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LowellArts announces \$28,200 in MCACA Minigrants for Fiscal Year 2021

LOWELL, MI – Through the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA) Minigrant Program, LowellArts awarded **\$20,200** for **ARTS PROJECTS** to nine local arts and cultural organizations and **\$8,000** for **PROFESSIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT** to six organizations and one artist.

LowellArts serves as one of the regional regranting agencies for the MCACA for eight counties in Region 4B: of Barry, Ionia, Kent, Lake, Mecosta, Montcalm, Newaygo and Osceola. The Minigrant applications are reviewed by a panel of artists and organizational leaders from the region using criteria set by the MCACA.

For the Fiscal Year 2020 LowellArts received ten grant applications for **ARTS PROJECTS**, with a total of **\$38,400** in requests and **\$20,200** 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 grants provide support for the production, presentation and creation of excellent arts and culture programs that promote public engagement, diversity, lifelong learning and help to enhance the livability of communities.

The following nine organizations received ARTS PROJECTS awards:

ORGANIZATION	COUNTY	GRANT AWARD
Bach Chorale of Grand Rapids	Kent	\$2,000
Ebony Road Players	Kent	\$3,000
Grand Rapids African American Museum and Archives	Kent	\$2,000
Hope Network – Big Rapids	Mecosta	\$3,000
Mecosta Osceola Intermediate School District	Mecosta/Osceola	\$2,000
Morton Township Library	Mecosta	\$2,000
Mosaic Film Experience	Kent	\$3,000
Newaygo Area District Library	Newaygo	\$2,000
San Juan Diego Academy	Kent	\$1,200

In addition, LowellArts received eight grant application for **PROFESSIONAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**, with a total of **\$12,000** in requests and **\$8,000** awarded. Organizations and professional artists could ask for up to \$1,500 to assist nonprofit arts and cultural organizations, artists, cultural specialists, administrators and educators with opportunities that specifically improve their management and/or bring the individual or the organization to another level professionally or artistically.

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

ORGANIZATION / ARTIST	COUNTY	GRANT AWARD
Artists Creating Together Inc	Kent	\$1,500
Grand Rapids Cable Access Center	Kent	\$970
Grand Rapids Women's Chorus	Kent	\$1,200
Grandville Avenue Arts & Humanities	Kent	\$970
Mandy Cano Villalobos – Artist	Kent	\$970
The Diatribe Inc.	Kent	\$1,195
West Michigan Center for Arts and Technology	Kent	\$1,195

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.

LowellArts is supported in part, by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs. For more information visit <https://www.lowellartsmi.org/annual-report>