



PRESS RELEASE

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UNITED ARTS AWARDS MINI-GRANTS AND ARTS LEARNING MINI-GRANTS

ORLANDO – March 9, 2017 – United Arts of Central Florida announced the recipients of its February cycle of Mini-Grants and Arts Learning Mini-Grants. Three organizations were awarded \$5,845 in the second cycle of Mini-Grants and six organizations were awarded \$12,500 for the Arts Learning Mini-Grants.

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 a one-month turnaround from submission to grant decision. More than 2/3 of grantees receive their first grant from United Arts through this program, and 48% are culturally diverse organizations.

This cycle's grant recipients are:

Emotions Dance – Awarded \$1,645 for its production *Element Earth*. Emotions Dance Company will explore human relations and the relationship we have with the planet using the art of contemporary dance at the Orlando Shakespeare Theater. The performance will provide education on environmental issues, as well as ideas on how individuals can help change their negative effect on the environment.

Goldsboro West Side Community Historical Association – Awarded \$2,100 for *Welcome Home Zora!*, a project that will engage and educate audiences about Zora Neale Hurston's connection to Goldsboro. This multi-media exhibition will include the installation of a Zora panel in the Goldsboro Arts Square, an audio tour with historical commentary, and a publication on the life of Zora Neale Hurston.

Association to Preserve African American Society, History and Tradition, Inc. (PAST) – Awarded \$2,100 for *Sankofa Revealed*. This series of four video presentations will feature first-person portrayals by former Senator Geraldine F. Thompson of iconic African American women significant in Florida's history. The four women featured will be: Harriet Tubman, who served as a nurse and a spy in Florida during the Civil War; Bessie Coleman, America's first African American aviator who was, at one time, a Central Florida resident; Harriette Moore who, with her husband NAACP executive, Harry Moore, led voting rights efforts in Florida in the 1940s and '50s; and Zora Neale Hurston, celebrated Eatonville native, author and anthropologist.

Funding for the Mini-Grant program for the period of July 1 – June 30 has been fully awarded. The next application deadline for funding will be 5:00 p.m., August 1, 2017. The maximum grant award is \$2,500

per organization per year. Organizations can learn more or apply at www.UnitedArts.cc/grants.

Arts Learning Mini-Grants

United Arts expands opportunities for arts education to the wider community through its Arts Learning 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 cycle's grant recipients are:

ArtReach Orlando – Awarded \$1,000 for *Mobile Art Stops*, a free program that will provide visual arts projects for youth that focus on skill-building and serve as an introduction to the visual arts. Projects are designed to meet the needs of each community location and are all open to the public. This year, scheduled stops will occur across the county in partnership with Orange County libraries.

Autism Society Of Greater Orlando – Awarded \$2,500 for *Autism Art*, a creative way to improve quality of life for adults with autism, which provides a safe space and inclusive opportunity for art exploration. Participants enter the program with no artistic background, but through weeks of art instruction, we find an artistic genre that fits the artist. The artist then begins to practice and learn the structure of the art-making process. Throughout the course of the program, artists exhibit their work at local arts fairs and festivals.

Child of this Culture Foundation (COTC) – Awarded \$1,500 for *Urban Art Project*. In hopes of disbaring the myth that graffiti is just vandalism, COTC strives to allow artists to tell their story through hip-hop arts traditions. Students of all ages will learn graffiti painting basics such as how to prepare cans, how to make thin and fat lines, how to fade the paint, etc. Classes will meet once a week for eight weeks.

HAPCO Music Foundation – Awarded \$2,500 for *Summer JAZZ Camp 2017*. Young musicians will have the opportunity to learn from jazz industry professionals and to improve their knowledge and performance skills through a combination of sectionals, workshops, and master classes. This camp is designed to accommodate musicians ranging from the less experienced to the most talented, with a minimum of one year of training on the chosen instrument, and includes curriculum from the Louis Armstrong Summer Jazz Band Camps. Clinicians and instructors include Wycliffe Gordon, 2016 Trombonist of the Year; Scott Wilson, UF Director of Jazz Studies; and Jeff Rupert, UCF Director of Jazz Studies.

Orlando Gay Chorus – Awarded \$2,500 for *Voices United Summer Clinic*. A weeklong clinic under the leadership of James Rode, OGC's artistic director, middle school students will participate in a group choral experience with Middle School Choral Clinician Harold Wright. A Florida All-State Preparatory Clinic will be led by Rebecca Hammac, the current Florida Vocal Association Chair for Middle School All-State and Associate Choral Director at Dr. Phillips High School. Students will also participate in a private vocal lesson/music theatre audition clinic, led by esteemed voice teachers and vocal performers.

Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra – Awarded \$2,500 for *Symphony Storytime: Goldilocks and the Three Bears*. The Symphony Storytime series is an entertaining, educational, and fun introduction to classical music for youth age five and under. An eighth concert will be added to the series, which will feature an original version of *Goldilocks and the Three Bears* created in collaboration with maestro Eric Jacobsen. Each concert is accompanied by visuals and narration to bring the story to life. Educational materials are provided prior to each outreach

performance.

United Arts is now accepting applications for the next cycle of Arts Learning Mini-Grants. The next application deadline is 5:00 p.m., May 1, 2017. The maximum grant award is \$2,500 per organization per year. Organizations can learn more or apply at www.UnitedArts.cc/grants.

About United Arts of Central Florida

United Arts is a collaboration of individuals, businesses, governments, 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 60 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.

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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