



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Kristen Madsen, 707-565-6120

December 2, 2019

**Creative Sonoma Awards Grants for Pop Up Creativity, Cultural Arts Programs**

*Funding Provided by County Board of Supervisors*

Creative Sonoma is pleased to announce that \$338,500 has been awarded across the county for creative arts and culture projects. Grants range in size from \$1,000 to \$33,000 and fund some of the county's most established arts organizations as well as start-up creative ventures. A total of 35 grants were awarded through Cultural Arts Grants and Pop-Up Creativity Grants. The collective impact of these funds will be to invest in the vitality of our community by supporting the creative activities that are produced here.

Pop Up Creativity Grants are designed to fund temporary creative projects that can enliven streets, sidewalks, alleys, plazas, or other public spaces. \$38,500 in grants were awarded for eight Pop Up Creativity projects.

Cultural Arts Grants were open to nonprofit organizations, including museums and culturally specific organizations that produce arts and culture programs, services, and events. \$300,000 was awarded to 27 organizations through the Cultural Arts Grants program.

“These funds are supporting an incredibly diverse slate of activities, which reflects strong innovation in our creative sector,” said Supervisor David Rabbitt, Chair of the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors. “From a ‘Flatbed Music Festival’ and Spanish language story hours to a tiny gallery art exchange, two world premier symphonies, a world premier ballet, and a student marimba band, these projects will offer a point of entry to the arts for enthusiasts and newcomers alike.”

Theater, visual arts, film, performing arts, poetry, traditional and folk arts are among the genres of expression that will be presented through these projects. Several grant projects use the arts to address social issues including climate change, homelessness and youth empowerment. Activities will take place in concert halls, schools, community plazas and riverfronts, parks, and street fronts.



This is the first year that the Cultural Arts Grants were distributed by Creative Sonoma, which celebrated its fifth anniversary in 2019. Creative Sonoma's programs have expanded since its inception to include a growing grant-making portfolio together with training and networking resources for residents who contribute to the creative spirit of Sonoma County. Since 2015, Creative Sonoma has awarded more than \$1.5 million through 265 grants. Professional Development programs focus on resource development, skills training, arts education, research and advocacy. A recent report, commissioned by Creative Sonoma, indicates that the nonprofit arts community contributes \$80 million to the Sonoma economy.

For more information about Creative Sonoma activities, please go to [www.CreativeSonoma.org](http://www.CreativeSonoma.org).

A full list of Cultural Arts and Pop Up Creativity Grantees is attached.

*Creative Sonoma, a division of the Sonoma County Economic Development Board is dedicated to supporting and advancing the creative community of Sonoma County.*



