

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact:

Flora Maria Garcia
President & CEO
407.628.0333 x225
FloraMaria@UnitedArts.cc

GRANTS PROGRAM BRINGS DIVERSE PROGRAMMING TO SUMMER LINE-UP

ORLANDO – JUNE 1, 2017 – Enzian’s Diversity Film Festival is just one of five summer arts and culture events awarded a total of \$17,000 by **Diverse Programming Grants** from **United Arts of Central Florida**. The grants support programming for a wide range of audiences, particularly members of racially and ethnically diverse communities.

“People from all over the world call Central Florida home,” United Arts President and CEO **Flora Maria Garcia** says. “United Arts is committed to seeing that richness reflected throughout the arts and culture community. Diverse Programming Grants help accomplish that.”

Funding for Diverse Programming Grants comes from a \$50,000 grant from **Duke Energy** and is awarded to United Arts to continue diversity and outreach initiatives. The goal is to increase awareness and participation of diverse communities in Central Florida’s arts and culture. The grants of up to \$5,000 each are awarded three times a year – in October, February and May. This is the third and final cycle of the program’s first year. The May cycle’s five grant recipients are:

Bay Street Players, \$4,000 – producing the musical *Memphis*, which runs Aug. 11-13 and 18-20, 2017, at Eustis’ Historic State Theatre. The show is loosely based on Memphis disc jockey Dewey Phillips, one of the first white DJs to play black music in the 1950s, and includes an interracial love story.

Enzian, \$3,000 – creating the Diversity Film Festival, which screens in June or August 2017 at Enzian Theater in Maitland. Three or four films will showcase the beauty, dignity, vulnerabilities, and challenges of oft-marginalized communities, such as African Americans, Latinx, Indigenous, women, and/or LGBTQ. Each film viewing will include a speaker, and a panel discussion with all speakers will follow the final film.

Holocaust Memorial Resource and Education Center of Florida, \$4,500 – launching three African-American history exhibits: *Tuskegee Airmen*, *Embracing the Dream*, and *A Place for All People*. Associated programs include a workshop series, “The Rise and Fall of Jim Crow,” and a viewing of the movie *The Tuskegee Airmen*.

Orlando Science Center, \$2,500 – presenting Community Connection Day on August 26, 2017. This event complements the traveling exhibit, *Identity*, and aims to connect residents to diverse outreach organizations in Central Florida. Workshops will focus on different factors of human identity, encouraging people to think critically about themselves, their community, and the intersections of identity and society.

Timucua Arts Foundation, \$3,000 – hosting Latin Jazz Nights, June 4, July 9 and Dec 17 at the White House. Performers include Latin jazz flautist Néstor Torres (his concert will address the senseless violence of the

Pulse tragedy), Marty Morell (a jazz legend who was involved in the Bill Evans Trio), and Fernando Ferrarone (an up-and-coming young Cuban-American jazz trumpeter).

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 enrich communities by investing in arts, science and history. United Arts serves residents and visitors in Lake, Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties through more than 70 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 \$141 million in Central Florida's arts and culture.

For more information, visit www.UnitedArts.cc or call 407.628.0333. Please email FloraMaria@UnitedArts.cc for comments or inquiries. You can follow United Arts of Central Florida on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

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