



Fiscal Year 2022 Grants Awarded

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

\$3,500,777 awarded for July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

GOS II Grants provide general operating support to non-profit arts and/or humanities organizations located in Montgomery County, MD that have had both cash operating revenue and expenses 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 FY22 awards in this category.

- **Adventure Theatre, Inc., dba 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, Inc.**, 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, Inc.**, 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 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 community 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.
- **Germantown Cultural Arts Center, Inc., dba 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 a range of artistic disciplines; and reflect, celebrate, and engage the diversity of local communities.
- **CityDance Ensemble, Inc., dba 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, MD, 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, Inc.,** 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.
- **MOCO Kidsco, Inc., dba KID Museum,** Bethesda, Maryland (\$89,852) – KID Museum empowers kids to become the creative problem-solvers of tomorrow.
- **Levine Music, Inc.,** 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, Inc.,** 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, Inc.,** Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$61,001) – Metropolitan Ballet Theatre provides arts opportunities for all through exceptional dance education, community outreach and inspiring performances.
- **Metropolitan Center for the Visual Arts, Inc., dba VisArts,** Rockville, Maryland (\$113,606) – VisArts transforms individuals and communities through the visual arts.
- **Montgomery Community Television, Inc., dba 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 County Historical Society, dba Montgomery History,** Rockville, Maryland (\$24,175) – Montgomery History collects, preserves, interprets, and shares the history of all of Montgomery County's residents.

- **National Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorale of Montgomery County, Inc., dba National Philharmonic**, 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 Corporation, dba Olney Theatre Center**, Olney, Maryland (\$427,497) – Olney Theatre Center produces, presents, and tours extraordinary performances for a diversity of audiences, and educates and inspires the next generation of theater-makers.
- **Round House Theatre, Inc., dba 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, Inc., dba 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 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.**, Glen Echo, 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.

FY22 General Operating Support I Grants (GOS I)

\$847,477 awarded for July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

GOS I Grants provide general operating support to non-profit arts and/or humanities organizations located in Montgomery County, MD that have had both annual cash operating revenue and expenses of at least \$50,000 for the past three completed fiscal years and at least one part-time paid staff member. 35 organizations received FY22 awards in this category.

- **After School Dance Fund, Inc., dba Baila4Life**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$18,000) – The After School Dance Fund's (ASDF) establishes strong Latin dance clubs inside Montgomery County Public Schools to strengthen the social emotional development of youth by promoting health, exercise, heritage, and unity through Latin dance education.
- **Akhmedova Ballet Foundation, dba Akhmedova Ballet Academy**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$32,843) – The Akhmedova Ballet Academy is dedicated to providing the finest quality ballet training utilizing the Vaganova Method, with personal and artistic mentoring to prepare young talented dancers to become strong and fully developed artists ready to take their places in major dance companies around the world. They strive for diversity, inclusion, and equality for all dancers.
- **Artpreneurs, Inc., dba Arts on the Block**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$41,000) – 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 of their communities. AOB achieves its mission by providing real-world experiences in the arts and entrepreneurial training geared toward opening new pathways to learning, self-discovery, and achievement. They identify, recruit, and retain youth who are rich in promise despite challenging economic circumstances and limited educational attainment in their families.
- **Arts for the Aging, Inc.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$37,500) – Arts for the Aging (AFTA) engages older adults and caregivers in health improvement and life enhancement through regular participation in the multi-disciplinary arts.
- **Bel Cantanti Opera**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$18,000) – Bel Cantanti Opera's mission is to support young opera singers through performance opportunities, and to bring those opportunities to the community with reasonable ticket prices.
- **Cantate Chamber Singers**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$12,960) – Cantate's mission is to 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., dba Carpe Diem Arts**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$18,563) – Carpe Diem Arts engages and strengthens communities across generations, cultures, and socio-economic divides through the visual, literary, and performing arts.
- **Chevy Chase Historical Society**, Chevy Chase, Maryland (\$10,800) – The 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. The organization provides resources for historical research and sponsors a variety of programs and activities to foster knowledge and appreciation of the community's history.

- **Clancy Works, Inc., dba ClancyWorks Dance Company**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$36,325) – ClancyWorks Dance Company increases public understanding of the arts by presenting high quality dance performance and educational programs; expanding the relevance of dance in people’s lives by demonstrating that creative movement can be used to solve conflicts, develop community cohesion, improve academic achievement, and promote civic responsibility; and nurturing leadership skills and artistic excellence in emerging artists.
- **CREATE Art Center, Inc.**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$36,000) – CREATE Arts Center sparks creativity, fosters learning, empowers individuals, and facilitates community connections through the visual arts.
- **Dance Exchange**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$37,500) – 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., dba Docs In Progress**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$21,600) – Docs In Progress seeks to create community through documentary film. The organization educates, inspires, and transforms the way people view their world by providing individuals the tools to tell stories through documentary film.
- **Flying V, Ltd., dba Flying V**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$35,205) – Flying V inspires people to live life with a greater sense of appreciation and adventure, and to combat the increasing epidemic of existential loneliness in our culture. Flying V bridges the gap between pop culture and high culture and is dedicated to the creation, development, and production of vibrant original work, offbeat contemporary plays, and theatrical performance art inspired by genre fiction and other modern mythologies.
- **Gandhi Brigade, Inc., dba GB Youth Media**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$28,800) – GB Youth Media creates communities where young people build the confidence and media skills to express themselves and to promote community building, multi-cultural understanding, and the common good.
- **Glen Echo Pottery, Inc.**, Glen Echo, Maryland (\$18,000) – Glen Echo Pottery teaches ceramic arts to everyone, from the tentative novice to the very experienced student. They offer opportunities for students to learn and participate in all aspects of the ceramic studio process and offer the public opportunities to view exhibitions of ceramic artwork and to observe and interact with potters practicing their craft.
- **Glorystar Music Education and Cultural Foundation, dba Glorystar Children's Chorus**, Potomac, Maryland (\$17,280) – Glorystar Children’s Chorus (GCC) provides excellent music education and choral arts to children and youth. Through a rich repertoire of Eastern and Western music, GCC promotes music appreciation and builds bridges in our diverse community.
- **Inscape, Inc., dba Inscape Chamber Orchestra**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$16,200) – Founded in 2004, Inscape Chamber Orchestra performs concerts that engage audiences with compelling concert experiences. Inscape also premieres and records new works by American composers.
- **InterAct Story Theatre Education Association, Inc., dba InterAct Story Theatre**, Wheaton, Maryland (\$16,500) – InterAct Story Theatre is a theatre and multidisciplinary arts-in-education organization. They create meaningful, accessible, interactive theatre and arts learning experiences for kids and the people who love them, especially those who experience economic, social, or geographic barriers to equitable arts access. The organization believes that the arts help foster communication and understanding in our communities by helping us to express our ideas, hopes, emotions, and experiences when words alone are not enough.
- **Kalanidhi Dance**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$36,000) – Kalanidhi Dance inspires appreciation for Kuchipudi dance through artistic excellence, creative performances, high quality educational programs, and collaborations. The organization is grounded in the belief that dance, like music, knows no geographic boundaries, linguistic barriers, racial differences, or class divisions.

