



Fiscal Year 2021 Grants Awarded

FY21-22 General Operating Support II Grants (GOS II)

\$3,500,777 awarded for July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

GOS II Grants provide support to nonprofit arts and humanities organizations that have had both cash operating expenses and cash operating income of at least \$150,000 for the past three completed fiscal years, have a full-time paid director, and can provide an annual audit. 26 organizations received FY21 awards in this category.

- **Adventure Theatre MTC**, Glen Echo, Maryland (\$142,431) – Adventure Theatre MTC educates and inspires new generations of theater artists and audiences with exceptional theatrical experiences.
- **Artivate**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$30,788) – Artivate engages communities to create interactive arts experiences that inspire learning. Artivate offers arts-based learning to motivate and invite audiences to participate through performances and workshops representing a wide range of artistic disciplines and cultural traditions. Artivate enables access to the arts for all, particularly under-resourced communities.
- **ArtStream, Inc.**, Chevy Chase, Maryland (\$37,144) – Through collaborative performance and lifelong learning opportunities, ArtStream enables people with intellectual and developmental disabilities gain the skills and confidence to engage with the world. ArtStream's staff believe that when people make their own choices and are engaged, stimulated, challenged, and inspired, they surpass both their own and others' expectations. ArtStream's Vision: To build an inclusive world where everyone can perform their art out.
- **Baltimore Symphony Orchestra**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$201,819) – Founded in quality symphonic music of all eras that nurtures the human spirit, the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra is committed to engaging, inspiring, educating, and serving its audiences in a fiscally responsible manner and to enhancing Maryland as a cultural center of vitality and importance.
- **Bender Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington**, Rockville, Maryland (\$63,355) – The Bender Jewish Community Center (JCC) is an all-inclusive community - from the people served to the programs offered - rooted in Jewish values. The JCC cultivates communities in a warm and inclusive environment grounded in strong values by offering a wide variety of programs and events through which people of all ages, backgrounds and interests can find a place to belong. Arts and cultural programming illuminate the human experience through film, music, gallery exhibits and literary events.
- **BlackRock Center for the Arts**, Germantown, Maryland (\$87,996) – BlackRock Center for the Arts brings inspiring performing and visual arts experiences to diverse audiences in a welcoming and intimate setting, providing opportunities to explore, celebrate and engage in the arts. Overarching goals are to present programs and artistic experiences of the highest quality to attract, retain and grow participation in the arts, facilitate opportunities for engagement and life-long learning in the range of artistic disciplines and; reflect, celebrate and engage the diversity of local communities through all levels of the organization.
- **CityDance**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$108,726) – Since its founding in 1996, CityDance has pursued its vision of a thriving arts community where every child has access to the benefits of an arts education and where world-class dance is available to all. CityDance provides high-quality dance instruction, including a pre-professional training program for students ages 3-19, producing and presenting excellent professional dance, and by offering tuition-free dance programs that provide pathways to personal and academic success.

- **Friends of the Library Montgomery County, Inc.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$64,240) – Friends of the Library strengthens, promotes, and champions Montgomery County Public Libraries (MCPL), enabling MCPL to better serve the learning interests and needs of diverse and changing communities.
- **Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture, Inc.**, Glen Echo, Maryland (\$117,023) – Glen Echo Park Partnership for the Arts and Culture presents vibrant artistic, cultural, and educational offerings. It promotes the Park as a unique destination for the region's diverse population, and nurtures a dynamic community of artists while preserving and managing historic facilities in the Park.
- **Imagination Stage**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$269,471) – Imagination Stage (IS) empowers ALL young people to discover their voice and identity through performing arts education and theatre. IS envisions a future where theatre experiences are a fundamental aspect of children's lives, nourishing their creative spirit, inspiring them to embrace the complexity and diversity of their world, and helping them overcome their challenges with hope, courage, and above all, creativity.
- **KID Museum, Inc.**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$89,852) – KID Museum empowers kids to become the creative problem-solvers of tomorrow.
- **Levine Music**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$160,110) – Levine Music is the region's preeminent center for music education committed to developing a lifelong love of music in everyone, regardless of age, ability, or means. Levine is founded on three pillars: Education, Performance, and Community. Levine Music's goals are to provide the cognitive and social benefits of arts education; create a new generation of music appreciators; spur community redevelopment; provide mentors to students; and offer scholarships and free outreach programs for hundreds of children with limited financial resources.
- **Maryland Youth Ballet**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$134,230) – Maryland Youth Ballet provides the highest caliber classical ballet training to prepare young dancers for professional careers in the performing arts and/or acceptance to top level dance training centers. The ballet provides the region's adults with the highest quality of classes and professional-quality ballet performances. Financially disadvantaged young children are given a free introduction to ballet and full-training scholarships are provided for those with dance potential. Young children with physical disabilities are given the opportunity to experience the joy of dance.
- **Metropolitan Ballet Theatre**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$61,001) – Metropolitan Ballet Theatre provides arts opportunities for all through exceptional dance education, community outreach and inspiring performances.
- **Montgomery Community Media**, Rockville, Maryland (\$190,523) – Montgomery Community Media (MCM) creates and delivers hyperlocal content, including local news, to those who live, work, or have interests in the Montgomery County. MCM is the only independent, nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization providing local access to public media on multiple platforms, including 9 digital platforms and 3 cable TV channels. MCM provides facilities and training in podcasting, video production, editing, writing, producing and media literacy.
- **Montgomery History**, Rockville, Maryland (\$24,175) – Montgomery History collects, preserves, interprets, and shares the history of all of Montgomery County's residents.
- **National Philharmonic and Chorale of Montgomery County**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$117,916) – The National Philharmonic provides the highest quality orchestral, choral and other musical experiences to enrich and inspire the lives of people in Montgomery County and beyond through concerts and educational programs for all ages.

