



Fiscal Year 2023 Grants Awarded

Table of Contents

FY23-24 General Operating Support II Grants (GOS II)	3
FY23 General Operating Support I Grants (GOS I)	6
FY23 Advancement Grants (AG)	10
FY23 Programming & Capacity Building Project Grants (PCBPG)	12
FY23 Artists & Scholars Project Grants (ASPG)	17

FY23-24 General Operating Support II Grants (GOS II)

\$3,489,693 awarded for July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

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. Twenty-three organizations received FY23 awards in this category.

- **Adventure Theatre, Inc., dba Adventure Theatre MTC**, Glen Echo, Maryland (\$144,302.17) – Adventure Theatre MTC educates and inspires new generations of theater artists and audiences with exceptional theatrical experiences.
- **ArtStream, Inc.**, Chevy Chase, Maryland (\$39,015.17) – Through collaborative performance and lifelong learning opportunities, ArtStream enables people with intellectual and developmental disabilities to 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 (\$203,690.17) – Founded in quality symphonic music of all eras that nurtures the human spirit, the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra (BSO) 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 (\$65,226.17) – The Bender Jewish Community Center (JCC) is an all-inclusive community rooted in Jewish values. JCC's arts and cultural programming illuminate the human experience through film, music, gallery exhibits, and literary events. Workshops and classes present the community with the opportunity to try something new in a comfortable, welcoming supportive place.
- **CityDance Ensemble, Inc., dba CityDance**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$110,597.17) – CityDance is a nonprofit dance institution dedicated to developing the next generation of dance artists and innovators. CityDance trains young dancers for professional careers, nurtures talent and achievement through dance, and works to advance the field of professional dance. Anchored in a belief that diversity advances excellence, CityDance works to create opportunities that promote equitable access to dance education and performance.
- **Friends of the Library Montgomery County, MD, Inc.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$66,111.17) – 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.
- **Germantown Cultural Arts Center, Inc., dba BlackRock Center for the Arts**, Germantown, Maryland (\$89,867.17) – 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.
- **Glen Echo Park Partnership for Arts and Culture, Inc.**, Glen Echo, Maryland (\$118,894.17) – Glen Echo Park Partnership for the Arts and Culture presents vibrant artistic, cultural, and educational offerings at the Park, and promotes the Park as a unique destination for the region's diverse population.

- **Imagination Stage, Inc.**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$271,342.17) – Imagination Stage (IS) empowers young people to discover their voice and identity through performing arts education and professional theatre.
- **Levine Music, Inc.**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$161,981.17) – 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 (\$136,101.17) – Maryland Youth Ballet's provides the metropolitan region with: high caliber classical ballet training to prepare young dancers for professional careers in the performing arts; high quality of classes for adults; professional-quality ballet performances; opportunities for financially disadvantaged children to be exposed to ballet, full-training scholarships for those with dance potential; and the opportunity for young children with physical disabilities to experience the joy of dance.
- **Metropolitan Ballet Theatre, Inc.**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$62,872.17) – 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 (\$115,477.17) – VisArts transforms individuals and communities through the visual arts.
- **MOCO Kidsco, Inc., dba KID Museum**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$91,723.26) – KID Museum is a museum and educational makerspace. By fostering the "Mind of a Maker" in kids and youth, KID Museum empowers the next generation with the creative skills to invent the future. Core values include curiosity, creativity, collaboration, and compassion. By recognizing that knowing how to ask the right questions is even more important than knowing the right answer, KID Museum activates young people as difference makers who care about their world, their environment, and their neighbors.
- **Montgomery Community Television, Inc., dba Montgomery Community Media**, Rockville, Maryland (\$192,394.17) – Montgomery Community Media (MCM) is the only independent, nonprofit organization providing access to public media (public access television and broadband media) directly to individuals, non-profit organizations, associations, and businesses in Montgomery County. MCM serves as a portal for access users, local bloggers, and other content contributors as well as presenting TV channel schedules, On Demand video, and live streaming of special events.
- **Montgomery County Historical Society, dba Montgomery History**, Rockville, Maryland (\$26,046.17) – Montgomery History collects, preserves, interprets, and shares the history of all of Montgomery County's residents and communities.
- **National Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorale of Montgomery County, Inc., dba National Philharmonic**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$119,787.17) – National Philharmonic engages, inspires, and unites diverse communities across the Washington area through outstanding music performances and innovative education programs.
- **Olney Theatre Corporation, dba Olney Theatre Center**, Olney, Maryland (\$429,368.17) – Olney Theatre Center produces and curates theatrical performances for the diverse audiences in its community, and educates, learns from, supports, and inspires a more inclusive generation of theater-makers. The Theatre's vision is to become an arts and culture powerhouse, redefining the American regional theater movement by cultivating and sharing the creativity in its community.

- **Round House Theatre, Inc., dba Round House Theatre**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$236,491.17) – Round House is a theatre for everyone. Round House enriches the community through bold, outstanding theatrical and educational experiences that inspire empathy and demand conversation.
- **Sandy Spring Museum, Inc., dba Sandy Spring Museum**, Sandy Spring, Maryland (\$35,228.17) – Sandy Spring Museum supports community-generated 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; and nurtures creative ideas and conversations that advance the future of the arts.
- **The Writer's Center**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$60,864.17) – 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**, Glen Echo, Maryland (\$63,103.17) – 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 (\$49,210.17) – 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.

FY23 General Operating Support I Grants (GOS I)

\$1,034,753 awarded for July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

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. Thirty-five organizations received FY23 awards in this category.

- **After School Dance Fund**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$16,264) – After School Dance Fund (ASDF) provides artistic, technical, and financial support for the establishment and maintenance of after-school Latin dance clubs to strengthen the social-emotional development of youth by promoting health, exercise, heritage, and unity through Latin dance education.
- **Akhmedova Ballet Foundation, Inc. dba Akhmedova Ballet Academy**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$42,500) – 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.
- **Artivate, Inc.**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$26,400) – Artivate sees the transformative power of the arts as a vehicle to enhance education, creating connections that transcend language, culture, and individual circumstances. Artivate partners with a roster of professional musicians, dancers, storytellers, theater, and visual artists, providing performances, workshops representing a wide range of artistic disciplines and cultural traditions encouraging active audience participation. Artivate provides access to the arts for all, including under-resourced communities.
- **Artpreneurs, Inc., dba Arts on the Block**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$44,000) – 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 our communities. AOB provides real-world experiences in the arts and entrepreneurial training, offering youth and young adults the opportunity to learn about art, design, and business by engaging them in paid public art commissions. They recruit, train, and place young people with art and design aptitudes who are not ordinarily introduced to entry-level jobs and career paths in the creative industries.
- **Arts for the Aging, Inc.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$45,000) – 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 (\$13,648) – Bel Cantanti Opera supports young opera singers through performance opportunities, offering affordable performance ticket prices to the community.
- **Cantate Chamber Singers, dba Cantate**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$17,220) – Cantate stimulates 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 (\$21,250) – Carpe Diem Arts inspires creative self-expression that empowers individuals, strengthens communities, and builds better futures, while also supporting the livelihoods of master teaching and performing artists who reflect the diversity of the communities they serve.