- **Lumina Studio Theatre, Inc.**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$32,400) – Lumina Studio Theatre’s mission is to provide unique opportunities for young and adult actors of all levels of experience to perform Shakespeare and other classic theatre with a focus on the beauty of language in a professional setting. Lumina actors engage in a comprehensive performance-directed program of theatre arts using the techniques of Rudolf Steiner, Michael Chekhov, and Stella Adler. Rehearsal work includes in-depth vocal and character coaching and improvisation. Stage combat, live music, and dance choreography are also included as the production requires.
- **Marlow Guitar International Incorporated**, Rockville, Maryland (\$39,000) – Marlow Guitar International (MGI) creates community through music by drawing people together for entertainment, education, and inspiration. MGI offers classical guitar music from around the world through performances, educational events, and outreach.
- **National Capital Historical Museum of Transportation, Inc., dba National Capital Trolley Museum**, Colesville, Maryland (\$14,400) – National Capital Trolley Museum preserves and interprets the heritage of electric and interurban railways and environs for the benefit of present and future generations. 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, Inc., dba New Orchestra of Washington**, Rockville, Maryland (\$18,000) – A small chamber orchestra, New Orchestra of Washington (NOW) elevates every member to their highest potential as an individual virtuoso and an ensemble player, creating unique and engaging live performance experiences. NOW’s programming includes canonic works, commissioned pieces, and genre-bending adaptations. NOW expands and contracts to suit the needs of different repertoire and performance spaces. Founded in 2012, NOW is committed to building a vibrant community that reflects Montgomery County's diversity and seeks out musicians who are first-tier performers with multiple skillsets.
- **Peerless Rockville Historic Preservation, Ltd.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$35,000) – 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, advocacy, and community involvement.
- **Photoworks, Inc.**, Glen Echo, Maryland (\$17,500) – Photoworks is a photography program that offers lectures, courses, gallery exhibitions, and community outreach to enrich and broaden the lives of photographers, and students. They facilitate photographers at all levels and strive to be a preeminent photography community, to preserve traditions, and explore the frontiers of visual expression in photography.
- **Silver Spring Town Center, Inc.**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$27,872) – Silver Spring Town Center Inc. (SSTCi) 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.
- **So What Else**, Rockville, Maryland (\$18,000) – So What Else seeks to improve the lives of children and families living in underserved communities by providing food security, access to bare necessities, and high-quality programs in literacy, athletics, and the visual and performing arts, while inspiring young people to give back to the community by creating volunteer opportunities.

- **Story Tapestries, Inc.**, Germantown, Maryland (\$18,750) – Story Tapestries serves the Montgomery County community through: 1) Professional performances in storytelling, theater, dance, spoken word and other art forms in a variety of public spaces including community centers, local theaters, libraries, and schools; and 2) 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. Free and low-cost programs utilize the arts to promote access and equity.
- **Sutradhar Institute of Dance & Related Arts**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$18,000) – Sutradhar's reaches out to communities struggling with issues of language, identity, and cultural divides, with arts programs that uplift, educate, and nourish self-dignity.
- **Theatre Consortium of Silver Spring, Inc., dba Theatre Consortium of Silver Spring**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$18,000) – The Theatre Consortium of Silver Spring manages the Silver Spring Black Box Theatre for culturally diverse resident companies and other artists, and organizations. The Theatre Consortium of Silver Spring provides offers performance space for the resident companies and other artists and organizations presenting high quality, diverse, and reasonably priced performances across disciplines.
- **Victorian Lyric Opera Company**, Rockville, Maryland (\$21,600) – Victorian Lyric Opera Company (VLOC) produces high quality performances of light operatic works and offers educational and performance opportunities for the community.
- **Word Dance Theater**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$12,600) – Word Dance Theater is dedicated to inviting people from all walks of life into a unique Isadora Duncan-inspired philosophy, methodology, and aesthetic of dance. Their approach blends music, theater, poetry, and visual art with holistic dance movements that unite us with the full range of our emotions and restores us to our roots: the breath, energy, strength, beauty, spirit, community, and freedom that is the birthright of all people.
- **Young Artists of America, Inc., dba Young Artists of America**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$39,000) – Young Artists of America (YAA) is a non-profit educational organization offering world-class musical theatre training to young performing artists in a professional and nurturing environment. Their students perform fully orchestrated works of music theatre in state-of-the-art venues such as the Music Center at Strathmore, where they are an Affiliate. Through the creative process, they give their students the skills and confidence to “find their voice” on the stage and in life.
- **Youth Art For Healing, Inc., dba Youth Art For Healing**, 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 (\$10,779) – Zemer Chai (“Living Song”) is dedicated to preserving and sharing the rich musical heritage of the Jewish people at the highest level. The singers come from all walks of Jewish life, joined together in their loving commitment to keep this music alive and relevant.

FY22 Advancement Grants (AG)

\$236,948 awarded for July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

Advancement Grants provide support in attaining fiscal stability and long-term viability for arts and/or humanities organizations located in Montgomery County, MD that have had both allowable annual cash revenue and expenses of at least \$50,000 for the last three completed fiscal years. Grants support long-term planning and technology improvements critical to an organization's arts and/or humanities mission. 8 organizations received FY22 awards within this category.

- **Adventure Theatre, Inc., dba Adventure Theatre MTC**, Glen Echo, Maryland (\$63,863) – Adventure Theatre will use a portion of the funds to overhaul their sound and projection systems. Both systems are well beyond their useful life and are failing regularly; new and upgraded sound and projection will improve the quality and experience for patrons. An investment in reliable pianos and speakers for Academy training will provide the level of musical support required to maintain excellence for students in theatre classes. Finally, a portion will fund a new strategic plan to provide a solid roadmap for Adventure Theatre in the post-COVID world.
- **Artpreneurs, Inc., dba Arts on the Block**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$52,500) – Arts on the Block (AOB) will use grants funds for three initiatives: Racial Equity, Human Resources, and IT. A Racial Equity facilitator will provide racial equity training to board, staff, program participants, and families. AOB will work with HR consultants to create a new Community Handbook and improve their human resources processes. AOB will also work with IT consultants to acquire data and use technology in alignment with their socially inclusive, equitable values.
- **Arts for the Aging, Inc.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$12,100) – Arts for the Aging's (AFTA) project entails updating, coordinating support for, and executing a new Communications Plan that is comprehensive, pandemic resilient, and more inclusive. AFTA will: review and update their 2019 Communications Plan for a post-pandemic landscape based on consultant expertise; meet the increased need for strong digital communications due to the pandemic; assess and revise all communications through the lens of equity, diversity, and inclusion; provide professional development for a new full-time Fundraising and Communications Coordinator; and engage stakeholders through strategic communications to build pandemic-resilient programs.
- **ArtStream, Inc.**, Chevy Chase, Maryland (\$35,000) – To position ArtStream in a post-pandemic world, grant funds will be used to support a transition to hybrid in-person/remote programming via the crafting of a new strategic plan. The plan will be informed by extensive research on COVID's long term impact on arts and disability organizations. The project incorporates a thorough assessment of the best ways to mobilize virtual and in-person engagement, including how widespread vaccinations will affect the ability to gather safely for high-risk constituencies. The hybridization of their operations will enable ArtStream to expand their programming options, as well as welcome an even more diverse staff, constituency, and audience.
- **Dance Exchange, Inc.**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$17,500) – Dance Exchange will complete a Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility Audit of the organization. With support from a racial equity firm, legal consultants, and accessibility experts, Dance Exchange will: work towards goals outlined by their Racial Equity Board Committee and establish a BIPOC Advisory Committee; revise bylaws and governance practices to be more in-line with the organization's current goals, mission, and vision; and begin accessibility upgrades to their website. Dance Exchange will identify ways to adapt and update all virtual and in-person programming to align with accessibility needs.

