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PRESS RELEASE

CITY AWARDS RECORD NUMBER OF COMMUNITY ARTS GRANTS

January 3, 2018

The City of Davis is pleased to announce the 2018 recipients of Community Arts Grant awards. This annual funding is awarded through the City Manager's Office/Arts & Cultural Affairs program, and has received a substantial boost in the past few years through expanded support from City leadership. The program provides funds for a wide variety of community-based arts programs and projects that foster excellence, diversity, and vitality in the arts, and this year is no exception. With awards going to dance, visual and performing artists, 2018 tops all previous years, both in amount and number of recipients.

Congratulations to the following 2018 grant awardees and programs:

ACME Theater Company / Free Comedy in the Park

Production of free public performances of *Twelfth Night*. Staged and managed by high school students, and presented using entirely donated recycled materials.

Davis Arts Center / Printmaker-In-Residence

Launch of a new community service in conjunction with a recently donated flatbed press, a printmaker-in-residence program will introduce more locals to the art of printmaking; including DJUSD students, Arts Center users, and the general public.

Davis Chamber Players

Provide local Davis and Sacramento area professional musicians and a select number of Davis High School Students the opportunity to perform chamber music in a quality setting, as well as educate and expose the community to chamber music repertoire.

Davis Community Chorale/ 40th Anniversary Concert Series

Produce a special 40th Anniversary Concert Series, which will showcase the group's 80+ community members, and featuring a Baroque orchestra and organ performance.

Donna Jury and Ken Kemmerling / Live Music at Davis Community Meals

Continuation and expansion of the popular wellness offering of free live music for community diners and staff at Davis Community Meals throughout 2018.

Pence Gallery / Artistic Legacy

Exhibition and accompanying public programs for *Northern California Clay: A Legacy of Social Consciousness*, a traveling exhibit examining issues such as climate change, immigration, and gender. Grant funds will support public engagement in social activism, and reflection regarding current social practices, and the role of artists as social critics.

Stories on Stage Davis

Monthly performances of contemporary fiction, identify emerging authors, and calling attention to the cultural and artistic diversity in our region.

Davis Dirt / Music Day 2019

Participation in the internationally popular and growing production of the third annual day to celebrate music with our community around the world, Make Music Day in June, 2019.

Davis Manor Neighborhood Council / Neighborhood Mosaic Bench

Community designed and created public art bench in the Davis Manor Neighborhood; building civic engagement, community beautification, and neighborhood connections.

Davis Media Access / Connecting Community through Personal Storytelling

Launch of a community digital storytelling workshop, followed by a public screening and discussion, to explore how personal stories can help individuals connect to themselves and each other. This pilot program will build capacity for future program expansion, including public workshops for community organizations.

Davis Musical Theater Company / Musical Jr.

Scholarship program providing access to more of Davis' underserved students and allowing more children and families to participate in Young Performers Theater during DMTC's 2018 season, which includes productions of *The Wizard of Oz* and *Seussical, Junior*.

Davis Phoenix Coalition / Highlighting Davis Pride through Art

Celebrate our community, increase visibility of the 2018 Davis Pride Festival and welcome marginalized members of Davis by creating temporary rainbow crosswalks leading to Central Park for Davis Pride celebrations.

2018 Davis Shakespeare Festival

Expand Davis Shakespeare Festival's audience base to reach a broader range of Davis and greater Sacramento area residents, increase production quality with professional actors and designers, continue Camp Shakespeare, and strengthen the Shakespeare Immersion program.

Ground and Field Theater Festival

Expand an impactful inaugural season through an annual festival drawing playwrights and composers from across the nation to develop new theatrical works while sharing them with the Davis community. Gives special consideration to works which explore issues of social, economic, and environmental sustainability, and seek to promote positive discourse in these areas, both locally and nationally.

International House / Youth Filmmaking Workshop & Public Screening

Filmmaking program for local teens coming from a wide range of economic and cultural backgrounds, highlighting the diverse experiences of people who live within our region; addressing issues of stratification relating to language, income, housing, class, ethnicity, legal status, and geography.

Pamela Trokanski Dance Theatre/ Art in 4 Dimensions

Production and performance that integrates visual art, music, and movement, exploring new ways to touch a broader range of community members and to strengthen ties amongst artists. This grant comes at an exciting time in the development of Pamela Trokanski's Life in 11 Dimensions project.

Silk Road Dabke Project / Stompin' Up: Youth Resist through Story and Dance

Multimedia dance performances that include digital stories from immigrant and refugee youth experiences (from Ethiopia, Eritrea, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Myanmar, Egypt, and Syria), choreographed dabke (folk dance), and poetry. Host a dabke workshop for Davis elementary school children.