- **Olney Theatre Center**, Olney, Maryland (\$427,497) – Olney Theatre Center produces, presents, and tours extraordinary performances for a diversity of audiences, educates and inspires the next generation of theater-makers.
- **Round House Theatre**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$234,620) – Round House is a home for outstanding ensemble acting and lifelong learning. Round House seeks to captivate audiences with stories that inspire compassion, evoke emotions, and demand conversation.
- **Sandy Spring Museum**, Sandy Spring, Maryland (\$33,357) – Sandy Spring Museum supports community-driven cultural arts and educational programs. The museum gathers community to build a sense of place and belonging.
- **Strathmore Hall Foundation, Inc.**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$600,000) – Strathmore presents and produces exemplary visual and performing arts programs for diverse audiences; creates dynamic arts education experiences; nurtures creative ideas and conversations that advance the future of the arts.
- **The Metropolitan Center for the Visual Arts (VisArts)**, Rockville, Maryland (\$113,606) – VisArts transforms individuals and communities through the visual arts.
- **The Puppet Co.**, Glen Echo, Maryland (\$23,333) – The Puppet Co. creates and presents professional puppet theater, especially for children and families, reflecting excellence in both performing and visual arts. The Puppet Co. provides an array of supporting programs including classes, demonstrations, publications, and exhibitions. The organization maintains a puppetry library, a collection of puppets, and puppetry memorabilia focused on the mid-Atlantic region of the United States, available to the public by request.
- **The Writer's Center**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$58,993) – The Writer's Center empowers writers and those who aspire to write through workshops, events, and creative collaboration. The Writer's Center also supports and celebrates those who publish.
- **Washington Conservatory of Music**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$61,232) – The Washington Conservatory of Music provides exceptional musical learning and listening experiences for their students and for the community.
- **Washington Revels, Inc.**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$47,339) – Washington Revels uses performance, education, and community engagement to revive, sustain, expand, and celebrate cultural traditions -- in music, dance, storytelling, and drama -- that bind people together in spirit and joy. Washington Revels strives to illustrate the world's common humanity, connecting all people in a community that stretches across ethnic, cultural, and religious divisions.

FY21 General Operating Support I Grants (GOS I)

\$849,990 awarded for July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

GOS I Grants provide support to nonprofit arts and humanities organizations that have had both annual cash operating expenses and cash operating income of at least \$50,000 for the past three completed fiscal years and at least one part-time paid staff member. 35 organizations received FY21 awards in this category.

- **After School Dance Fund**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$21,835) – The After-School Dance Fund to supports the social, emotional growth of youth by promoting health, exercise, and cultural unity through Latin dance education.
- **Akhmedova Ballet Foundation, Inc.**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$32,500) – Akhmedova Ballet Academy is dedicated to providing the finest quality ballet training. Young, talented dancers are trained in the Vaganova Method, with a focus on personal and artistic mentoring to become strong and fully developed artists. Students are trained to be accepted by dance companies around the world.
- **Arts for the Aging, Inc.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$39,000) – Arts for the Aging (AFTA) engages older adults and their caregivers in health improvement and life enhancement through regular participation in multi-disciplinary arts. AFTA stimulates minds, bodies, spirits and imaginations. A pioneer in arts programming for older adults, AFTA is a model for excellence in life-long learning and creative aging.
- **Arts on the Block**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$39,000) – Arts on the Block (AOB) empowers creative youth to imagine and shape fulfilling futures, join the creative workforce, and contribute to the quality of life in their communities. AOB provides real-world experiences in the arts and entrepreneurial training geared toward opening new pathways to learning, self-discovery, and achievement.
- **Bel Cantanti Opera**, Germantown, Maryland (\$17,500) – Bel Cantanti Opera supports young opera singers through the provision of performance opportunities and offers fully-staged performances to the community in Montgomery County at an affordable ticket price.
- **Cantate Chamber Singers, Inc.**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$14,280) – Cantate Chamber Singer stimulate awareness and appreciation of sacred and secular choral music through innovative programming, creative outreach, and collaborative performances with other artists and ensembles.
- **Carpe Diem Arts, Inc.**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$18,000) – Carpe Diem Arts creates opportunities for people of all ages and walks of life to engage in the visual, literary and performing arts from a broad range of cultures and traditions--with a focus on outreach to under-resourced communities.
- **Chevy Chase Historical Society**, Chevy Chase, Maryland (\$10,200) – Chevy Chase Historical Society collects, records, interprets and shares materials relating to the history of Chevy Chase, Maryland, one of America's first streetcar suburbs. Founded in 1981, the nonprofit organization provides resources for historical research and sponsors a variety of programs and activities to foster knowledge and appreciation of the community's history.
- **ClancyWorks Dance Company**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$35,000) – ClancyWorks Dance Company increases the public appetite for and understanding of the arts by presenting high-quality dance performance and educational programs to expand the relevance of dance in people's lives. ClancyWorks demonstrates that creative movement can be used to solve conflicts, develop community cohesion, improve academic achievement, and promote civic responsibility, as well as nurture leadership skills and artistic excellence in emerging artists.