- **Imagination Stage, Inc.**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$10,260) – Grant funds will be used to assist Imagination Stage (IStage) in strengthening its long-term viability and meet its mission of reaching young people by investing in technology improvements that are critical to delivering programs. IStage will replace its aging and inadequate supply of computers for full-time staff. This update is crucial to ensure employees have the tools to complete the tasks necessary to plan, implement, and manage programming and operations.
- **Montgomery County Historical Society, dba Montgomery History**, Rockville, Maryland (\$25,550) – This project will create a new website to host Montgomery History’s multifaceted online programs and services. Funds will be used to create a fully functional site with cohesive, sleek graphics; new backend code with responsive design for multiple devices; and digital ADA-compliance. The site is the central hub of Montgomery History’s digital ecosystem. It will result in an online presence that increases access to local history.
- **Sandy Spring Museum, Inc., dba Sandy Spring Museum**, Sandy Spring, Maryland (\$20,175) – Sandy Spring Museum will use funding for the creation of a Digital Folklife Lab (DFL), a suite of digital audio, photo, and video equipment, to be housed at the Museum. The Lab will serve three purposes: 1) to build the digital capacities of Montgomery County’s traditional artists; 2) to build the Museum’s capacity for hosting digital programs in partnership with traditional artists; and 3) to digitally document the cultural traditions of Montgomery County. The project will fund training for Museum staff and traditional artists to use the DFL, a pilot program to test the system, and a marketing campaign to raise awareness about this resource.

FY22 Programming & Capacity Building Project Grants (PCBPG)

\$184,909 awarded for July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

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/or humanities organizations or groups that may or may not have 501(c)(3) status. 41 organizations received FY22 awards within this category.

- **Association of Russian Speaking Theaters of America, dba Association of Russian Speaking Theaters**, Potomac, Maryland (\$4,950) – *CONSTELLATION* is an online literary festival of creativity featuring competitive recitation of poetry and prosaic. The age of participants ranges from 7 to 99 years old. *CONSTELLATION* will be held on the Facebook festival page. The jury will consist of professional directors and actors.
- **Best Medicine Rep, In.**, Montgomery Village, Maryland (\$4,125) – The grantee will present a production of John Morogiello's comedy *Die, Mr. Darcy, Die!* The show includes nine actors playing nearly thirty roles. The setting is in constant flux, moving from an office to a game show, to a restaurant, to an English cottage.
- **Bethesda Little Theatre Incorporated, dba Bethesda Little Theatre**, Olney, Maryland (\$5,000) – The grantee will present a two-hour stage production titled *A Night Out On Times Square*, an original musical featuring songs from all the Broadway and off-Broadway shows audiences have wanted to see in one night but couldn't...until now. Songs encompass a wide range of styles from musicals including *Come From Away*, *Six*, *Dear Evan Hansen*, *Chicago*, *Tina: The Tina Turner Musical*, *West Side Story*, *Company*, and *Waitress*.
- **Bison Repertory Theater Company**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$5,500) – The grantee will present *SILVER STAGE*, a series of theatre workshops for seniors. The opportunity for creative expression via theatre can be invigorating, stimulating and therapeutic, especially for seniors suffering from depression and early stages of Dementia/Alzheimer's. With no scripts to read or lines to memorize, the improvisation workshops allow creativity to rule. Scene study is offered to more active seniors; participants act out short scenes with assigned partners and are taught acting skills.
- **Community Building Art Works**, Rockville, Maryland (\$5,000) – The grantee will provide a weekly writing workshop for first responders and healthcare workers. Health care workers face the very real danger of COVID-19, as well as increased risk of primary and secondary trauma, compassion fatigue, and burnout. The havoc this pandemic is wreaking may not be preventable, but the potential adverse outcomes for those on the front lines can be addressed. Healthcare workers are invited to write, document, and communicate their daily experiences at home and at work.
- **DC Beauty of Beijing Opera, Ltd.**, North Potomac, Maryland (\$5,280) – Grant funds will be used to finance a fully costumed Beijing Opera and associated workshops for audiences to broaden the cultural horizon of attendees.
- **DC South Asian Arts Council Inc.**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$5,500) – The grantee will host the 10th Annual Washington DC South Asian Film Festival (DCSAFF) to showcase independent cinema created by South Asians. DCSAFF will screen feature, documentary, and short films. All films will have English subtitles. The project will also include post screening and panel discussions, workshops, opening and closing night galas, and other cultural programs.