- **Chevy Chase Historical Society**, Chevy Chase, Maryland (\$16,400) – 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. Founded in 1981, 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 (\$44,000) – ClancyWorks Dance Company increases public understanding of the arts by presenting high quality dance performance and educational programs; expands 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 nurtures leadership skills and artistic excellence in emerging artists.
- **CREATE Art Center, Inc.**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$44,000) – CREATE Arts Center sparks creativity, fosters learning, empowers individuals, and facilitates community connections through the visual arts.
- **Dance Exchange, Inc.**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$42,500) – Fueled by generosity and curiosity, Dance Exchange expands who gets to dance, where dance happens, what dance is about, and why dance matters. Dance Exchange harnesses the power of creativity and inquiry through dance to connect communities, to deepen our understanding of ourselves and to foster a more embodied, resilient, and just world.
- **Docs In Progress, Inc., dba Docs In Progress**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$20,400) – 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 (\$42,500) – Flying V is redefining theatre, with the intent to invigorate and inspire 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 Youth Media, Inc., dba GB Youth Media**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$28,160) – GB Youth Media creates communities where young people build the confidence and media skills to express themselves and to promote community building, multicultural understanding, and the common good.
- **Glen Echo Pottery, Inc.**, Glen Echo, Maryland (\$20,500) – 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. The organization offers 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 (\$17,100) – Glorystar Children's Chorus (GCC) provides excellent music education and choral arts to children and youth with a rich repertoire of East Asian and Western music. GCC celebrates their community's Asian cultural heritage and creates an inclusive and enriching learning environment for singers to build connections within the community.
- **Inscape, Inc., dba Inscape Chamber Orchestra**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$15,210) – Founded in 2004, Inscape Chamber Orchestra offers concerts that engage audiences with compelling experiences. Inscape also premieres and records new works by American composers.

- **InterAct Story Theatre Education Association, Inc., dba InterAct Story Theatre**, Wheaton, Maryland (\$22,000) – InterAct Story Theatre is a theatre and multidisciplinary arts 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 helping us to express our ideas, hopes, emotions, and experiences when words alone are not enough.
- **Kalanidhi Dance, Inc., dba Kalanidhi Dance**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$45,000) – 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 (\$42,500) – Lumina Studio Theatre provides unique opportunities for young actors of any level of experience who seek to perform Shakespeare, other plays of the classical repertory theatre, and modern plays that focus on the beauty of language. Lumina provides a disciplined and rigorous professional setting where actors are trained in a comprehensive, performance-focused program of theatre arts based on the techniques of Rudolf Steiner’s Creative Speech and Drama, Stella Adler, and Michael Chekhov. Programs includes in-depth vocal and character coaching, improvisation, stage-combat training, and choreography.
- **Marlow Guitar International Incorporated**, Rockville, Maryland (\$43,152) – Marlow Guitar International (MGI) creates community through music by drawing people together for entertainment, education, and inspiration. MGI brings people together to experience 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**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$15,600) – The National Capital Trolley Museum (NCTM) preserves and interprets the heritage of electric and interurban railways while supplementing its collections with significant national and international objects to enhance its interpretive programs. NCTM 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.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$23,000) – New Orchestra of Washington (NOW) strives to build a world where transformative musical experience is available and accessible to all. In 2012, Artistic Director Alejandro Hernandez-Valdez from Mexico and Executive Director Grace Cho from South Korea founded NOW, believing that music can bring communities closer. NOW is guided by six values: Collaboration, Representation, Education, Advocacy, Technology, and Experimentation (CREATE).
- **Peerless Rockville Historic Preservation, Ltd.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$41,000) – Peerless Rockville Historic Preservation, Ltd. is a nonprofit, community-based organization founded in 1974 to preserve buildings, objects, and information about Rockville’s heritage. Peerless Rockville advances its goals through education, example, advocacy, and community involvement.
- **Photoworks, Inc.**, Glen Echo, Maryland (\$19,500) – Photoworks is a photography program that offers lectures, courses, gallery exhibitions, and community outreach to photographers and students at all levels. Photoworks strives to be a preeminent photography community; to preserve traditions and explore the frontiers of visual expression; and to be a financially stable organization with the means to adapt to the changing photography environment.

- **Puppet Company, dba The Puppet Co.**, Glen Echo, Maryland (\$25,000) – The Puppet Co. presents professionally-produced puppet theater reflecting excellence in both performance and visual experience as a means to excite the public about the potential of puppetry. As a Center for Exploration of the Puppet Arts, the Puppet Co. brings professional puppetry performances to its audience along with supporting puppetry education through classes, workshops, demonstrations, publications, and exhibitions.
- **Silver Spring Town Center, Inc.**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$29,230) – 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 (\$23,000) – So What Else seeks to improve the lives of children and families living in underserved communities by providing high-quality programs in literacy, visual and performing arts, as well as athletics, food security, and access to other bare necessities. The organization inspires young people to give back to the community by creating volunteer opportunities.
- **Story Tapestries, Inc.**, Poolesville, Maryland (\$45,000) – Story Tapestries provides innovative, custom-designed performances, workshops and hands-on community and educational experiences; designing programs that develop skills, connect individuals, elevate diverse voices and celebrate youth, families, adults, and seniors. The organization strives to bring fiscally responsible, innovative, culturally sensitive programming to all generations.
- **Sutradhar Institute of Dance & Related Arts**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$18,900) – Sutradhar in Sanskrit means ‘thread bearer,’ in the South Indian 17th Century dance theater of Kuchipudi. At Sutradhar, the kinetic arts of dance, yoga, and martial arts, as well as the allied arts of storytelling, music, painting, Tibetan mandalas, creative writing, mythology, and rhythm analysis - are taught with social relevance and an understanding of equity. Dialogue about ethnic, gender, intergenerational, environmental, and socio-cultural issues is cultivated through collaborative and interdisciplinary works, performances by the Devi Dance Theater, and outreach by the Youth Leadership group.
- **Theatre Consortium of Silver Spring, Inc., dba Theatre Consortium of Silver Spring**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$32,088) – The Theatre Consortium of Silver Spring manages the Silver Spring Black Box Theatre for culturally diverse resident companies and other artists, and organizations for the enrichment of the community in and around the Silver Spring Arts and Entertainment District. Theatre Consortium of Silver Spring offers performance space for their resident companies, artists, and other arts organizations, presenting high quality, diverse, and reasonably priced performance art across disciplines.
- **Victorian Lyric Opera Company**, Rockville, Maryland (\$24,731) – Victorian Lyric Opera Company (VLOC) makes operetta relevant for the community.
- **Young Artists of America, Inc., dba Young Artists of America**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$46,000) – Young Artists of America (YAA) provides arts education, delivering transformative, innovative, and inclusive arts programming that propels students in their personal and artistic development. YAA also offers exceptional performances to the community.
- **Youth Art For Healing, Inc., dba Youth Art For Healing**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$22,000) – 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.