- **CREATE Art Center, Inc.**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$39,000) – CREATE Arts Center sparks creativity, fosters learning, empowers individuals and facilitates community connections through the visual arts.
- **Dance Exchange**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$39,000) – Fueled by generosity and curiosity, Dance Exchange expands who gets to dance, where dance happens, what dance is about, and why dance matters.
- **Docs in Progress, Inc.**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$18,000) – Docs in Progress supports emerging documentary filmmakers, and all people who have a 'story to tell'. Docs in Progress teaches the skills and provides the tools that these individuals will need to shape their stories and, in the process, educates, inspires, and transforms the way people view their world. By developing, encouraging, and celebrating new and diverse voices of all ages in documentary film, Docs in Progress also seeks to deepen the public's experience, understanding, and appreciation for documentary as a form of art and expression.
- **Flying V Ltd.**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$36,000) – Flying V is redefining theatre, to invigorate and inspire people to live life with a greater sense of appreciation, adventure, and fight the cultural epidemic of existential loneliness. Bridging the gap between pop culture and high culture, Flying V creates vibrant original work, contemporary plays, and theatrical performance art inspired by genre fiction and other modern mythologies.
- **Gandhi Brigade Inc.**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$36,000) – Gandhi Brigade Youth Media uses digital media education as a tool to prepare young people, particularly those from underserved and immigrant neighborhoods, to become leaders in their communities.
- **Glen Echo Pottery, Inc.**, Glen Echo, Maryland (\$17,500) – Glen Echo Pottery offers ceramic classes in a relaxed but creatively serious environment. Approachable and inspirational to everyone from the tentative novice to the very experienced student, with opportunities to learn and participate in all aspects of the ceramic studio process, the organization offers the public opportunities to observe and interact with potters practicing their craft, and to view exhibitions of ceramic artwork.
- **Glorystar Children's Chorus**, Potomac, Maryland (\$17,000) – Glorystar Children's Chorus (GCC) nurtures and provides excellent music education to children and youth (5-18 years old) in the joy of Choral Art. With a rich repertoire of Asian and Western music, GCC increases appreciation and builds bridges within a diverse community.
- **Inscape Chamber Orchestra**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$16,250) – Founded in 2004, Inscape Chamber Orchestra performs concerts that engage audiences with compelling experiences. Inscape is also dedicated to premiering and recording new works by American composers.
- **InterAct Story Theatre Education Association, Inc.**, Wheaton, Maryland (\$19,500) – InterAct Story Theatre brings arts-based learning experiences to everyone, especially to those communities that are chronically underserved due to economic, social, and geographic constraints. InterAct Story Theatre believes that every kid, every grown-up, everywhere, deserves great theatre, whether or not you can get to a theatre. Everyone everywhere can learn and grow through artistic creation and exploration.
- **Interplay Orchestra, Inc.**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$17,500) – interPLAY Orchestra is a community orchestra comprised of adults with cognitive and physical disabilities who learn to make music and perform public concerts in collaboration with high school seniors, college students and professional musicians. InterPLAY believes that music is not just about the written notes, and that cognitive disabilities should not limit a person's access to enjoy and even perform music. Orchestra members learn the music through improvisation, repetition, and memory.