- **Ebong TheatriX**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$5,000) – The grantee’s project is in remembrance of the lives lost to COVID-19. The grantee asserts that theatre is not only a valued resource for artistic dissemination, but it is also an anchor for cultural sustenance through diversity and inclusion. The grantee will promote their vision of theatre as a medium for inclusiveness and a forum for reflecting on collective experiences.
- **Encore Theater Company**, Takoma Park (\$2,500) – The grantee will produce a musical theatre production in Takoma Park. COVID-19 permitting, the grantee will produce the show indoors for an appropriately-sized, socially-distanced audience. If the pandemic blocks indoor performances, the grantee will replicate the experience outdoors. Grant funding offsets the cost of facility rental fees, licensing fees, stipends for actors and musicians, lighting, and other production costs.
- **F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Conference, Inc.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$6,000) – The F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Conference celebrates Fitzgerald’s work by providing a writing master class, workshops, films, and panels. The event also includes sessions for student scholars, and a short story contest held for adults and youth.
- **FocusMusic**, Rockville, Maryland (\$2,750) – The grantee will present eight folk music concerts. The shows will be virtual until it is safe to return to in-person shows. Once it becomes safe, the grantee plans to offer live shows while continuing to stream shows as well. The grantee also plans to develop joint projects with other non-profit organizations that produce folk and acoustic music in Montgomery County.
- **Four Seasons Dancers, Inc.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$4,850) – *Dances of the World* is a globally-inspired annual performance held at Montgomery College Cultural Arts Center. Featuring original choreography and inspired by traditional cultures, Dances of the World presents a sample of dances from Bollywood to Broadway, Israel to Ireland, Armenia to Uzbekistan and beyond. The event features vivid costumes that enhance the visual experience, as well as custom light design and curated international music.
- **Halau Nohona Hawaii**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$3,000) – The grantee will present the annual *ho`ike* recital. The grantee will charge a small fee for tickets; however, the grantee will also offer a friends and family discount and discounts for students, seniors, and the military. The focus will be on King Kalaukua – The Merrie Monarch. *ho`ike* will feature both Kahiko (Ancient Hula) and Auana (Modern Hula), Oli, and Hawaiian music.
- **Heralds of Hope Theatre Company, Inc., dba Amazing Theatre Company, Inc.**, Laytonsville, Maryland (\$5,500) – The *Monologue Showcase* is an opportunity to focus on COVID-19’s impact on families, friends, and/or one’s community. Writers will be encouraged to submit culturally specific uplifting monologues of hope, humor, faith, and creativity in the face of a tragic pandemic.
- **Institute of Musical Traditions, Inc.**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$5,057) – To improve the quality of live online concerts, the Institute of Musical Traditions (IMT) will purchase four broadcasting and microphone packages to loan to artists to use for their IMT streaming concert, then returned for other artists to use. This will help artists who lack the equipment to showcase their music online, as well as provide them with training to use the equipment. To videotape in-person concerts when they are safe to resume, the grantee will purchase three video cameras and tripods to be able to upload edited videos to their YouTube channel.
- **interPLAY Orchestra**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$5,500) – interPLAY engages the community; embraces people with disabilities and their caregivers/families. Weekly rehearsals and concert performances establish a collaborative environment and an artistic platform where people with disabilities are celebrated for their abilities and negative stereotypes are destroyed. Funding will provide an opportunity for adults with disabilities to engage in and perform music along-side professional musicians. Funding support will cover costs associated with the weekly rehearsals held throughout the year in preparation for the three annual concert performances.

- **Kolot HaLev**, Kensington, Maryland (\$5,000) – *The Golden Door* will include choral selections featuring music by and about American Jews. Kolot HaLev (KHL) will present a range of music, including liturgical and popular selections. Living, contemporary composers will be featured, as well as traditional melodies. The mixture of old and new will demonstrate Jewish contributions to American culture.
- **Live Garra Theatre**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$5,000) – The grantee will present the play *Dry Bones*. The project will include theatre workshops and roles in the play for recently released inmates. The story is about two brothers, one who goes to jail for a crime that the other brother committed. This project will be a community-based collaborative partnership with Montgomery County re-entry service agencies.
- **Make a Movie in a Month**, Wheaton, Maryland (\$2,500) – *Make a Movie in a Month* (MMM) is a collaborative film project consisting of informational events, facilitated community-based film production, and a free public film screening. MMM will produce 8 to 12 short films in roughly 30 days. The grantee will highlight local businesses and artists as film subjects. MMM offers the opportunity for artists and filmmakers to collaborate, network, and learn more about the craft of filmmaking. MMM offers the opportunity for individuals and businesses in our diverse community to come together. Participation is open to all.
- **Maryland Youth Pipe Band**, Montgomery Village, Maryland (\$5,000) – Maryland Youth Pipe Band (MYPB) will use funding for capacity building, strategic visioning, and overcoming barriers to help youth participate in the band. The grantee is prioritizing membership-building and strategic visioning to ensure that the band is fully representative of Montgomery County’s diverse population.
- **Mayur Dance Company**, Potomac, Maryland (\$6,000) – This project provides an opportunity for five junior company members of Mayur Dance Company to develop, workshop and showcase original Odissi works set to world music under the guidance of Mayur’s Assistant Artistic Director. Participants will choreograph new dances, teach the choreography to students, and feature the students in a performance. This will be a ticketed in-person show presented at a Montgomery County venue, providing a way for local audiences to experience South Asian culture and Odissi dance. The performance will also be live-streamed.
- **Montgomery Symphony Orchestra, Inc.**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$2,595) – The grantee will present a youth concerto competition and free community concert. Three middle school and/or high school soloists will be selected to perform a movement of a concerto, or a single-movement work, accompanied by the Montgomery Symphony Orchestra (MSO). The MSO will also perform an additional major orchestral work.
- **NIH Community Orchestra**, Aspen Hill, Maryland (\$2,173) — The NIH Community Orchestra (NIHCO) will present a free admission concert entitled *Innovative Voices*. The concert will feature works by Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) and/or women composers. NIHCO will also offer an educational presentation and a pre-concert lecture. Events will include in-person and virtual attendance options.
- **Peace Mountain Theatre Company**, Darnestown, Maryland (\$3,725) — Peace Mountain Theatre Company will produce Ayad Akhtar’s Pulitzer Prize-winning play, *Disgraced*, at The Writer’s Center (TWC), about an attorney coming to grips with his Muslim identity and his struggle against islamophobia. This play is the grantee’s first production at TWC and is a part of a major change in their operations. The grantee anticipates the location change will increase their capacity, the staging quality of their productions, and their audience both in size and diversity.
- **Rockville Brass Band**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$3,000) – This project consists of a two-part concert series, including a fall concert featuring local artists and composers, as well as a clinic and concert in the spring with student musicians from Montgomery County. The grantee’s goal is to attract new audiences and to engage and inspire local brass music students.

- **Six Degree Singers**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$5,500) – Grant funds will be used for virtual choral programming, including musical directors and accompanist stipends, advertising, multimedia recording, rights for music, and other production costs.
- **Symphony of the Potomac**, Glen Echo, Maryland (\$5,000) – The orchestra will perform at the Montgomery College Cultural Arts Center (MCCAC). The orchestra for these concerts will consist of about 50 volunteer musicians and 14 paid professional musicians per concert, all under the direction of Music Director, Maestro Joel Lazar.
- **Tagore Music Group of Greater Washington, DC, Inc.**, North Potomac, Maryland (\$5,000) – The grantee will present an English-Spanish drama about the Nobel-laureate Indian poet Rabindranath Tagore's life (1861-1941). The production will explore his friendship with the Argentine author-socialite Victoria Ocampo.
- **Takoma Park Folk Festival, Inc.**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$6,000) – The Takoma Park Folk Festival is an annual community event held in Montgomery County, coordinated and executed by a team of community volunteers. The event hosts local musicians from a variety of genres, local craft activities and vendors, and games. The festival has been in existence for 42-years. If the grantee cannot present a live festival due to COVID-19, a virtual festival will be presented instead.
- **The Bethesda Blues & Jazz Foundation, Inc., dba The Bethesda Blues & Jazz Youth Orchestra**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$5,500) – The Bethesda Blues & Jazz Youth Orchestra will perform two concerts at the Bethesda Blues & Jazz Supper Club. The first one will feature Sharon Clark, an internationally known jazz singer based in Washington, D.C. In addition, Ms. Clark will lead a two-hour workshop with young musicians. The second concert will feature a Guest Artist to be determined, but equally accomplished. Grant funds will be used to pay the Guest Artist's performance fee and related costs, including equipment rental and production costs.
- **The Civic Circle**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$2,100) – The Civic Circle Board will participate in a Strategic Planning Retreat. The resulting three-year Strategic Plan will fuse The Civic Circle's mission, vision, core values, strengths, and weaknesses; and articulate strategic priorities, goals, and actions, as well as key performance indicators and accountability tools. This is the grantee's first strategic plan.
- **The Kentlands Community Foundation, Inc., dba Kentlands Community Foundation**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$5,500) – The grantee provides free cultural events to the Gaithersburg and northern Montgomery County community. Grant funds will be used for a combination of online and in-person arts and humanities events. Funds will be used to find more effective ways to advertise their events, and to meet all health requirements to hold safe in-person and online events.
- **The Living Legends Awards for Service to Humanity**, Ashton, Maryland (\$6,000) – The annual event will address the devastation faced by the arts community due to COVID-19. The arts and advocacy program features minority artists who have been hit hard by the pandemic, as well as an orchestra primarily comprised of musicians of color, and a spoken word artist of color. The Living Legends Awards Singers will perform music from varied genres, with an emphasis on the music of minority composers. If a live event is not permitted due to COVID-19 restrictions, the show will be virtual.
- **The Menare Foundation, Inc.**, Germantown, Maryland (\$5,500) – The grantee will host a series of interactive workshops culminating in an interactive performance that features Rebis, Capitol Tap, District Tap, Coyaba Dance Theater, and vocalist Cecily Bumbray. The Menare Foundation will present new works specific to Button Farm. Utilizing open field space and cultural landmarks, this all-outdoor live experience will connect attendees to Button Farm's land and its history tied to the Underground Railroad, using the arts to enhance historical education.