FY23 Advancement Grants (AG)

\$336,803 awarded for July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

Advancement Grants provide support to non-profit 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 organizations in attaining fiscal stability and long-term viability, including long-term planning and technology improvements critical to an organization's arts and/or humanities mission. Twelve organizations received FY23 awards within this category.

- **Adventure Theatre, Inc., dba Adventure Theatre MTC**, Glen Echo, Maryland (\$9,000) – Adventure Theatre MTC will enlist an outside firm to revamp the organization's strategic plan, last updated in 2015.
- **After School Dance Fund**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$15,500) – After School Dance Fund (ASDF) will hire a consultant to guide it through a strategic planning and capacity building project, including Board training, management and fundraising workshops, selected stakeholder interviews, strategic visioning sessions, and a framework for a 3-year strategic plan. The consultant will also help ASDF formalize several of its strategic partnerships.
- **Clancy Works, Inc., dba ClancyWorks Dance Company**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$30,000) – Funds will support the digitization, cataloging, and preservation of the ClancyWorks' Video Archive, including 20+ years of organizational knowledge, with the goal of enhancing their website to host the digitized video archive for use in their online programs.
- **Dance Exchange, Inc.**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$28,130) – Dance Exchange (DX) is committed to becoming a multicultural antiracist organization. DX will use funding to clarify the scope of its equity audit. Moving from a developmental phase into an activation phase that centers the organization's DEIA priorities, DX will facilitate its equity audit through partnerships, deep listening, examination, revision, evaluation, and measurement.
- **Docs In Progress, Inc.**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$11,050) – Docs In Progress has launched two new, transformative initiatives: an incubator project for filmmakers with disabilities and an expansion of their education program. The requested equipment is essential in reaching underserved and long-ignored populations. Docs in Progress will be able to teach more students, offer advanced education classes in an accessible setting, as well as provide certified training not readily available in Montgomery County but a workforce requirement by area media companies.
- **MOCO Kidsco, Inc., dba KID Museum**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$49,600) – The project supports the creation of a Design & Fabrication Studio, a physical space where the designing, prototyping, and building of KID Museum's programs and exhibits takes place. KID Museum programs include workshops, interactive exhibits, and large-scale collaborative experiences that require planning and significant space to fabricate. The Studio provides the space, tools, and equipment for KID Museum staff to engage the community in the creation of unique, maker learning experiences.
- **National Philharmonic Orchestra and Chorale of Montgomery County Inc., dba National Philharmonic**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$25,260) – National Philharmonic (NatPhil) is in the early stages of their racial equity journey to become a multicultural, anti-racist arts and cultural organization. Funding will provide support for their administrative and artistic teams to engage in comprehensive formal training and coaching in advancing racial equity.

- **New Orchestra of Washington, Inc.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$10,755) – New Orchestra of Washington (NOW) will work with a digital marketing consultant to develop and expand its digital presence, utilizing digital tools to reach a wider audience. The main objectives are to increase NOW’s visibility to potential arts consumers in Montgomery County and acquire the tools, systems, and skills to benchmark progress toward audience-building goals and increased community responsiveness.
- **Peerless Rockville Historic Preservation, Ltd.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$10,000) – Funds will support a project to contract with a Collections Technician who will assess Peerless Rockville’s collection of physical artifacts and determine what items should be prioritized for digitization, as well as digitize these items for public access on Peerless Rockville’s website. The project will make the collection more accessible to the public, expand onsite offerings to better meet the needs of visitors, and enable Peerless Rockville to create digital exhibits of their resources.
- **Round House Theatre, Inc., dba Round House Theatre**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$44,780) – Round House Theatre will consult with TRG Arts to develop organization-specific capacity building strategies through the 21st Century Adaptive Capacity Building Consultancy. Grant funds will support ongoing consulting services over a period of 12-months as Round House works to implement strategies designed to respond to internal and external challenges in a sustainable, mission-based manner. These strategies will center on demand management, audience development, and organizational capability.
- **Story Tapestries, Inc.**, Poolesville, Maryland (\$21,698) – Recognizing the importance of the quality of communication, Story Tapestries (ST) will develop their capacity to reach a wider audience following strategies designed to maximize equity, inclusion, and accessibility. Experts in marketing, public relations, and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) will provide training, services, and guidance to heighten awareness of ST’s mission and allow ST to connect more deeply with a growing audience base.
- **Strathmore Hall Foundation, Inc.**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$36,530) – Strathmore is requesting funding to purchase audio and visual equipment to reduce their reliance on and ongoing expense of audio and video rental equipment. These items are vital in the presenting and producing of their mission-based and educational programs and will meet the touring needs of artists visiting their stage. Funds saved by not repeatedly renting equipment will allow Strathmore to focus these resources on other crucial programming needs.
- **The Writer’s Center**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$19,500) – Funds will be used to revamp The Writer Center’s (TWC) website. On the public-facing side, their website will become more accessible, nimble, welcoming, user-friendly, and responsive to multiple devices. On the back end, increased automation of workshop and event registration will improve the user experience, while reducing staff workload and, by minimizing manual tasks, lowering the risk of human error.
- **Young Artists of America, Inc., dba Young Artists of America**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$24,000) – Young Artists of America (YAA) is seeking funding to research and create a Master Community Engagement and Recruiting Plan, with a focus on developing school and community relationships in under-resourced communities that will help connect YAA with young, talented, and committed aspiring performing artists from all corners of Montgomery County.

