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LowellArts Announces \$40,000 in MCACA Minigrants for Fiscal Year 2022 and \$10,000 available to preK – 12th Grade Schools for Arts Equipment & Supplies Grants and Busing Grants

LOWELL, MI – Through the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA) Minigrant Program, LowellArts awarded **\$32,000** for **ARTS PROJECTS** to thirteen local arts and cultural organizations and **\$8,000** for **PROFESSIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT** to five organizations and one artist.

LowellArts serves as one of the regional regranting agencies for the MCACA for the counties of Barry, Ionia, Kent, Lake, Mecosta, Montcalm, Newaygo and Osceola.

For the Fiscal Year 2022 LowellArts received fifteen grant applications for **ARTS PROJECTS**, with a total of **\$53,800** in requests and **\$32,000** awarded. Organizations could request up to \$4,000 for locally developed, high quality arts and cultural projects, which are special opportunities to address local arts and cultural needs and increase public access to arts and culture. These grants support a broad range of artistic expression from all cultures through projects which preserve, produce or present traditional or contemporary arts and culture and arts education.

The following thirteen organizations received ARTS PROJECTS awards:

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	GRANT AWARD
Earful of Fiddle Music and Dance Camp	Mecosta	\$2,500
Evert Downtown Development Authority	Osceola	\$2,250
Grand Rapids African American Museum and Archives	Kent	\$3,400
Grand River Watershed Arts and Music Council	Kent	\$3,400
Hope Network – Big Rapids	Mecosta	\$2,500
Lake County Historical Society	Lake	\$2,500
Mecosta Osceola Intermediate School District	Mecosta	\$3,400
Morton Township Library	Mecosta	\$2,500
Newaygo Area District Library	Newaygo	\$2,500
Rockford Community Orchestra	Kent	\$1,250
San Juan Diego Academy	Kent	\$1,800
Sparta Area Schools	Kent	\$1,500
The Vagrancy	Kent	\$2,500

In addition, LowellArts received eight grant application for **PROFESSIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**, with a total of **\$11,280** in requests and **\$8,000** awarded. Organizations and professional artists could ask for up to \$1,500 to support a variety of nonprofit organizational and individual needs, which

strengthen the capacity of the organization or artist. These dollars can be used to attend conferences, workshops, seminars or to hire short-term consultants.

The following six organizations / artist received PROFESSIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT awards:

ORGANIZATION / ARTIST	COUNTY	GRANT AWARD
Artists Creating Together	Kent	\$1,250
Grand Rapids Ballet Company	Kent	\$1,250
Grand Rapids Cable Access Center	Kent	\$1,250
Grandville Avenue Arts & Humanities	Kent	\$1,500
Mandy Cano Villalobos – Artist	Kent	\$1,250
West Michigan Center for Arts and Technologies	Kent	\$1,500

MCACA Grants for preK-12 Schools are currently available through LowellArts for the counties of Barry, Ionia, Kent, Lake, Mecosta, Montcalm, Newaygo and Osceola.

Two opportunities are available to Michigan preK-12 schools to assist with access to art through transportation and supply funds.

Arts Equipment & Supplies Grants provide up to \$1500 to Michigan preK-12 schools to pay for arts equipment (including repairs of arts equipment) or supplies being used within the classroom/school setting. Michigan preK-12 teachers in any arts discipline may apply for the grant, including; creative writing, film/video, music, visual arts, and theater.

Bus Grants provide up to \$500 to Michigan preK-12 schools for the transportation cost of an arts or culture related trip.

Applicants must be accredited Michigan preK-12 educational institutions: Public or Non-Public School | Private School | Home School | School District | Intermediate School District | Regional Educational Service Agency | Accredited Head Start Program

There is a rolling deadline for both of these grants through April 15, 2021. Applications are available at <https://www.lowellartsmi.org/mcaca-minigrants>.

LowellArts administers these grants through a regranting program through the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs. The State of Michigan Minigrant Program is a partnership between the MCACA and fifteen regional re-granting agencies throughout the state.

LowellArts Mission: Connecting Artists and Audiences through the Visual and Performing Arts. **LowellArts stated purpose is:** to encourage the understanding, appreciation, and importance of the arts in the schools and communities we serve, and to provide expression and enjoyment of the arts to all segments of these communities. **LowellArts is a 501(c)3 designated nonprofit organization.** The purpose of a nonprofit is to provide programs and services identified by its community and defined by the nonprofit's mission. LowellArts believes that the arts are an integral part of our quality of life and an important asset for the community it serves.