. (RACC Project Grant)
Every year RACC awards Project Grants to individuals and organizations in the category of Neighborhood Arts and Arts-in-Schools. These projects bring the arts to youth in their schools and in their neighborhoods. Applications for 2008 RACC Project Grants are available later in May.

Below are some examples of these inspiring programs.

50 Harriet Tubman 8th Graders created poems and photographs for EXPOSE, an art exhibit in April, coordinated by Media, Arts, Technology Institute. (Photo above by Shai-Deja King & Chandora Wilson)

10 teenage girls worked with artist Kathe Swaback to create portraits that honor women of color for “Project Look Up” at the 8th Annual Alberta Art Hop on 5/19.

Open Meadow Alternative School students hold an anthology of their poems, “Unspoken Reality,” which they produced under the guidance of an artist from Literary Arts (Writers in the Schools). On 5/17 they will read their poems at the Student Art Celebration.

In April, Jennifer Knipling of the Autism Society of Oregon (above) curated a very successful project, “Out Look: An Art Exhibit for Youth with Autism.” Cody Reagan stands with Jennifer before one of his drawings.

Janelle and Drew from Centennial Learning Center Middle School enjoy an April performance of their original plays following creative workshops with PlayWrite, Inc.