FY23 Programming & Capacity Building Project Grants (PCBPG)

\$343,908 awarded for July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

Programming & Capacity Building Project Grants provide support for non-profit arts and/or humanities organizations or groups that may or may not have 501(c)(3) status. Grants support high-quality programs open to the public and capacity-building projects. Forty-five organizations received FY23 awards within this category.

- **Amazing Theatre Company Inc., dba AmaZing Theatre Company**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$9,500) – *The Harriet Tubman History Project* will be a four-part virtual film accompanied by a study guide. The project is a new work influenced by two successful in-person plays, written and directed by Amazing Theatre’s Artistic Director, Percy W. Thomas; *Harriet Tubman: Defender* and *Harriet Tubman: Fight for Freedom*.
- **Anatolian Artisans, Inc.**, North Bethesda, Maryland (\$4,275) – Anatolian Artisans will present Turkish ceramicist Elif Uras, who will give a lecture at Sandy Spring Museum. Her talk will explore the historic references in her work, including prehistoric goddess figurines, Islamic ceramic traditions, and Western modernism. She will discuss how her work examines east and west, tradition and modernity, and reflects shifting notions of gender and class.
- **Association of Russian Speaking Theaters of America, dba Association of Russian Speaking Theaters**, Potomac, Maryland (\$7,920) – The Association of Russian-Speaking Theatre’s international online festival of literary creativity, *CONSTELLATION*, will feature contestants participating in competitive recitation of poems or prose.
- **Best Medicine Rep, Inc.**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$4,750) – Best Medicine Rep will create and produce an original holiday musical in the style of British Pantomime. Panto is a type of performance wherein a traditional fairy tale is presented in an exaggerated manner, employing comedy, music, people dressed as animals, and two actors in drag. Audience involvement is actively encouraged, creating a communal experience.
- **Bethesda Blues & Jazz Foundation, Inc.** Bethesda, Maryland (\$9,000) – The Bethesda Blues & Jazz Youth Orchestra will perform two concerts at the Bethesda Blues & Jazz Supper Club in Bethesda, Maryland. Each concert will feature a nationally recognized jazz artist.
- **Bethesda Little Theatre Incorporated, dba Bethesda Little Theatre**, Olney, Maryland (\$9,000) – Stephen Sondheim formed a close friendship with playwright Oscar Hammerstein II, who influenced him profoundly and developed his love of musical theater. Sondheim is also noted for mentoring Jonathan Larson and Lin-Manuel Miranda. Bethesda Little Theatre’s project will explore the evolution of musical theatre through these great composers.
- **Boulangier Initiative**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$9,200) – *Women Composers Festival (WoCo Fest)* is at the core of Boulangier Initiative’s (BI) performance year. Building on the success of BI’s past three festivals, their 2023 festival will feature performances, panel discussions featuring composers and musicians. The project culminates with a one-day conference for industry leaders to discuss gender equity issues that pervade the music industry.
- **C&O Canal Trust, Inc.**, Potomac, Maryland (\$9,200) – The program *Canal For All* allows the C&O Canal Trust to work in partnership with the National Park Service (NPS) to provide opportunities for education, stewardship, and volunteerism that are safe, welcoming, and inclusive for all. The project involves partnerships with community organizations to diminish barriers to participation, creating opportunities to play, learn, serve, and work in the C&O Canal National Historical Park (NHP).

- **DC Beauty of Beijing Opera, Ltd.**, North Potomac, Maryland (\$9,408) – DC Beauty of Beijing Opera will perform a fully-costumed Beijing Opera and offer associated workshops to broaden the cultural horizon of local residents.
- **DC South Asian Arts Council, Inc.**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$9,500) – The 11th annual *Washington DC South Asian Film Festival* (DCSAFF) will showcase independent cinema by South Asians located in the U.S., South Asia, and other geographic locations. DCSAFF will screen feature, documentary, and short films with South Asian content created by South Asian artists. The festival will also include post-screening and panel discussions with filmmakers, film production workshops, and other cultural programs.
- **Ebong TheatriX**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$8,800) – In remembrance of lives lost to COVID, Ebong TheatriX will host a two-day, in-person theatre and folk festival in May 2023. The festival will include performances by award-winning and internationally reputed theatre personalities and residents of Montgomery County.
- **F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Conference, Inc., dba F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Festival Inc.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$9,800) – The F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Conference celebrates Fitzgerald's work by honoring an American writer at a literary festival. The annual festival includes speakers, workshops, films, and panels. The honoree provides the public with a master class in writing. Nominated Fitzgerald student scholars from Montgomery County Public Schools are also invited to a session with the honoree.
- **FocusMusic**, Rockville, Maryland (\$4,750) – FocusMusic will present eight shows in Gaithersburg, Rockville, and Sandy Spring, live or virtual, depending on current health conditions associated with the pandemic. Live shows will be streamed for accessibility. Funds will also be used to update FocusMusic's Strategic Plan.
- **Four Seasons Dancers, Inc.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$9,500) – Four Seasons Dancer's *Dances of the World* is a globally inspired annual performance featuring original choreography inspired by a diversity of traditional cultures. The program presents a sample of dances from around the globe and features vivid couture costumes that enhance the visual experience.
- **Institute of Musical Traditions, Inc.**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$3,951) – Institute of Musical Traditions (IMT) will purchase recording equipment that will allow them to present concerts in multiple venues, expanding their outreach and increasing their audience.
- **interPLAY Orchestra**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$9,500) – interPLAY hosts an artistic platform where people with disabilities are celebrated for their abilities. Funding will cover production costs as well as the costs associated with weekly hybrid rehearsals held throughout the year in preparation for two hybrid concert performances and/or video productions.
- **Kolot HaLev, Inc.**, Kensington, Maryland (\$9,500) – *Buena Semana – Jewish Music Across the Americas* is a concert featuring choral selections from North and South America. In collaboration with a Jewish choir from Mexico City, the program takes the audience across the Americas through song. The concert will feature composers working today as well as traditional melodies.
- **Live Garra Theatre**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$9,200) – Funds will be used for the creation and production of a new musical work, *The Window King*.
- **Mayur Dance Company**, Potomac, Maryland (\$9,500) – This project will culminate in a stage production celebrating the 30th anniversary of Mayur Dance's founding. The production will explore the themes of change and transition, incorporating traditional dance and contemporary contemplation on change (e.g., climate change).