- **The National String Symphonia**, Germantown, Maryland (\$5,500) – The grantee will present three music segments (2-3 performances within each segment). The programs will include classical, jazz, and music that is based on other art forms such as dance or classic poetry.
- **The Rockville Bach Academy, Inc., dba ChorSymphonia**, Rockville, Maryland (\$5,500) – The grantee will perform Bach’s *Jesu, der du meine Seele (Jesus, You Have Freed My Spirit)* at St. Jane de Chantal Catholic Church in Bethesda. In order to make the composer’s efforts more accessible to audiences, the performance will include an educational pre-performance *Conversation Concert*, exploring the historical and cultural context of music.
- **Trinity Chamber Orchestra**, Germantown, Maryland (\$4,750) – The grantee will sponsor new compositions and conduct competitions for musicians. The grantee also aims to enhance their organizational capacity by adding a staff assistant, creating a strategic plan, and upgrading their technology capacity.
- **Unexpected Stage Company**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$3,300) – Grant funds will be allocated for the presentation of the play *we, the invisibles* by Susan He Stanton.
- **UpRooted Dance, Inc., dba UpRooted Dance**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$5,500) – UpRooted Dance will create a new evening length piece called *The Ascension Project* set to music by Sufjan Stevens. *The Ascension Project* will be an indie rock dance opera with a maximalist aesthetic.
- **Washington Metropolitan Gamer Symphony Orchestra**, Rockville, Maryland (\$1,254) – The grantee will present a full ensemble performance at the Montgomery College Cultural Arts Center. The concert will feature music from popular and independent video games. The grantee plans to present a suite of arrangements inspired by Gustav Holst’s *Planets* – with a video game twist that takes various songs from the 1994 game *Starfox 64* and reimagines the game with each of Holst’s planets in mind.
- **Wheaton Wonders, Inc., dba Wheaton Arts Parade**, Wheaton, Maryland (\$2,500) – Grants funds will be used for a public art display that will coincide with a parade and festival.

FY22 Artists & Scholars Project Grants (ASPG)

\$164,750 awarded for July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022

Artists & Scholars Project Grants support the work of individual artists and scholars who reside in Montgomery County, MD. Projects focus on the creation and/or presentation of artistic/scholarly work and can also support professional development. 44 artists and scholars received FY22 awards within this category.

Considering the financial detriment caused by COVID-19/Coronavirus, and like many institutions granting through an equity lens, AHCMC determined that all FY22 ASPG grantees should receive a grant no lower than \$3,750.

- **Adele Schmidt**, Rockville, Maryland (\$3,750) – Funds will be used to support the development of *Krautrock 3*, the 3rd feature documentary in the *Krautrock* Trilogy. The Trilogy is a historical mini-music documentary series that highlights the Krautrock music scene that emerged in the early 70s throughout Germany. Inspired by Stockhausen, psychedelic, electronic, jazz, and folk, this movement spearheaded the evolution of electronic, techno, and minimalist music styles around the world.
- **Alexander Bondarev**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$3,750) – Funds will support the creation of an audio-story musical for children featuring two performers and a narrator. The story and the lyrics will be performed in Russian. The audio-story musical will be available on YouTube with English subtitles.
- **Alyscia Cunningham**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$3,750) – *SEEING WITHOUT SIGHT* is an educational documentary film and photography book that includes stories of girls and women who have experienced vision loss (blind, deaf blind, low vision). The girls and women share their insight on what they feel is the essence of beauty without the sense of sight, and how they maneuver in their daily lives.
- **Amy Finkelstein**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$3,750) – Funds will be used for the completion and exhibition of a project that evolved in response to COVID-19. The grantee will create a mixed media collage based on a photograph, taken on March 18, 2020, as the gravity of the pandemic was settling in. When the project is completed, an exhibit will feature additional photographs and the collage. Viewers will be invited to make their own photograph with a provided Polaroid camera and film.
- **Bonnie Rich**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$3,750) – Funds will support a documentary film with the working title, *THE RENAISSANCE AND RENEWAL OF JEWISH LIFE THROUGH THE ARTS*. In 1971 a group of Jewish activists in their 20s, disillusioned with establishment Jewish organizations, found new passion in Judaism through music, storytelling, and visual arts. Together, they established the Fabrangens Jewish Free Culture Center in Washington, D.C., whose powerful arts programs have impacted Jewish life in the Washington D.C. area and beyond for four decades.
- **Brian Frankel**, Wheaton, Maryland (\$3,750) – Funds will be used to support a documentary film about independent small businesses in Montgomery County and the diverse cultures these businesses represent through food and drink. The goal is to raise awareness that the community may lose many of these local restaurants that are part of the collective culture due to the pandemic. Upon completion there will be an online screening, and health conditions allowing, an in-person screening in Wheaton.