Statement of Love Mural/Mosaic to Promote Inclusivity and Acceptance

A community-designed public art installation depicting the vision and commitment of the Davis community to reach positive social outcomes around the core values of inclusivity and acceptance; addressing immigration, community organizing, youth education, LGBTQ acceptance, freedom of religion, and women's rights.

Xiangjing Xu / Traditional Chinese Dough Figurine Art & Modern Western Style Clay Exhibition

Demonstration and exhibition of a traditional Chinese folk art in order to celebrate art and cultural exchange in the Davis community, and encourage creativity, imagination, and active participation in hands-on art-making experiences for all ages.

In December the City Council approved awards totaling \$71,578, the largest demonstration of support for community arts grants ever committed by the City. Eligible applicants included Davis art groups, organizations and galleries, members of the university community who extend on-campus activities into the City of Davis, non-profit organizations that want to sponsor an art-related program in Davis, and individual artists and arts educators who live in Davis or the surrounding unincorporated area, or whose primary artistic activity is in Davis. All projects must take place in the City of Davis. Applicants selected for funding will receive up to \$5,000, and must complete their projects by the end of June 2019. The Community Arts Grant cycle will open again in fall 2018, and more information can be found on the City's Arts & Culture page: cityofdavis.org/arts.

"The deliberate steps taken in the past few years to cultivate the City's arts community continue to thrive, and we are thrilled to be able to support more talented artists and programs in Davis during the coming year. Our increased support provides expanded access to the arts, diversified creative offerings in our community, more innovative collaborations, and more money going directly into the pockets of our local artists and presenters," Rachel Hartsough, City of Davis, Arts & Culture Manager.

Some highlights from last year's grant recipients include:

Art Theatre of Davis/Free the Seagull

Production of an original interpretation of Anton Chekhov's dramatic classic *The Seagull* for local audiences, including special programming at Atria Living/Covell Gardens and free Thursday performances featuring talk-back sessions.

<https://www.ucdavis.edu/news/seagull-continues-weekend/>

Danielle Fodor/Chapman and Madrone Street Mural

Creation of a large-scale and wildly successful community-designed and community-painted mural in the Chapman/Madrone neighborhood.

<https://www.facebook.com/PaintTheStreetEastDavis/>

Davis Dirt/ Davis Music Day

Production of the 2nd annual Make Music Davis festival, an all-day musical event affiliated with Make Music Day, an international public celebration of music for all ages.

<http://www.makemusicdavis.org/>

Davis Shakespeare Ensemble/2017 Davis Shakespeare Festival

Increase organizational capacity including: expand audience base to reach a broader range of Davis residents, increase quality of productions, strengthen school immersion program and educational outreach to the community and expanded Summer Festival offerings.

<http://www.shakespearedavis.org/>

"It is heart-warming to see the tangible results of our City support to the arts: our local artists and community working together to change the very face of our City streets, enhancing our neighborhoods through community collaboration, and increasing our visibility as a creative destination in the region and beyond." Mayor Robb Davis

Grant recipients may be reached for additional information:

ACME, Emily Henderson, director@acmetheatre.net

Art in 4 Dimensions, Pamela Trokanski, pamela@trokanski.com

Davis Arts Center, Stacie Frerichs, stacie.frerichs@davisartscenter.org

Davis Chamber Players, Christine Zdunkiewicz, twoleafclover@att.net

Davis Community Chorale, Christine Hance, clhover2@gmail.com

Davis Dirt, Annie Meckstroth, annemeck@gmail.com

Davis Manor Neighborhood Council, Jennifer Nachmanoff, jennach67@gmail.com

Davis Media Access, Autumn Labbe-Renault, autumn@davismedia.org

Davis Musical Theater Company, Leah Fraizer, ldfraizer@gmail.com

Davis Phoenix Coalition, Gloria Partida, davisphoenixco@gmail.com

Davis Shakespeare Ensemble, Rob Salas, rob@shakespearedavis.org

Ground and Field Theatre Festival, Tom Burmester, tburmester@ucdavis.edu

International House, Rijin Sahakian, dir@internationalhousedavis.org

Live Music at Davis Community Meals, Donna Jury and Ken Kemmerling, velvis@omsoft.com

Pence Gallery, Natalie Nelson, penceartdirector@sbcglobal.net

Silk Road Dabke Project, Beshara Kehdi, besgara.kehdi18@gmail.com

Statement of Love, Kate Mellon-Anibaba, katemellon1989@gmail.com

Stories on Stage Davis, Elise Winn Polland/Naomi Williams, storiesonstagedavis@gmail.com

Traditional Chinese Dough Figurines, Xiangjing Xu, smilesue2005@yahoo.com

For More Information Contact:

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Arts & Cultural Affairs

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