- **Montgomery Philharmonic, Inc.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$8,820) – Montgomery Philharmonic will present five concerts that include music composed by women, Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC). Events benefiting youth, adults, and seniors will also occur.
- **Montgomery Symphony Orchestra, Inc.**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$5,577) – Grant funds will be used to present a youth concerto competition and a free community concert in downtown Silver Spring. 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 orchestral work.
- **NIH Community Orchestra**, Rockville, Maryland (\$4,655) – The NIH Community Orchestra (NIHCO), an all-volunteer ensemble in its 25th season, will issue a Call-for-Scores for five to ten-minute orchestral compositions with the theme, *Reflection and Rejuvenation*. The selected composer will receive an honorarium and a professional recording when NIHCO performs the piece in Montgomery County in spring 2023.
- **NIH Philharmonia**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$4,750) – NIH Philharmonia will present nine free concerts that present symphonic music to Montgomery County residents. Each concert will include music that is introduced to the audience with historical context to enrich the experience.
- **Orfeia Vocal Ensemble**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$4,275) – Orfeia Vocal Ensemble will lead up to four online and in-person intergenerational Balkan singing workshops. The workshops will be free of charge and will highlight musical themes that resonate with what many are feeling in the era of COVID-19; the need to reconnect with others through music, to feel communal belonging with a deeper awareness of our shared humanity.
- **Printmaking Legacy Project[®], Inc.**, Rockville, Maryland (\$9,500) – The Printmaking Legacy Project will create a documentary about Percy Martin's career and his collaborative friendship with Michael B. Platt, including accounts of their history and involvement with the development of the print department's studios. Denied access to the city's galleries, museums, and universities, these artists experienced the D.C. art scene pre-/post-segregation. As mentors and teachers, they established major print studios, exhibition venues and after-school arts programs for the African American community.
- **Rockville Brass Band, Inc.**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$7,600) – Rockville Brass Band will offer a two-part series in Montgomery County, with the goal of expanding their audience and engaging the next generation of brass band musicians. The first program will consist of a joint concert with a youth music organization based in Montgomery County in fall 2022. The second program will consist of a clinic and concert in the spring with Montgomery County student musicians.
- **Rockville Little Theatre**, Rockville, Maryland (\$3,150) – Grant funds will be used to produce *Stick Fly*, a drama that shows the joys and struggles of family and the power of connection. The characters' relaxing weekend takes a turn as family members clash during conversations about privilege, class and secrets unravel.
- **Sherwood Community Chamber Choir Incorporated**, Damascus, Maryland (\$4,750) – The Sherwood Community Chamber Choir (SCCC) is forming the Sherwood Community Youth Choir for 30-40 Olney-area middle school students. SCCC will give two concerts; the final will be with the Children's Choir.
- **Six Degree Singers**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$9,500) – Six Degree Singers will offer live choral events in conjunction with virtual rehearsals. The goal is to maximize the potential for in-person services that can be shifted to virtual services at a moment's notice.
- **Symphony of the Potomac**, Glen Echo, Maryland (\$9,500) – Symphony of the Potomac will perform four orchestral concerts of classical music at the Montgomery College Cultural Arts Center (MCCAC).

- **Tagore Music Group of Greater Washington, DC, Inc.**, North Potomac, Maryland (\$8,211) – Tagore Music Group’s drama tells the story of an intelligent young woman and how she overcomes adversity with her strength of character, power of observation, and the sheer force of her will.
 - **Takoma Park Folk Festival, Inc.**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$9,500) – *The Takoma Park Folk Festival* is an annual community event held in Montgomery County. The event hosts local musicians from a variety of genres, local craft activities and vendors, and games to bring the local community together.
 - **The Civic Circle**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$4,750) – The Civic Circle will create an interactive, online version of its arts-based curriculum for 3rd - 5th grade students. Student’s understanding of democracy will be enhanced through music, poetry, and storytelling. The grantee will build a multimedia web platform for eight lesson plans that currently take the form of unadorned text PDFs. The final product will seamlessly integrate teacher instructions, activities, handouts, slide decks, and educational song videos.
 - **The Kentlands Community Foundation, Inc.**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$9,000) – Funds will be used to produce a concert for *Musica Viva Kentlands*, to grow the online and physical presence of the Gaithersburg Artist Collective, diversify the cast and enhance the theater experience offered by the Kentlands Community Players.
 - **The Montgomery Playhouse, Inc.**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$9,500) – Montgomery Playhouse’s *The Laramie Project*, a play about violence instigated by homophobia, explores the depths to which humanity can sink and the heights of compassion of which it is capable.
 - **The National String Symphonia**, Germantown, Maryland (\$9,500) – The National String Symphonia (NSS) will present a concert series, featuring cornerstone pieces and new programming. The concerts are also part of an initiative to create a string music library that can be accessed by musical organizations worldwide.
 - **Trinity Chamber Orchestra**, Germantown, Maryland (\$9,000) – The Trinity Chamber Orchestra (TCO) will sponsor new musical compositions and participate in conducting competitions for musicians. To bolster its organizational capacity, TCO will add a staff assistant, create a strategic plan, provide professional development for staff, and upgrade its technology to provide online programming to improve recording and distribution.
 - **Unexpected Stage Company**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$5,880) – Unexpected Stage will present *Fade*, by Tanya Saracho, in person and streamed virtually. This comedic drama explores class and race within the Latinx community.
- Urban Artistry, Inc.**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$9,800) – The annual *International Soul Society Festival* (ISSF) celebrates the full spectrum of Urban Arts and its many influences. Occurring in Wheaton, this year’s theme is *The Collective Individual*. Urban Artistry will highlight urban dance forms as traditional American culture and pay homage to those that have come before.
- **Walking Shadow Readers Theatre**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$7,200) – Walking Shadow Readers Theatre will produce eight readings of new plays by both emerging and established playwrights, allowing playwrights to experience the greatest approximation of their work without the use of sets, props, or costumes. The readings of the plays will be streamed for a public audience and followed by a feedback session with Walking Shadow company members.

