



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kristen Madsen

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Opportunity Grants for Summer Arts Youth Programs

Funds made available by County Supervisors

SONOMA COUNTY, Calif. – We are pleased to announce that the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors has allocated \$100,000 for summer art youth programs, to occur during the summer of 2017. For the third year, the program will be administrated by Creative Sonoma, a division of the County’s Economic Development Board.

Grants will be available to nonprofit organizations and to individuals who have fiscal sponsors to provide children aged 7 to 18 with opportunities to participate in high quality cultural arts summer programs. Eligible projects can incorporate any creative discipline from photography and writing to theater, graphic design, crafts, filmmaking and more. The deadline for applications is Friday, June 23, 2017.

“Research shows that students who participate in summer programs improve their overall academic outcomes,” said Supervisor Shirlee Zane, Chair of the Board of Supervisors. “The type of arts programs funded with these grants are a great way to help stem the learning loss that can occur over the summer.”

Summer Arts Youth Program Grants are designed to support creative individuals and organizations who are fostering creativity in our local youth through camps, workshops and hands-on art making. In 2016, grants were made to 14 Sonoma based arts organizations who collectively provided 1500 hours of arts programming to more than 1450 young people, leveraged an additional \$250,000 toward the programs, and offered 92 artists part-time work.

Grant guidelines outlining eligibility and application forms are available at www.CreativeSonoma.org/summer-arts-youth-program-grants. Questions on the project should be sent to Samantha.kimpel@sonoma-county.org.

For more information, please contact Kristen Madsen at kristen.madsen@sonoma-county.org.