**This is a one-time exception applied only to these FY22 ASPG guidelines [here](#), will not be extended further unless grantees are notified by the CEO in writing, and does not apply to other non-standard AHCMC funding opportunities (i.e., GOS Emergency Awards).*

- **Bryan Reichhardt**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$3,750) – Funds will support the initial development and pre-production costs for an animated short film based on an original script titled *Finding Grace*. Set in a suburban nursing home, this short silent film tells the story of a brief but meaningful connection between a middle school "tween" boy - grudgingly there to complete his school's community service requirements - and a peculiar but fascinating resident of the home.
- **Camille Navarro Silberman**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$3,750) – The grantee will illustrate the sequel to an original graphic novel called *Wondrous Machines*. Book One follows a group of neighbors in the town of Lost Sea as they build an airship to get to heaven. Book Two continues the story in unexpected ways, introducing the characters' ancestors. The project involves drafting, inking, and hand-coloring an approximately 80-page book.
- **Carla Perlo**[†], Takoma Park, Maryland (\$3,500) – The grantee will create the illustrations for an original children's story, *The Rainbow Bird*. After printing, the book, will be distributed to every Montgomery County library and virtual presentations will be offered to the libraries for their Young Readers' programs.
- **Clare Winslow**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$3,750) – Funds will support the grantee's online art classes and classes at an art studio in Kensington. The project consists of creating and offering a series of live and online art classes, offered through the Zoom platform and in person.
- **Dangelo Perrier**, Montgomery Village, Maryland (\$3,750) – The project is focused on hand sculpting one-of-a-kind toys typically known as "Designer Toys." TESSI is an interstellar being on an endless quest for knowledge. The project will introduce TESSI to the digital world as a virtual 3D canvas for digital sculptors and traditional hand sculptors utilizing 3D toy design, printing, and production.
- **Danielle Mysliwicz**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$3,750) – The project will integrate abstract painting and weaving to form a new body of work for public exhibition. The project will begin with a three-month period of intensive experimentation with both material and conceptual possibilities. The goal is to combine knowledge of both fields to create innovative works that break ground in new directions for the artist.
- **Dawn Hall**, North Potomac, Maryland (\$3,750) – This project highlights our connection to the healing process in the Black and LGBTQ communities. The grantee will tell personal healing stories of others through photos and video for an exhibition focused on healing in all forms.
- **Lisa Swenton-Eppard**, North Potomac, Maryland (\$3,750) – Funds will support the grantee's study of concert choreography. The grantee will study with tap matriarch Brenda Bufalino, now 84, a tap pioneer largely responsible for tap's revival in the 1980s. Studying her 30-years of acclaimed work will inform the grantee on a journey to create new work steeped in history in the concert style.
- **Elizabeth Hill**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$3,750) – *Meraki: Essence* is a debut studio recording project of newly commissioned works for clarinet and piano duo. Each composition is a unique contribution to the chamber music genre at large, specifically to the repertoire of American works for clarinet and piano duo. The compositions represent diverse musical traditions, created by composers working to influence the progression of American sound in classical music.

[†] AHCMC could not provide grant increases for applicants with project budgets under \$3,750.

- **Ellen Hill**, Rockville, Maryland (\$3,750) – Funds will support the creation of a series of highly patterned contemporary mixed media works in wood and paint that draw inspiration from American folk art and textiles. These new high-relief two-dimensional wall-hung works will incorporate carved and painted wood bits and panels, mixing representation and abstraction to produce imagery that connects to the past and resonates with contemporary meaning. The series will consist of four labor-intensive works that take inspiration from folk art sources such as quilts, hook rugs, weaving, metalwork, painting, and ceramics.
- **Elyse Harrison**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$3,750) – Funds will support the completion of a children's picture book including file preparation for on demand printing, social media marketing, website design, and a live, local, community presentation.
- **Gwydion Suilebhan**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$3,750) – *PUNCHING UP* is a history of Jewish American comedians from the early 1900s to the present, focusing on the ways in which their humor reflects the fight for social justice and the transformation of American culture.
- **Iaroslava Zonova**, Rockville, Maryland (\$3,750) – Funds will be used to support the creation of traditional jewelry from different regions of Russia based on Slavic folk art and the formation of an educational course about Russian arts and culture, supported by the grantee's online training with specialists in traditional Slavic dress.
- **Jack Boul**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$3,750) – As a 94-year-old oil painter and printmaker with a long career in Montgomery County, this project will allow the grantee to continue painting and creating new work that can be shown to a cross section of county residents.
- **Jacklyn Rogers**, North Potomac, Maryland (\$3,750) – Funds will support a research project providing historical context for the gentrification of Montgomery County, presented in written and oral formats, making scientific paradigms accessible to the general public. The project will convey the interconnectedness of science and culture, using the suburbanization of the county post-World War II as an example of how the eugenics movement impacted American lives in overt and covert ways. This movement aimed to limit reproductive capabilities of certain demographics such as people of color, the poor, and the mentally ill in the hopes of limiting their contribution to the gene pool for the so-called betterment of society.
- **Jacqui Crocetta**, Rockville, Maryland (\$3,750) – *Illuminate Project* includes the development of a new series of works in response to many issues being confronted today, such as systemic racism and climate change. The grantee will curate and design a collection of practices and project ideas, in book format, designed to inspire centering and connection. The dual pandemics of Coronavirus and systemic racism have heightened awareness of the isolation, trauma and loss suffered by countless human beings. The focus of the project is bearing witness to this time, while evoking hope.
- **Jackie Hoysted**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$3,750) – Funds will support the creation of a repeatable, immersive, multi-sensory, interactive public participatory art project that speaks to the role fungi play in our ecosystem. The project explores the advantages of mutually beneficial symbiotic relationships.
- **Jamila Silvera**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$3,750) – Funds will support the creation of *Brownling Belle*, a children's story that marries the grantee's greatest loves: the grantee's nieces, storytelling, music, and beautification. Upon becoming an aunt, Jamila Silvera noticed the lack of children's books for free-spirited black girls. The book will also be accompanied by an original soundtrack.