- **Washington Metropolitan Gamer Symphony Orchestra**, Rockville, Maryland (\$1,136) – Washington Metropolitan Gamer Symphony Orchestra (WMGSO) will celebrate video game music with a concert in the Montgomery College Cultural Arts Center in Silver Spring. WMGSO is dedicated to showcasing the emerging art form of video game music and highlighting the virtuosity of its composers. Concert programming includes music from video games old and new, popular and obscure. WMGSO will also stream the concerts online.
- **Wheaton Wonders, Inc., dba Wheaton Arts Parade**, Wheaton, Maryland (\$9,200) – *The Wheaton Arts Parade (WAP) Gallery* brings artwork to the community. Emerging and established local artists exhibiting at the gallery represent diverse cultural backgrounds, including Latinx, African American, and Asian. WAP's project is designed to help stabilize management and infrastructure.
- **Wildwood Summer Theatre**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$9,500) – Area youth aged fourteen to twenty-five will present a production of *The Lightning Thief*, Wildwood's summer 2022 musical.
- **Word Dance Theater Inc., dba Word Dance Theater**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$9,000) – *The Sophia Project* is a series of events exploring areas of wellness that intersect with Word Dance Theater (WDT)'s philosophy of dance. Each event will involve a presenter in a “non-dance” field, such as psychology, collaborating with a presenter from WDT.
- **Zemer Chai**, Kensington, Maryland (\$4,400) – Zemer Chai will produce a public virtual recording of a song for healing, chosen to memorialize the lives lost to COVID-19, promoting emotional healing.

FY23 Artists & Scholars Project Grants (ASPG)

\$285,422 awarded for July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023

Artists & Scholars Project Grants provide support to individual artists and scholars who reside in Montgomery County, MD. Projects can focus on the creation and/or presentation of artistic/scholarly work or professional development. Sixty-one artists and scholars received FY23 awards within this category.

- **Adrienne Clancy**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$4,750) – Funding will support the creation of a contemporary dance inspired by Hawaiian oral histories about the volcano goddess Pele, with the mentoring support of Hula experts Kekoa and Pele Harman. This work celebrates a cultural exchange of artistic processes, offering a model for researching Indigenous dance cultures in a culturally sensitive manner.
- **Adrienne Moumin**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$3,891) – Funds will be used to photograph and frame several handmade silver gelatin photo collages, in a variety of sizes and depths.
- **Allen Tsauro**, Germantown, Maryland (\$4,500) – This project seeks to translate the *Wēnbìng Tiáobiàn* 溫病條辨 (Systematized Identification of Warm Diseases, 1798 CE), one of the four foundational works of Chinese medicine, into English. The completion of this project will give English readers access herbal literature about the history of Chinese medicine.
- **Amita Sarin**, Potomac, Maryland (\$5,000) – Funds will support the post-production phase of the documentary film *THE NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA: HOME TO THE WORLD*, the first in the series *A SACRED PIECE OF HOME*, about places of worship in America constructed by distinct ethno-religious communities.
- **Andrew Hladky**, Kensington, Maryland (\$4,900) – Funds will be used to develop a new body of artwork consisting of sculptural paintings and paint sculptures made with oil paint and bamboo sticks. Each work will feature interplay between the three-dimensional body of the piece, its surface image, and will echo the way our experience of the world can change with emotional and physical distance.
- **Audra Meckstroth**, Rockville, Maryland (\$4,579) – This project will use augmented reality along with photography, painting, and digital art techniques to form a new body of art for a public exhibition titled *Space and Place*.
- **Barbara Siegel**, Kensington, Maryland (\$4,750) – The project is a set of 20 oil paintings that start with the text of a poem that gets painted over or becomes illegible as the artist works. While the paintings are on display, the artist will give a talk/workshop about listening and the fallibility of words.
- **Beverly Ress**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$4,623) – The grantee will develop drawings based on ideas begun during the pandemic, exploring dreams and memories. The grantee will work with colored pencil, on both Arches paper and vellum, intersecting the two surfaces through gluing, cutting, and scraping the papers together. The imagery will include shadows, color, and objects under vellum that are hazy.
- **Bonnie Kennedy**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$4,500) – The grantee will create a series of four natural history illustrations in watercolor, of five to twelve specimens of local flora and fauna per illustration. Each illustration will depict a season and the local wildlife as it appears during that time. The illustrations will then be made into prints.
- **Brian Frankel**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$4,750) – *Transformation* will use film to tell stories of change based on local residents who represent the diversity of Montgomery County. One change can unlock a person's potential and *Transformation* shows we are all human.

- **Carien Quiroga**, Damascus, Maryland (\$4,900) – *Visualizing Data: Mass Incarceration* is an art installation that investigates and visually captures the carceral landscape in the United States of America and is intended to disrupt conventional assumptions about mass incarceration and capital punishment. While aesthetically appealing, the installation also aims to combine scholarly research, engage the audience to contribute to the work, and participate in dialogue about this crucial social justice issue.
- **Carla Perlo**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$5,000) – The grantee will create an interactive dance performance to accompany the reading of the children's story *The Rainbow Bird*, a family-friendly storybook about bravery, diversity, friendship, and finding home written by Judy Lieberman and illustrated by the applicant.
- **Carlos Gonzalez-Fernandez**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$4,500) – *People | Things* is a series of profiles about creatives as they are creating in their creative spaces. The series aims to explore connecting threads of creativity throughout a myriad of different endeavors and to highlight aspects of the creative process that are usually only seen by those who create the works.
- **Caroline Anna Bock**, Potomac, Maryland (\$3,040) – *WINGED* will be a new short story collection with 10-12 works all linked with themes of flight. The physical and emotional metaphors of flight will be explored in these short stories.
- **Cathy Fink**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$4,750) – The grantee will record a new album of original songs. The songs are written in several styles from folk to bluegrass and from jazz to swing.
- **Cecily Bumbray**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$5,000) – *Awakening Pt. 2* is a seven-track jazz-influenced soul album that offers a radical reimagining of how love can transform each of us, our relationships, and society. It is inspired by the book *All About Love: New Visions* by the late Black, feminist author bell hooks.
- **Charles Barnett**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$4,750) – Funds will support a staged reading of *True North*, a full-length musical theater project. The reading will culminate in a public performance.
- **Chetna Gola**, Boyds, Maryland (\$4,750) – *I am Homeless – Not Less* is a series of four short films based on true stories that explores the tragic and often misunderstood reality of homelessness. The goal of presenting these true stories is to help others see homelessness through the eyes of the homeless and to be more compassionate, extending a helping hand to those who crave dignity, happiness, and a chance to be "no less."
- **Cintia Cabib**, Potomac, Maryland (\$5,000) – Funds will be used to edit the applicant's documentary *Bird Walk*. The documentary focuses on the birds and birdwatchers who flock to RedGate Park in Rockville, Maryland, where 166 species of birds have been identified. Birders will recount their efforts to save the land from development, discuss the joys and challenges of spotting and photographing birds, and describe the conditions that make the park an ideal habitat for a variety of birds.
- **Cory Oberndorfer**, Rockville, Maryland (\$4,703) – Funds will be used for the research, development, and production of a series of prints.
- **Courtney Warren**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$5,000) – The grantee will write, create, and produce a late-night talk show to increase representation of people of color in television.
- **Dan Gutstein**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$3,920) – The grantee will write a collection of short stories, entitled *Half of Me* that focus on the representation of disability. The two main characters, Sweets and Violetta, contend with conditions that limit their life activities. Nevertheless, the two attempt a relationship, and in doing so, experience fragments of joy and humor despite the despair of their situation.

