



PRESS RELEASE

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UNITED ARTS AWARDS MINI-GRANTS AND ARTS ENGAGEMENT MINI-GRANTS

ORLANDO – March 8, 2016 – United Arts of Central Florida announced the recipients of its February cycle of Mini-Grants and of Arts Engagement Mini-Grants. Three organizations were awarded a total of \$4,000 from the second cycle of Mini-Grants and one organization was awarded \$2,500 for the Arts Engagement Mini-Grant.

Mini-Grants

United Arts reaches out to grassroots and multicultural organizations through its Mini-Grants program. The program has three deadlines per year, a short application and one-month turnaround from submission to grant decision. Seventy-one percent of grantees received their first grant from United Arts through this program, and 39% are culturally diverse organizations.

This cycle's three grant recipients are:

Emotions Dance – Awarded \$1,000 for its production *Blur*. This full-length performance explores the relationships we have with technology, social media, and each other.

Goldsboro Museum – Awarded \$1,500 for *The Spirits of Goldsboro and The Ghosts of Sanford*. In an effort to engage and educate audiences about the history of Goldsboro, the second African-American town in Florida to be incorporated, the museum has designed an exhibition which will take visitors through the design and development of the city, life in Goldsboro in the 1900s, and the arts and culture of Goldsboro including its connection to author Zora Neale Hurston.

Voci Dance – Awarded \$1,500 for the production *Paint Chips: Word Jazz – A Modern Dance Interpretation*. During the Fringe Festival, Voci Dance will give five unique multimedia performances inspired by the album *Colors* by “father of word jazz” Ken Nordine.

Funding for the Mini-Grant program for the period of July 1 – June 30 has been fully awarded. The next application deadline with funding available is 5:00 p.m., August 1, 2016. The maximum grant award is \$2,500 per organization per year.

Arts Engagement Mini-Grants (*new name: Arts Learning Mini-Grants*)

United Arts expands opportunities for arts education to the wider community through its Arts Engagement Mini-Grants program. The program has been instrumental in implementing new programs for at-risk youth, Spanish-speaking actors, senior citizens, and toddlers. United Arts supports art for all ages. This program will be renamed Arts Learning Mini-Grants for future application cycles.

This cycle's grant recipient is:

Quest Inc. – Awarded \$2,500 for its *Quest for Arts* program. Quest for Arts is a creative outlet improving the quality of life for individuals with disabilities, at their Adult Day Training locations in Southwest Orlando and Apopka. The program incorporates seven rotating core art areas: Create!, Creative Skills, Creative Expression, Guest Artists, Artists in Training, Apprentice Artists, and Master Artist. Recognizing varying abilities, each area aims to engage the participant in different mediums and art techniques while building skills which pertain to their goals (i.e. fine and gross motor skills, creative expression, or networking).

United Arts is now accepting applications for the next cycle of (newly named) Arts Learning Mini-Grants. The next application deadline is 5:00 p.m., May 1, 2016. The maximum grant award is \$2,500 per organization per year.

About United Arts of Central Florida

United Arts is a collaboration of individuals, businesses, governments and school districts, foundations, arts and cultural organizations, and artists. Its mission is to unite, strengthen and inspire the Central Florida community through arts and culture. United Arts serves residents and visitors in Lake, Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties through more than 50 local arts, science and history organizations. It raises and distributes funds for these cultural groups and provides management, administrative and advisory services. Since 1989, United Arts has invested more than \$136 million in Central Florida's arts and culture.

More information is available at www.UnitedArts.cc or by calling 407-628-0333. Please email FloraMaria@UnitedArts.cc for comments or inquiries.

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