- **Jeremy Eig**, Chevy Chase, Maryland (\$3,750) – Funds will support the creation of high-quality multicamera video recordings of *Zarabando*, by Arturo Marquez and the *Four Souvenirs*, by Paul Schoenfeld, for clarinet and piano. These recordings will be available to the public for free on the grantee’s YouTube channel and will also be embedded in digital promotional materials for future concerts.
- **Joanne Miller**, Chevy Chase, Maryland (\$3,750) – Funds will be used to support *Hold Up A Mirror*, a photography and environmental impact project. Focused on the beauty of nature and the impact of human behavior on the environment in Montgomery County, the project includes the creation of new work, the engagement of a virtual audience online, and when socially safe, guiding community residents outside to photograph nature.
- **Joshua Fishbein**, Rockville, Maryland (\$3,750) – Funds will support a vocal composition mentorship involving the grantee and Montgomery County-based composer Lori Laitman. Under her guidance, the grantee will assemble a collection of poems by contemporary Black and Jewish writers in a 15-minute composition aimed at promoting solidarity between Black and Jewish communities. When complete, the Baltimore Musicales will present the premiere performance by the end of 2022.
- **Leslie Lewis**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$3,750) – The grantee will incorporate experience as both a science teacher and musician to create a series of videos to teach music to young children following the STEAM curriculum. Videos will be filmed with Freenotes Harmony Park musical playground equipment at Wheaton Local Park, include participatory elements that follow the national and state music and STEAM standards, and will be offered in both Spanish and English.
- **Liliane Blom**, Rockville, Maryland (\$3,750) – Grant funds will be used for a video component of a *Four Seasons* series. *Four Seasons* aims to empower the public to see beauty found at all ages, ethnic groups, and is meant to combat stereotypes and ageism. Through digital animations, *Four Seasons* honors mother the earth and celebrates women as the protectors of earth. The videos will include 12 digital paintings at the heart of the series.
- **Marcie Wolf-Hubbard**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$3,750) – Funds will support the exploration of drawn forms including manipulating, cutting, and reassembling to create alternate forms. The grantee’s representational drawings retain a quality of line that will be included in three-dimensional form, taking them off the page and integrated into mixed media, sculptural forms representing structures and beings in mobiles and wall pieces. The forms will be representative of our relation to nature and will include encaustic painting.
- **Marty Ittner**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$3,750) – The grantee will create a site-specific installation in Historic Takoma's picture windows that will highlight Takoma Park's aging tree canopy, and the importance of replanting native species.
- **Muneer Nasser**, Montgomery Village, Maryland (\$3,750) – The late, great bassist Jamil Nasser not only exhibited passion for performance, he also worked as the Vice President of the Jazz Foundation to establish an emergency fund and healthcare for musicians. The grantee inherited a collection of rare interviews, performances, pictures, and documents that bridge significant gaps in jazz history and will present a comprehensive documentary which encompasses the aforesaid, as well as interviews with associates like Monty Alexander, George Coleman, Lou Donaldson, and Sonny Rollins.
- **Nishi Chawla**, Potomac, Maryland (\$3,750) – *Techno* is a film about the power of tech money to change the circumstances of two brothers. Amid the convergence of new technologies and concepts, the sibling rivalry between two brothers from India is played out, as a struggling liberal Arts Professor sees his brother make it big in the Silicon Valley, and consequently, undergoes a moral transformation. The freedom to be innovative, to find one’s own insights and accomplish one’s goals, underscores the quiet tension of their newly discovered selfhood.

- **Oksana Litvak**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$3,750) – An art teacher and Jewish refugee, whose mother is a Holocaust survivor, Janush Korchak, his life and work, has inspired the grantee since she was a little girl. The grantee will create paintings, drawings, and animation about Janush Korchak and his life, culminating in an animation movie. Janush Korchak taught children in the Warsaw Ghetto and went with them to the gas chamber.
- **Robert Guttenberg**, North Potomac, Maryland (\$3,750) – A CD recording, containing ten original songs (words and music), will be produced to provide. The music is inspired by Viennese Psychiatrist Alfred Adler's psychological theories for understanding Human Nature. The listening audience will learn about social equality, social interest, and social belonging. The CDs will be sold and/or distributed to Montgomery County therapists, school counselors and church youth counselors.
- **Robyn Shrater Seemann**, Potomac, Maryland (\$3,750) – Many barriers exist in the performing arts for observant Jewish women. There are misconceptions about self-expression and internalized gender role stereotypes and in the media at large, observant Jewish woman are often portrayed with negative stereotypes and tropes. Many religions and cultures share similar cultural barriers. As a writer, performer, and storyteller, the grantee will launch a podcast presenting a series of original stories – to show the beauty, light, love, laughter, frolics, and foibles of life as an observant Jewish woman.
- **Sharon Lee Minor**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$3,750) – Funds will be used for online lecture and demonstration workshops, promoting healthy mental and physical coping practices among residents, particularly senior citizens. The project involves the construction of Heritage Boxes based on storytelling, collecting, and preserving.
- **Sitara Maruf**, Rockville, Maryland (\$3,750) – The grantee will write the book *Flying into the Unknown*, an anthology of 30 stories about 18th and 20th century pioneers. The stories of recreational and scientific ballooning pioneers are filled with adventures and uncanny resilience, testing the human body and spirit to its limit.
- **Sophia Belkin**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$3,750) – Funds will be used for the grantee to attend online workshops covering silk painting techniques such as batik, resist dyeing and painting with sugar and salt. Afterwards, the grantee will create a series of large-scale silk paintings, embroidered, and stretched over professional museum-grade stretchers. The artwork will be shared online.
- **Steve Quintilian**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$3,750) – The transgender community is currently underserved in the field of voice training. The grantee's pedagogical training has prepared the grantee to work with this community including students of all gender identities and phases of transition. The grant will fund rigorous market research, a study about inclusion and gender identity, the development of a business plan, and the launch of new promotional materials.
- **Sukanya Mukherji**, Potomac, Maryland (\$3,750) – *The Trinity* series will be a three-part dance production choreographed by the grantee. The choreography will be inspired by the triple gods from South Asian spiritual texts, covering "Vishnu," the first god's characteristics. The dances will incorporate storytelling traditions and theatrical dance. Themes will include intelligence at a microcosmic level, motivating power at an action level, reason and purpose within the mind, and balance in the flow of life.
- **Suneeta Misra**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$3,750) – The grantee is developing a play titled *Three Sisters*, an adaptation of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*. It is a satirical look at the snobbery and misguided values of the Sen family, a mother and her three daughters who were unwillingly transplanted from Calcutta to a small north Indian town in the late 1970s, by their husband and father, Brigadier Sen. The subtext of the story reflects the evolution of colonial India to a postcolonial world and the conflicts created therein.

- **Tia Shearer**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$3,750) – Funds will support *Edward & Christine*, an interactive made-for-Zoom reimagining of a play by poet Kenneth Koch. The original play was written without specifying the number of actors for this 120-character play with 40 different locations. This production will feature the grantee, who is an actor, and a collection of objects as the full cast. The play will be performed in the grantee’s living room, connecting people to live theatre and each other, for an intimate evening of silliness and joy.
- **Trisha Gupta**, Burtonsville, Maryland (\$3,750) – *A Table for Everyone* offers therapeutic art activities to recent refugees, helping them process the trauma of immigration. Being subjected to hate, abuse, and separation can have a profound impact on a person's sense of self. How do people process this type of loss and also share their experiences with others? How can communities make refugees feel valued? *A Table for Everyone* seeks to answer these questions while simultaneously creating a safe space for immigrants and refugees to create art that reflects their journey.

FY22 Wheaton Cultural Project Grants (WCPG)

\$96,013 awarded for January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022

Wheaton Cultural Project Grants support impactful projects within the Wheaton, MD community and provide professional opportunities for artists and scholars to work in Wheaton. Montgomery County, MD-based non-profit arts and humanities organizations, groups, artists, and scholars are invited to apply for cultural projects taking place in Wheaton. Eight organizations and five individuals, a total of 13 grantees, received FY22 awards within this category.