- **D'Angelo Perrier**, Montgomery Village, Maryland (\$4,900) – In 2021, TESSI, a physical and digital toy, landed in Montgomery County from space. TESSI quickly discovered the existence of alternate universes where unique variants of itself inhabit. This year the grantee will build alternate variants of TESSI. Each variant will represent a new adventure with an associated 3D print sculpture and art. This collection of work will be *The TESSI Multiverse*.
- **Dana Cann**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$4,900) – Set in the near future, the applicant's new novel, *THE HOLE IN THE SKY*, examines the current fascination with technology, conspiracy theories, and misinformation through one couple's search for their missing adult son.
- **Deirdre Saunder**, Potomac, Maryland (\$4,750) – *Unitus* is the working title for a series of new works combining paint on canvas with neon light. *Unitus* is the Latin word meaning "to unite" and is the underlying inspiration for this new series.
- **Dinah Myers Schroeder**, Wheaton, Maryland (\$4,900) – The grantee will develop a professional website for their brand, *Another DinahMyte Creation*.
- **Elzbieta Sikorska**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$4,750) – Funds will support the creation of a series of large-scale multi-media drawings using formal and technical experiments, combining media and different papers. The works will seek to engage the audience in understanding layers of meaning in nature in connection to human history and today's environment.
- **Hedieh Javanshir Ilchi**, Rockville, Maryland (\$4,900) – Funds will be used to develop a series of paintings investigating how the language of abstraction, through chance and control, can evoke the sublime. In these paintings, fluid layers of poured paint will interlace with intricately painted patterns and imagery derived from Persian paintings and illuminated manuscripts. These paintings will merge conflicting elements into sublime landscapes that tread the fine line between equilibrium and chaos.
- **Heidi Martin**, Takoma Park, Maryland (\$4,500) – Based on the Journals (1986-1999) of Abbey Lincoln, the project includes a discussion about Abbey's musical philosophy and weekend concerts of collaborative songs from this experience.
- **Jacqui Crocetta**, Rockville, Maryland (\$4,750) – *Patterns of Connection* includes the development of a new series of works inspired by the mindset of interconnectedness, and a free printmaking workshop for residents and staff at Interfaith Works Center for Women. A loss of connection exacerbates many issues being confronted today, such as systemic racism, poverty, and climate change. Conversely, deepening our sense of connection to one another and the natural world, enhances our relationships and can lead to healing.
- **Jane Puryear Woodard**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$4,745) – The grantee will explore the techniques of Silk Aquatint and learn to apply these new non-toxic methods and materials to their printmaking skills and body of work.
- **Javier Farias**, Potomac, Maryland (\$4,200) – The grantee will compose six pieces written for classical guitar and voice to raise awareness about the immigration experience among younger generations.
- **Jay Mallin**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$1,706) – The grantee will engage in professional development, attending a workshop in cinematography specifically for documentarians.
- **Jonathan Ezra Rubin**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$4,900) – The grantee will attend a Society of American Fight Directors' (SAFD) Teacher Certification Workshop. SAFD certifies teachers of stage combat. Candidates undergo thorough training in the SAFD's weapons disciplines and experience in choreography and teaching.
- **Joshua Bayer**, Rockville, Maryland (\$4,500) – The project includes the composition, recording, production, and video of new original Jazz compositions.

- **Kaly McKibben**, Rockville, Maryland (\$4,500) – Project *Villa Yfel* began as an exploration of the psychological nature of fear, evil and the human tendency to cope with fear-inducing phenomena by transforming said phenomena into controlled fun/thrill scenarios. Funds will be used for the physical build of *Villa Yfel*, a complex haunted dollhouse with a fictional storyline behind its origin, which will be told in audio-recorded storytelling format.
- **Ken Janjigian**, Rockville, Maryland (\$4,750) – The grantee is writing a screenplay titled *Kerouac*. A biopic of the legendary Beat Generation author Jack Kerouac, the screenplay explores his childhood trauma, on-the-road adventures with fellow Beat writers, romantic difficulties, radical writing style, dramatic fame, and seismic cultural impact, culminating in his alcoholic, reclusive demise.
- **L. Paige Whitley**, Chevy Chase, Maryland (\$5,000) – Funds will support the scriptwriting of a short documentary film detailing how the African American benevolent society Morningstar Tabernacle No. 88 of the Order of Moses provided mutual support for its members and established a community meeting place and a burial ground in Cabin John, Maryland, during a century of legal and social segregation. Viewers will learn about this little-known County history and reflect on the preservation of endangered African American historical sites.
- **Laura Baron**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$4,750) – Funds will be used to record an EP album of original songs by the applicant. Live and virtual concerts will accompany the release of the album.
- **Leila Cabib**, Potomac, Maryland (\$4,750) – Funds will be used to create a series of pen-and-ink and watercolor sketches of 19th century residential architecture, mat and frame the sketches, and exhibit them at the Connie Morella Library in Bethesda, Maryland.
- **Lisa Swenton-Eppard**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$4,900) – Recognizing that uncovering Montgomery County's connection to the Underground Railroad for generations to come is vital, the grantee will explore the associated sounds in a newly created choreographic work.
- **Lynn Alleva Lilley**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$4,815) – *Sligo Creek, An Intimate Landscape* is an ongoing photographic project. The grantee was struck by how the bright winter light falling on the brambles in Sligo Creek woods created masses of shimmering silver and red lines. These lines in nature felt like a possibility, a way to weave a life from fragility, upheaval, and chaos into a kind of beauty. This body of work will be presented in an artist photobook and exhibitions.
- **Maria Karametou**, Bethesda, Maryland (\$4,500) – Funds will support an exhibition of the applicant's Identity-related mixed media works. The project will include a public presentation that will address identity as experienced in today's diversified, multicultural environment.
- **Michelle Penn**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$4,750) – The grantee provides professional arts and movement instruction and performance opportunities to women in the orthodox Jewish community. With a mentor, she has developed a professional development program to hone her craft in three focus areas: technique building, choreographic creativity, and teaching development.
- **Nishi Chawla**, Potomac, Maryland (\$4,750) – The grantee will write a new screenplay, *MKG / MLK: Violent and Non-Violent Encounters*, placing Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr. (MLK) within the crucible of a dramatic plot. Both Gandhi and MLK used a principled and strategic approach to nonviolent resistance and liberation. This project will emphasize the similar and divergent ways in which they carved their individual paths.
- **Nizette Brennan**, Kensington, Maryland (\$4,500) – Funds will be used for a new stone carving, a playful and whimsical work reflecting the history and present-day activities at Glen Echo. The new work will be installed at Glen Echo Art Park.