- **Kalanidhi Dance**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$36,000) –Kalanidhi Dance inspires appreciation for Kuchipudi dance through artistic excellence, creative performances, high-quality educational programs, and collaborations.
- **Kentlands Community Foundation, Inc.**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$17,000) – The Kentlands Community Foundation builds community by supporting local arts and cultural programs; provides opportunities for volunteerism and community outreach; and serves as an educational resource on the landmark new urbanist community that is Kentlands.
- **Lumina Studio Theatre**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$35,000) – Lumina Studio Theatre provides unique opportunities for young and adult actors of all levels of experience to perform classic theatre in a professional setting. Lumina engages actors in a rigorous, comprehensive performance-directed program of theatre arts, using techniques from Rudolf Steiner's Creative Speech and Drama, Michael Chekhov and Stella Adler, with in-depth vocal and character coaching, improvisation, stage combat, live music, and dance choreography supporting the production in progress.
- **Marlow Guitar International, Inc.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$36,000) – Marlow Guitar International Incorporated (MGI) creates community by drawing people together for entertainment, education and inspiration. MGI brings people together to experience classical guitar music from around the world through performances, classes and scholarship competitions. Additionally, MGI provides educational opportunities and fosters an appreciation for classical guitar.
- **National Capital Trolley Museum**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$15,000) – The National Capital Trolley Museum preserves and interprets the heritage of electric and interurban railways for the benefit of present and future generations. The organization supplements its collections with significant national and international objects to enhance its interpretive programs. The Museum acquires and manages collections of objects related to the history of electric street railways; administers real and personal property; operates an electric railway for interpretive purposes; and publishes histories of electric railways.
- **New Orchestra of Washington**, Rockville, Maryland (\$18,000) – The New Orchestra of Washington (NOW) makes music relevant to new generations of audiences through virtuoso performances that combine a range of genres with fresh interpretations of classic works, and through community-building projects that engage both new and experienced concertgoers.
- **Peerless Rockville Historic Preservation Ltd.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$34,000) – Peerless Rockville Historic Preservation, Ltd. is an award-winning nonprofit, community-based organization founded in 1974 to preserve buildings, objects, and information important to Rockville's heritage. Peerless Rockville advances its goals through education, example, advocacy, and community involvement.
- **Photoworks, Inc.**, Glen Echo, Maryland (\$17,000) – Photoworks is a photography program located at Glen Echo Park, MD. Photoworks offers lectures, courses, gallery exhibitions, and community outreach to enrich and broaden the lives of photographers and students at all levels. The organization aims to be a preeminent photography community that preserves traditions while also exploring the frontiers of visual expression.
- **Project Change**, Olney, Maryland (\$17,500) – Project Change is a youth-driven, non-profit organization empowering middle and high school students to be agents for positive change within their communities through opportunities focused on youth health, safety, service, leadership, and theater arts.
- **Silver Spring Town Center, Inc.**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$23,725) – Silver Spring Town Center Inc., educates, entertains, and inspires residents of all ages by activating public spaces with arts and cultural events that embrace the region's diversity and build community connections.

- **Story Tapestries, Inc.**, Germantown, Maryland (\$19,500) – Story Tapestries is a leading arts organization that serves the community through professional storytelling, theater, dance, spoken word performances and other art forms. Performances occur in a variety of public spaces including community centers, local theaters, libraries, and schools. Story Tapestries also offers workshops and in-depth training programs for adults and children to develop skills in various art forms, cultivating how to use the performing, visual, and literary arts to develop their voice, share their stories and increase their literacy, social-emotional and STEAM skills.
- **Symphony of the Potomac**, Potomac, Maryland (\$17,000) – Symphony of the Potomac (SOTP) is a community-based, musician-run orchestra. SOTP offers affordable concerts in Montgomery County, increases awareness of and educates the community about classical music and orchestral performance. SOTP also provides talented young people and qualified adult amateurs the opportunity to play under a professional conductor, with professionally trained musicians, and offers performances to schoolchildren and adults in residential care.
- **Victorian Lyric Opera Company**, Rockville, Maryland (\$23,800) – The Victorian Lyric Opera Company produces high-quality performances of light operatic works. The organization also offers educational and performance opportunities for the community.
- **Young Artists of America at Strathmore**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$28,000) – Young Artists of America at Strathmore (YAA) is an educational organization offering excellent training to gifted and committed young performing artists in a professional and nurturing environment. Through mentorship and individualized instruction from renowned artists, students work collaboratively to perform fully orchestrated works of music-theatre in state-of-the-art venues such as the Music Center at Strathmore, where YAA resides as the arts center's first Affiliate.
- **Youth Art for Healing, Inc.**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$17,500) – Youth Art for Healing brings works of art created by youth into healthcare environments to provide a sense of comfort, inspiration, and healing for patients, their loved ones, and healthcare professionals.
- **Zemer Chai**, Kensington, Maryland (\$11,900) – Zemer Chai ("Living Song" in Hebrew) is a volunteer choir of 35 singers dedicated to the preservation and performance of the full range of Jewish choral repertoire, including liturgical and classical pieces, worldwide Jewish folk music in multiple languages (English, Hebrew, Yiddish, Ladino), and new works composed especially for the choir. The singers come from all walks of Jewish life, finding common ground in their love of the music, and their commitment to sharing it. Now in its 44th year, the choir has served as a unique cultural and educational resource in Montgomery County.

FY21 Advancement Grants (AG)

\$265,711 awarded for July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Advancement Grants assist arts and humanities organizations in attaining fiscal stability and long-term viability. Grants support long-term planning and technology improvements critical to an organization's arts/humanities mission. 7 organizations received FY21 awards within this category.