- **Arthur Williams**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$7,500) – *Sounds of My People Cultural Music and Dance* is an outdoor performance series that will take place in Wheaton for patrons of restaurants between Islands Lounge and Hakuna Matata Grill in the summer of 2022. Patrons will enjoy music and dance reflecting the culture of the African Diaspora.
- **Brian Frankel**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$7,800) – Grant funds will be used to produce the 8th Annual *Wheaton Film Festival*. The *Wheaton Film Festival* includes film educational panels, networking opportunities, film screenings, and an awards celebration.
- **Carpe Diem Arts**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$6,413) – Carpe Diem will offer *Ukes on the Move*, a residency at a Title I elementary school located in Wheaton, offering ukulele lessons to 3rd grade children. Carpe Diem Arts will provide a ukulele to each participant and teach students to play a collection of songs, including collaboratively writing new song lyrics. Students will then have the opportunity to perform at their school, for seniors in the community, and in the Wheaton Arts Parade & Festival.
- **ClancyWorks, Inc., dba ClancyWorks Dance Company**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$7,500) – Grant funds will be used to provide a series of workshops for K-12 students in Wheaton. The hybrid project culminates in performances by the students with ClancyWorks Dance Company teaching artists.
- **DC South Asian Arts Council Inc.**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$7,800) – DC South Asian Arts Council Inc. (DCSAAC) will present a film festival in Wheaton, showcasing independent cinema created by media artists from the South Asian diaspora. The festival will include feature, documentary, and short films about the Asian Diaspora, all with English subtitles. The festival will also include post-screening panel discussions, workshops, and other related cultural programming.
- **Fata Antoinette Togba-Mensah**, Germantown, Maryland (\$7,500) – Formerly a physical space for local and often underserved artists to display and sell their work in Wheaton, *The Artist's Vibe* is a re-creation of the marketplace for a digital environment that will include the visual, literary, and performing arts.
- **InterAct Story Theatre Education Association, Inc., dba InterAct Story Theatre**, Wheaton, Maryland (\$8,000) – InterAct Story Theatre will offer the *Wheaton Family Theatre Series*, a free performing arts series for children and families. In its 7th season, the series presents arts programs throughout the year, featuring a variety of artistic disciplines and cultures as well as original theatrical work.
- **Leila Cabib**, Potomac, Maryland (\$8,000) – In partnership with the Wheaton library, grant funds will be used to provide free, virtual, multi-session graphic novel creation and cartooning classes for children, multi-session cartooning classes for seniors, animation workshops for children and seniors, *create a mini-comic book* workshops for children and seniors, and a multigenerational caricature workshop for seniors and their grandchildren.

- **Margaret K. Rifkin**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$8,000) – Grant funds will be used for the creation of a mural in downtown Wheaton. There will be a public dedication event and opportunities for the community to learn about the design and installation process.
- **Six Degree Singers**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$7,800) – Six Degree Singers (SDS) will partner with Montgomery Blair High School’s choral program, providing training and mentorship to students. The project will culminate in a joint performance of SDS members and Blair High School students.
- **The Civic Circle**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$3,900) – The Civic Circle will use songwriting, poetry, and storytelling to teach Wheaton students seven civic skills referred to as "steps to democracy." Participating students, in grades 3-5, will learn and sing civic songs, engage in standards-aligned social studies activities, receive visits from civically active teen- and college-age mentors, and work with teaching artists to write and perform their own civic songs, poems, and stories.
- **The Rockville Bach Academy, Inc., dba ChorSymphonica** Rockville, Maryland (\$7,800) – ChorSymphonica, The Rockville Bach Academy’s professional choral ensemble, will perform the two-piano version of Gian Carlo Menotti’s opera, *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, at Hughes United Methodist Church/El Buen Samaritano in Wheaton. The show will be performed twice, once in Spanish and once in English, and both will be live streamed and recorded. The cast will consist primarily of BIPOC artists.
- **Wheaton Wonders Inc., dba Wheat Arts Parade** Wheaton, Maryland (\$8,000) – The *Wheaton Arts Parade* is a day for the community to come together and celebrate art and diversity in Wheaton. The multidisciplinary parade includes visual, performing, literary, and culinary arts. Local artists exhibit and sell their work.

FY22 Arts Residencies in Schools Grants (ARSG)

\$33,550 awarded for January 1, 2022 – December 31, 2022

Arts Residencies in Schools Grants support individual teaching artists based in Montgomery County, MD trained in curriculum-based art techniques to serve students from communities that have traditionally received insufficient resources and that have limited access to arts education throughout the school year. Grantees are required to collaborate with a classroom teacher to develop an arts program for students during the school day. The program must benefit students in a public or non-public elementary, middle, or high school located in Montgomery County, MD. Six teaching artists received FY22 awards within this category.

- **Adrienne Clancy**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$5,700) – Albert Einstein High School and A. Mario Loiederman Middle School

Grant funds will be used for two virtual dance integration residencies focused on world history and culture. The residencies will highlight students' creative voices and social-emotional learning. One residency will engage a group of 9th-12th grade Albert Einstein High School dance students and the second residency will engage a group of 7th-8th grade A. Mario Loiederman Middle School students.

- **Arianna Ross**, Poolesville, Maryland (\$5,083) – Dr. Charles Drew Elementary School and Galway Elementary School

Grant funds will be used for a residency at Dr. Charles Drew Elementary, engaging students in the principles of theatre, the art of storytelling and the project will also include professional development for teachers. Grant funds will also be used for a visual arts and storytelling residency at Galway Elementary School that will engage all 1st grade students. The second residency will help students improve their English Language Arts and social-emotional skills.

- **Carien Quiroga**, Damascus, Maryland (\$5,700) – Summit Hall Elementary School

Grant funds will be used to create a large-scale glass mosaic and painted mural that will be created by 3rd grade students at Summit Hall Elementary School and permanently installed on the exterior facade of the school. Students will learn about the history and culture of South Africa and find inspiration in their personal heritage and traditions to create a mural that will visually reflect the school community as a celebration of the many cultures and voices it represents.

- **Joanne Miller**, Chevy Chase, Maryland (\$5,790) – Wheaton High School

In collaboration with veteran environmental and horticultural science instructors at Wheaton High School, grant funds will be used for two photography and nature arts-integrated residencies. Students will be guided by the grantee to see themselves as protectors of their own community. With an emphasis on effective communication, creative expression, environmental literacy and stewardship, this hands-on experience will reveal environmental challenges impacting the student's suburban neighborhood. The residencies will culminate in a school-wide photography exhibit.

- **Leila Cabib**, Potomac, Maryland (\$5,790) – Glenallan Elementary School

Grant funds will be used for two virtual cartooning residencies at Glenallan Elementary School, during which 3rd grade students will write and illustrate their own original fables in graphic novel format. The students' artwork will be displayed at the school and on the school's website.

- **Valeria Baugh-Schlossberg**, Rockville, Maryland (\$5,487) – Seneca Valley High School and Stedwick Elementary School

Grant funds will be used for a residency at Seneca Valley High School during which students will explore fairy tales through puppetry to learn how to create, present, respond, and connect to the arts of storytelling, theatre, and film. Grant funds will also be used for a residency at Stedwick Elementary School, during which students will explore a range of theatre strategies to learn how to create, present, respond, and connect to specific cultures, individuals, and moments in history while improving their English Language Arts and social-emotional skills.