- **Oliver Mertz**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$5,000) – The grantee will create and print *I Know Almost Everything By Now*, a graphic novel about loss and broke-open family dynamics due to a father’s terminal cancer, a teenage son’s feelings of longing and alienation, and the slow onslaught of dread and endings. Written with hindsight, but braving the then-times, the story is an ode to growing up in Rockville, MD in the 90s.
- **Paige Friedeman**, Gaithersburg, Maryland (\$4,750) – The grantee will paint temporary murals in acrylic on storefront windows in the Wheaton Urban District, creating an art walk that encourages pedestrian traffic and beautifies vacant spaces.
- **Richard Alan Stack**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$5,000) – *GOOD MOURNING* will be a comforting companion to anyone who is suffering acute grief from the loss of loved one. The completed book will provide guidance to process bereavement and reassurance that life, though different, can be fulfilling again.
- **Robin Stevens Payes**, Rockville, Maryland (\$4,900) – The grantee will research and write a young adult fiction book, the fifth in their published series, *Edge of Yesterday*. The story is about a science-smart girl who builds Leonardo da Vinci’s plans for a time machine for a school science fair. She bends time to meet another superhero of history, anthropologist and writer Zora Neal Hurston, an icon of the Harlem Renaissance, confidant of Langston Hughes, and storyteller of the Black experience in the American South of the Jim Crow era.
- **Sarah Avery**, Rockville, Maryland (\$4,500) – The grantee will use funds to write a new novel inspired by the idea that stories need heroes who clean up messes, who can hold onto the idea that no human is garbage, even when humans make garbage choices. The premise revolves around a crew of trash collectors that keep three cursed swords they find on the curb, propelling them into a cosmic struggle for the soul of New Jersey. They’ll face poisoned land spirits, traffickers, and raccoons so big you can ride them into battle.
- **Sarah Beth Oppenheim**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$5,000) – *Holster Buffalo* is part annotated workbook for navigating America, part physical exercise in metaphor, and part dance experiment. Inspired by the changing landscape of terrain and politics, and based on the Jewish concept of Tikkun Olam, the project includes original choreography, family tree lineage, cultural exchange, social justice activism, and archival documentation.
- **Serli Hacikoglu**, Rockville, Maryland (\$4,900) – Funds will support the purchase of equipment necessary for expanding the applicant’s visual arts practice. Funds will also support the creation of a body of work exploring themes of personal identity, ancestry, womanhood, and mental health. The work will be exhibited in tandem with an artist talk and community round table discussion.
- **Shahryar Rizvi**, Burtonsville, Maryland (\$4,900) – Funds will be used to further the applicant’s scriptwriting abilities. The grantee is a comedic performer and scriptwriter who is focused on creating media content that offers positive representation of marginalized communities through light-hearted but thought-provoking scripts.
- **Shanye Huang**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$5,000) – Funds will be used to purchase supplies for a series of installations and paintings which will be featured in an art exhibition at Sandy Spring Museum in Montgomery County. The artworks integrate folk-art elements and contemporary concepts, using vibrant colors, symbols, metaphors to explore the interconnectedness in human life that is transformed and regenerated through the historic COVID-19 pandemic, to celebrate love and our resilient human spirit.

- **Sharon Lee Minor King**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$4,900) – Funds will be used to edit videos from a virtual project, *Under the Baobab Tree*, and to increase marketing/promotion for associated online classes/workshops. A professional transfer of older materials from VHS will minimize the risk of losing ethnographic data collected by the applicant.
- **Sue Fierston**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$4,750) – Funds will support the creation and framing of watercolor paintings on Yupo based on antique scientific instruments as exhibited at the San Francisco International Airport and in the collection of Mark McElyea. The grantee plans to exhibit the art in galleries at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda.
- **Sukanya Mukherji**, Potomac, Maryland (\$5,000) – This project is an original, fifteen-minute abstract dance piece choreographed in a canonical structure (“Pallavi”) within the Indian classical dance style Odissi. It involves iteratively and collaboratively composing an original piece of music according to the style’s conventions and creating a performance-quality recording. The dance piece incorporates the raga mood Chandrakauns and the choreographer’s chosen visual motifs.
- **Susan Donnelly**, Kensington, Maryland (\$5,000) – *ALLIANCE*, a documentary film, tells the story of the Alliance Colony, settled in 1882 by Jewish immigrants fleeing persecution in Russia. As one of over 40 now forgotten Jewish agricultural communities, including communities in Maryland, Alliance was the first and most successful colony. This is a personal story, as the applicant’s great-great-grandparents were among the original 43 founding families. The film interprets a vital part of Jewish history and immigration for local audiences.
- **Tulani Janae**, Derwood, Maryland (\$4,900) – Funds support the development of a dance film. The film will incorporate modern and urban dance styles to dissect the many ups and downs of being human, and our connections to others through physical alignment.
- **V. Kuroji Patrick**, Silver Spring, Maryland (\$5,000) – The project is a series of educational puppet shows with a focus on acceptance of differences, including but not limited to age, race, gender, language, and cultural experiences.