- **Arts for the Aging, Inc.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$15,073) – Arts for the Aging (AFTA) engages older adults and their caregivers in health improvement and life enhancement through regular participation in multi-disciplinary arts. AFTA stimulates minds, bodies, spirits and imaginations. A pioneer in arts programming for older adults, AFTA is a model for excellence in life-long learning and creative aging.
- **Arts on the Block**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$75,000) – Arts on the Block (AOB) empowers creative youth to imagine and shape fulfilling futures, join the creative workforce, and contribute to the quality of life in their communities. AOB achieves provides real-world experiences in the arts and entrepreneurial training geared toward opening new pathways to learning, self-discovery, and achievement.
- **ClancyWorks Dance Company**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$45,000) – ClancyWorks Dance Company increases the public appetite for and understanding of the arts by presenting high-quality dance performance and educational programs to expand the relevance of dance in people's lives. ClancyWorks demonstrates that creative movement can be used to solve conflicts, develop community cohesion, improve academic achievement, and promote civic responsibility, as well as nurture leadership skills and artistic excellence in emerging artists.
- **Peerless Rockville Historic Preservation Ltd.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$12,800) – Peerless Rockville Historic Preservation, Ltd. is an award-winning nonprofit, community-based organization founded in 1974 to preserve buildings, objects, and information important to Rockville's heritage. Peerless Rockville advances its goals through education, example, advocacy, and community involvement.
- **The Writer's Center**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$11,700) – The Writer's Center empowers writers and those who aspire to write through workshops, events, and creative collaboration. The Writer's Center also supports and celebrates those who publish.
- **Strathmore Hall Foundation, Inc.**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$89,600) – Strathmore presents and produces exemplary visual and performing arts programs for diverse audiences; creates dynamic arts education experiences; and nurtures creative ideas and conversations that advance the future of the arts.
- **Young Artists of America at Strathmore**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$16,538) – Young Artists of America at Strathmore (YAA) is an educational organization offering excellent training to gifted and committed young performing artists in a professional and nurturing environment. Through mentorship and individualized instruction from renowned artists, students work collaboratively to perform fully orchestrated works of music-theatre in state-of-the-art venues such as the Music Center at Strathmore, where YAA resides as the arts center's first Affiliate.

FY21 Programming & Capacity Building Project Grants (PCBPG)

\$153,575 awarded for July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Programming & Capacity Building Project Grants provide support for the high-quality programs open to the public, as well as capacity-building projects, of arts and humanities organizations or groups that may or may not have 501(c)(3) status. 28 organizations received FY21 awards within this category.

- **Best Medicine Rep**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$7,200) – Best Medicine Rep is a professional theater specializing in new comedies. Best Medicine Rep fosters community through shared laughter, empathy and purpose. Performed stories provide a communal experience and the shared joy of laughter.
- **Bethesda Little Theatre**, Olney, Maryland (\$3,750) – Bethesda Little Theatre (BLT) is dedicated to producing performances intended to entertain audiences in our local community and to encourage public appreciation of theater. BLT donates a portion of their profits to the Patient Emergency Fund and other charities managed by NIH and NIH R&W Association. BLT is focused on giving back to the community, and also performs shows at senior living centers throughout the year.
- **ChorSymphonica**, Rockville, Maryland (\$7,000) – The Rockville Bach Academy enriches the community with classical music through its ensemble of professional musicians, ChorSymphonica. The organization inspires, educates, enlightens, and enriches the community with unique choral concerts, performed at the highest artistic standard. ChorSymphonica strives to promote appreciation for and understanding of classical music, often bilingually, through educational programming such as Conversation Concerts.
- **Damascus Theatre Company**, Damascus, Maryland (\$2,730) – Damascus Theatre Company (DTC) entertains, engages, and inspires theatrical artists and audiences from the diverse communities of Montgomery County, MD. Since its inception 34 years ago, DTC has pursued 3 goals: 1) producing award winning community musical theatre; 2) continued development of its DTC Junior program; and 3) positively impacting the community through affordable tickets and membership fees, discounts to community organizations, offering workshops and community service hours for students.
- **DC South Asian Arts Council Inc.**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$5,000) – The DCSAACI is the South Asian cultural Ambassador to promote music, films, dance, theater, books, painting, and host panel discussions on important social issues. The organization brings people together, celebrates what we have in common and appreciates South Asian art, culture, and food. DCSAACI hosts the *Washington DC South Asian Film Festival* (DCSAFF), highlighting the best in alternative cinema from India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Sri Lanka.
- **F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Conference, Inc.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$7,200) – The organization fosters understanding and appreciation of the literary arts (fiction, non-fiction, poetry, play/screenwriting, and literary journalism.) The organization sponsors the annual *F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Festival*, which recognizes an outstanding American writer, and supports, encourages, and assists aspiring and emerging writers and students through short story contests and workshops. The organization also works with other cultural organizations to keep the legacy of F. Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald and their ties to Maryland alive.
- **FocusMusic**, Rockville, Maryland (\$3,750) – FocusMusic brings folk and acoustic music to a growing audience through performance, education, and participation in the musical folk arts. FocusMusic works collaboratively with other nonprofit folk and acoustic music presenters, and provides performance opportunities for emerging and nationally touring singer-songwriters.

- **Four Seasons Dancers, Inc.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$4,540) – Dedicated to the development, exploration, and advancement of international dance and to the service and promotion of the art of dance, Four Season’s Dancers focuses exclusively on presenting a globally-inspired program that reflects the cultures and heritages of various nations. Works are presented to the community at-large, as well as to the senior and differently abled community through outreach programs.
- **Harmony Express**, Germantown, Maryland (\$3,024) – Harmony Express is a barbershop-style mixed a cappella chorus, and the Germantown, MD chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society (aka the Society For The Preservation And Encouragement Of Barbershop Quartet Singing In America), whose motto is Everyone in Harmony. Harmony Express generates fun through excellence, celebrating harmony in the barbershop style, promoting fellowship and friendship among members, enhancing the community through performance, and participating in Barbershop Harmony Society events and competitions.
- **AmaZing Theatre Company, Inc. (Formerly Heralds of Hope Theatre Company)**, Laytonsville, Maryland (\$7,500) – AmaZing Theatre Company is an African American theater company established in Montgomery County in 2008. The theater supports artists through education, training, promoting and assisting new playwrights. Focused on the growth of diverse audiences, the theater promotes value-based plays that depict contemporary real-life issues and universal themes in society.
- **Kolot HaLev**, Kensington, Maryland (\$7,500) – Kolot HaLev is a non-audition community choir that provide opportunities for any member of the community to participate in choral music. Kolot HaLev enhances the musical capabilities of members through a commitment to musical excellence, shares and preserves the diversity of Jewish history, liturgy, and culture by entertaining and educating as broad an audience as possible, while striving to build bridges of communication and understanding between denominations and communities.
- **Montgomery Philharmonic, Inc.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$7,500) – Montgomery Philharmonic is a community-based symphony orchestra that serves the public through high quality programing of symphonic orchestra music that is adventurous and engaging, welcoming its musicians, audience, and celebrating education, accessibility, diversity, and inclusion.
- **Montgomery Symphony Orchestra**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$4,603) – The Montgomery Symphony Orchestra (MSO) is a community orchestra dedicated to providing free quality public classical music performances and educational programs. Originally founded in 1946, MSO’s objectives are to offer members the opportunity to play and develop as musicians; support young musicians from the community through concerts; highlight music by diverse composers; and enhance appreciation of live orchestral music for community audiences.
- **NIH Community Orchestra**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$2,590) — NIH Community Orchestra (NIHCO) takes pride in being a friendly, community-oriented group that prepares quality music performances for audiences in Montgomery County and encourages members musical growth. Members of NIHCO include employees of NIH, other government agencies, the private sector, and retirees. In lieu of charging admission, concert patrons are invited to donate to the NIH Charities, which include Children's Inn at NIH, Special Love camps, and Friends of Patients at NIH.
- **NIH Philharmonia**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$3,500) – NIH Philharmonia performs free and educational classical music concerts for the community in an intimate concert experience that engages concertgoers of all ages. Presented with a high level of musical excellence, the annual concert series includes well-known works, new works, and pieces rarely performed by orchestras. The goal is to reach out to audience members who range in age from 3 to 102 and inspire them through classical music.

- **Orfeia Vocal Ensemble**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$4,485) – Orfeia Vocal Ensemble is an all-woman’s vocal ensemble dedicated to keeping alive and sharing the unique vocal traditions of Bulgaria and Eastern Europe. Under the direction of its Artistic Director and celebrated Bulgarian singer and composer Tatiana Sarbinska, through performances and workshops, Orfeia is uniquely able to reproduce the unforgettable, authentic sound of Balkan women’s village singing and folklore choruses, making rich, diverse, and beautiful music, together with its cultural context, accessible to audiences.
- **Peace Mountain Theatre Company**, Darnestown, Maryland (\$4,320) — Peace Mountain Theatre Company (PMTTC) produces quality theatrical productions and educational programs that entertain the senses, engage the mind and touch the heart. PMTC addresses subjects and explores issues that are of importance to the community. The theater produces educational outreach programs that incorporate the talents of actors and the theatrical medium in a unique and stimulating manner to raise awareness. PMTC includes equity, diversity, and inclusion considerations in all aspects of their operation.
- **Peter’s Alley Inc.**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$5,000) – Peter’s Alley is dedicated to creating uniquely intimate works of dramatic realism crafted in an environment of kind, respectful collaboration.
- **Rockville Brass Band**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$6,129) – Rockville Brass Band is a 38-piece brass and percussion ensemble based in Montgomery County. The band dedicates itself to establishing and preserving the British brass band tradition by performing a full range of musical styles including marches, classical, jazz, and popular music. The band strives for musical excellence while promoting the British brass band tradition.
- **Six Degree Singers**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$7,500) – Six Degree Singers (SDS) was founded in 2009 as a community choir with the goal of keeping musical training and knowledge relevant to the lives of young professionals and the communities they are creating. SDS is a musical community of friends, families, parents, and coworkers. SDS gives back to the place that supported and nurtured its musical dream. To do this, SDS provides performance opportunities, free musical education, and public outreach to keep music fresh and alive as a vital part of the community.
- **Tagore Music Group of Greater Washington, DC**, North Potomac, Maryland (\$5,000) – Tagore Music Group of Greater Washington DC strives to familiarize the community of theatergoers in the Greater Washington DC area with the Nobel-laureate Indian poet/lyricist/thinker Rabindranath Tagore's philosophy of peace, humanity, and equality through the staging of his dramas, dance-dramas, and musicals. The audience gets a chance to experience an excellent playwright's work; the cast and crew receive a hands-on education on all aspects of staging a successful play.
- **Takoma Park Folk Festival, Inc.**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$7,500) – The Takoma Park Folk Festival, Inc. presents a free annual folk festival in Takoma Park, MD each September that celebrates the arts and the Takoma Park-Silver Spring community. The event, which is held rain or shine, presents six stages of music and dance, a juried crafts show, international food, community nonprofit tables, and children’s games and activities.
- **The Bethesda Blues & Jazz Foundation, Inc.**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$7,200) – The Bethesda Blues & Jazz Foundation is a non-profit music and educational organization. The Foundation provides an educational environment and opportunities for young musicians to experience and perform jazz music. The Foundation created the Bethesda Blues & Jazz Youth Orchestra ("BBJYO") in 2017 for musicians, ages 11 to 17.
- **The National String Symphonia**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$7,200) – The National String Symphonia (NSS) is a fully professional symphonic string orchestra. The NSS preserves, promotes, and presents string orchestra music through a diverse array of concert performances, educational workshops, and innovative programming.

- **Trinity Chamber Orchestra**, Germantown, Maryland (\$5,330) – The Trinity Chamber Orchestra performs outstanding sacred and secular music from the Baroque period through the present. The orchestra is made up of dedicated professional and avocational musicians. Volunteer musicians come together because they love making music together and giving joy to their audiences. There is no requirement to belong to a faith group and there is no proselytizing.
- **Unexpected Stage Company**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$5,100) – Unexpected Stage Company is a professional theater that dedicates itself to honoring the intricacies and intimacies of the complete human experience. To that end, Unexpected Stage Company seeks to unite people, place, and storytelling to explore interconnection.
- **Washington Metropolitan Gamer Symphony Orchestra**, Rockville, Maryland (\$4,424) – The Washington Metropolitan Gamer Symphony Orchestra is a community orchestra and choir that shares and celebrates video game music with a wide audience by offering affordable, accessible concerts.
- **Wildwood Summer Theatre**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$7,000) – Wildwood Summer Theatre strives to improve the quality of Maryland’s youth summer theatre. The theatre creates an educational yet professional environment in which youth, fourteen to twenty-five, can discover, explore, and refine a passion for theatrical production based on the core values of accountability, respect, quality, integrity, and teamwork.

FY21 Artists & Scholars Project Grants (ASPG)

\$155,556 awarded for July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021

Artists & Scholars Project Grants support the work of individual artists and scholars who reside in Montgomery County. Projects focus on the creation and/or presentation of artistic/scholarly work and can also support professional development. 41 artists and scholars received FY21 awards within this category.

- **Adrienne Clancy**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$5,000) – Dancer whose work explores architecturally informed partnering developed among diverse artists.
- **Adrienne Moumin**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$2,606) – Visual artist specializing in hand-cut-and-assembled gelatin silver photo collages, and for the black and white photographs from which they are made.
- **Alyscia Cunningham**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$5,000) – Author, filmmaker, photographer, and lecturer whose work focuses on changing the dialogue about beauty standards for women through documentary film and unaltered photography.
- **Amy Finkelstein**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$4,000) – Photographer specializing in straight analog photos of mixed-media constructions of materials as a means of mirroring our general sense of contemporary complexities, and as an attempt to hold the viewer in an act of questioning.
- **Anthony Harvey**, Germantown, Maryland (\$3,500) – Fashion designer for *Indiskreet*, catering to the multifaceted lifestyles of people living in urban areas through vibrant colors and graphics on vogue silhouettes.
- **Barbara Siegel**, Kensington, Maryland (\$3,600) – Visual artist interested in sparking fresh and productive conversations about difficult subjects through the mark-making process of painting.
- **Beverly Ress**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$2,160) – Visual artist focused on depictions of natural history and medical specimens using colored pencil on paper, which is then further manipulated with abstract post-rendering interventions to contrast the representational drawing.
- **Bonnie Rich**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$3,750) – Director, writer, and speaker interested in expanding offerings and points of engagement with her feature debut, a personal documentary about her family's relationship with Jewish traditions.
- **Carol Solomon**, Montgomery Village, Maryland (\$3,136) – Author who writes contemporary domestic fiction set in common places ordinary people encounter daily, transformed into settings for tragedy and triumph as ordinary people face their passions and fears.
- **Cissa Paz**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$3,750) – Musician influenced by the local jazz sounds and her Brazilian African-Indigenous background.
- **Cory Oberndorfer**, Rockville, Maryland (\$3,564) – Visual artist focused on a pop art style, offering the viewer the comfort of the familiar with subtle indications that memories of the past are idealized more than the reality of the experience.
- **Damon Arhos**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$4,392) – Interdisciplinary visual artist seeking to expose the destructive nature of prejudice while advocating for compassion.
- **Danielle Mysliwicz**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$2,168) – Visual artist specializing in intricately woven abstract paintings, using a specialized tool to extrude wet oil paint in “threads.”

- **Deepak Ram**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$4,000) – Musician known for evocative performances in traditional North Indian (Hindustani) classical music, collaborations with musicians of other genres, and innovative compositions.
- **Derek Ross**, Chevy Chase, Maryland (\$3,500) – Musician focused on performing and producing an album with the ukulele.
- **Dominick Rabrun**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$4,750) – Multidisciplinary visual artist whose work is a mixture of traditional practices merged with experimental but equally important digital practices.
- **Elzbieta Sikorska**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$3,750) – Visual artist whose initial interest in pencil drawings has evolved into extending drawing into new areas such as printmaking, papermaking, and photoetching.
- **Erin Roberts**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$5,000) – Author focused on writing speculative fiction, creating new worlds as a creative framework to explore the one that we all live in.
- **Fleur Gedamke**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$4,500) – Photographer whose work captures the in-between moments that are overlooked yet embody the heart of the subject matter.
- **Frank Martin**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$4,500) – Musician who performs folk-soul original and cover songs on acoustic guitar and harmonica.
- **Hillary Steel**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$5,000) – Visual artist specializing in weaving and resist dyeing, incorporating ikat and plangi into hand-woven wall pieces.
- **Jack Boul**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$4,000) – Visual artist whose work, although representational, maintains that all art is essentially abstract and as much about relationships as about any ostensible subject matter.
- **Jacqueline Hoysted**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$4,000) – Multimedia project-based artist and activist, primarily focused on advancing awareness of social and political issues.
- **Javier Farias**, Potomac, Maryland (\$2,700) – Musician and composer, writing extensively for the guitar in varying genres ranging from solo classical and electric to full guitar ensembles, as well as other instrumental combinations.
- **Jeremy Eig**, Chevy Chase, Maryland (\$2,880) – Musician and devoted advocate for new music, particularly the expansion of the clarinet solo literature.
- **John Weber**, Kensington, Maryland (\$1,947) – Visual artist specializing in oil painting, whose representational works are about personal connection.
- **Liliane Blom**, Rockville, Maryland (\$3,750) – Visual artist focused on creating installations and digital paintings exploring invisible boundaries.
- **Lynn Alleva Lilley**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$3,750) – Photographer whose work is rooted in a connection with place and nature, with a particular interest in the photobook as a uniquely intimate way of presenting works.
- **Megan Maher**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$3,750) – Mixed-media artist whose work explores the interactions between line, color, and materials.
- **Melissa Ezelle**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$2,709) – Printmaker and mixed-media artist exploring the traditional printmaking process to create handmade standalone prints, as well as prints on fabric using lithographic, screen print, or collagraph intaglio processes, all of which are often further manipulated to make new compositions.

- **Muriel Hasbun**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$5,000) – Visual artist focused on cultural identity and memory.
- **Pam Eichner**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$3,000) – Mixed-media artist whose work involves layering paint, netting, filaments, torn paper, and cut digital drawings to explore the mysteries of movement.
- **Paula Stone**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$4,750) – Playwright whose body of work is comprised of mostly comedies, and whose most recent work follows the bittersweet struggles of an adult daughter caring for her aging mother.
- **Robyn Shrater Seemann**, Potomac, Maryland (\$3,750) – Storyteller focused on personal experiences, literally and abstractly, to give observant Jewish women a voice, who have historically not had the opportunities to share their perspective.
- **Sarah Avery**, Rockville, Maryland (\$3,995) – Author with a concentration on fantasy literature that presents increasing human freedom as an instrument of re-enchantment in a damaged world that can be healed.
- **Sarah Frisof**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$2,314) – Musician trained as a classical flutist, focused on highlighting flute music composed by women, and the documentation of female composers.
- **Seema Reza**, Rockville, Maryland (\$3,655) – Author and performer exploring the relationship between form and content, and how multiple mediums can lead to varying discoveries for both audience and author.
- **Sophia Belkin**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$4,230) – Visual artist whose artistic practice combines dye painting, photography, digital techniques, and embroidery in innovative and unprecedented ways to explore the relation between nature and toxicity.
- **Suneeta Misra**, North Potomac, Maryland (\$5,000) – Filmmaker with a passion for fictional and documentary films that show the social conditions in both India and in the South Asian diaspora of the United States.
- **Susan Donnelly**, Kensington, Maryland (\$4,500) – Media artist whose work includes graphic design, editorial, and marketing for major media outlets, as well as a documentary about the first Jewish farming colony in the United States.
- **Susan Goldman**, Rockville, Maryland (\$4,250) – Visual artist focused on transforming still life subject matter into dynamic, modern imagery using combined printmaking mediums of monotype, woodcut, and screen print to create a balance between decorative Victorian art and modernism.