## Cultural Arts Grant Awards: 2019-20



Applicant	Project Description	Contact
6th Street Playhouse	We are requesting funding to support the 2019-20 Performance Season at 6th Street Playhouse, from November 1, 2019 to June 28, 2020, which includes the production of 8 full productions of a variety of works in two theatres, as well as education programs such as talk-backs, seminars for the public, and classes for the community.	Jared Sakren jared@6thstreetplayhouse.com (480) 326-4147 Santa Rosa
A Theater For Children	This project assists 600+ children ages 3-18 to engage with environmental concerns through the magic of theater. The project provides free nature-related theater arts activities including classroom and after school programming for two schools, two drama productions for the wider community and the preparation for a summer drama camp for at-risk children.	Bridget Palmer admin@atheaterforchildren.com (707) 483-5800 Santa Rosa
Alexander Valley Film Society	The Alexander Valley Film Society offers several film series as part of the Year-Round Film Program to bring the community screenings and film events to which they would otherwise not have access. We provide enriching cultural experiences to Sonoma County by choosing diverse content and films including arthouse fare, classic titles, and family-friendly content.	Kathryn Hecht kathryn@avfilmsociety.org (917) 805-7241 Cloverdale
Art Escape	Art Escape will expand its bilingual Family Art program to provide a monthly hands-on visual arts workshop for families in the Springs area of Sonoma Valley. Offered at no charge and taught in Spanish and English, participants of all ages will explore art materials and techniques, express themselves visually, make connections and build pride in their community.	Kate Ortolano kate@artescapesonoma.com (707) 938-5551 Sonoma
California Indian Museum and Cultural Center	CIMCC will conduct Family Art Nights at CIMCC to accompany Acorns, Quails, and Cattails: Indigenous Foods of California, a new exhibit curated by CIMCC's Tribal Youth Ambassadors. Pomo artist, Meyo Marrufo and the Tribal Youth Ambassadors will provide instruction in finger doodling and painting and share stories about Indigenous foods.	Nicole Lim nikkimyers@aol.com (707) 579-3004 Santa Rosa
California Poets in the Schools	California Poets in the Schools will host a cutting-edge, three-day, statewide poetry symposium at Sonoma State University in June 2020, geared towards poets, writers, Poet-Teachers and classroom teachers, ages 14+. The symposium will highlight two distinguished Bay Area poets as workshop leaders and featured readers, as well as community-building and networking opportunities, professional development, and more.	Meg Hamill meg@cpits.org (415) 221-4201 Santa Rosa
Children's Museum of Sonoma County	"Colors of Spanish" is a weekly Spanish language story hour (geared to children under 6 years old) that incorporates books/stories, music, movement and fun, and fosters understanding, appreciation and joy in another language and culture.	Collette Michaud collette@cmosc.org (707) 546-4069 Santa Rosa
Cloverdale Arts Alliance	Friday Night Live at the Plaza, Cloverdale's free summer concert series, is scheduled for Friday nights from May 29 through September 4, 2020. Friday Night Live at the Plaza provides free high quality live music and a variety of family-friendly activities in an inclusive environment every Friday evening throughout the summer.	Mark Tharrington mark@cloverdaleartsalliance.org (707) 894-8500 Cloverdale
Cloverdale Historical Society	The Cloverdale Sculpture Trail is an annual juried outdoor sculpture exhibit in downtown Cloverdale, CA. Between 14-20 juried pieces of sculpture are installed annually in April in public places throughout the city, making art an integral part of everyday life.	Elissa Morash office@cloverdalehistory.org (707) 894-2067 Cloverdale
Creative North Group	Flatbed Music Festival showcases the diverse musical heritage of Sonoma's West County in its generous lineup of Sonoma-grown musicians on ten intimate stages in Sebastopol and West County. Pairing headliners with emerging artists, the Flatbed will feature recording studio tours as well as live oral histories on the mobile flatbed stage all to benefit free music programs for youth.	Jann Eyrich wrightcon@gmail.com (707) 235-4160 Forestville
Fire Circle Theater	Roseland ReVerberation is an arts festival where high school performers will share their personal experiences through visual and performing arts. We will also build a permanent performing arts and entertainment space at Roseland University Prep.	Matthew Cadigan matt.cadigan@firecircletheater.org (707) 322-6288 Santa Rosa
Healdsburg Center for the Arts	HCA presents its 2019-20 season of events, featuring four group art exhibitions and three community art events. The events include the 2020 Healdsburg Art Festival, 4 Elements Festival, 18th Annual Holiday Gift Gallery, a youth art show, two national art exhibits and a classical music concert celebration of Beethoven's 250th anniversary.	Andrew Akufu director.hca@healdsburgcenterforthearts.org (707) 431-1970
Healdsburg Jazz Festival, Inc. dba Healdsburg Jazz	Healdsburg Jazz will strengthen its capacity to provide enriching, interactive cultural experiences to underserved populations by presenting the Jazz Village and Campus during the 2020 Healdsburg Jazz Festival. Featuring free performances, interactive activities and engaging education programs, Jazz Village and Campus will deepen visitors' sense of community by engaging all ages and backgrounds in jazz's dynamic culture and inclusive values.	Gayle Okumura Sullivan gayle@healdsburgjazz.org (707) 433-4633 Healdsburg
H-Town Youth Theatre dba Young Actors Studio	Award-winning professional theatre productions in a year-round season of entertainment for residents and visitors of Sonoma County as well as community oriented productions for youth and families.	Argo Thompson argo@leftedgetheatre.com (707) 326-2779 Santa Rosa

Knights of Indulgence Theatre United States dba the Imaginists	A Shifting Reef is an original, episodic, community-based performance addressing climate change. Taking inspiration from the speculative fiction of Jules Verne and Octavia Butler the Imaginists will assemble an intergenerational cast of Sonoma County residents in collaboration with local musicians & visual artists to create a story of how we are changed by the reality of the climate crisis.	Brent Lindsay brent@theimaginists.org (707) 528-7554 Santa Rosa
Luther Burbank Memorial Foundation (dba Luther Burbank Center for the Arts)	The Luther Burbank Center's Arts Integration Continuum project demonstrates the LBC's commitment to combining bold, artistic excellence with high-impact arts education strategies to foster accessibility, increase technical and social-emotional skills, boost exposure to multiple genres of creative expression and support academic achievement. This project serves schoolchildren, teachers and artists residing in and visiting Sonoma County.	Richard Nowlin rnowlin@lutherburbankcenter.org (707) 800-7524 Santa Rosa
Museum of Sonoma County	The Museum of Sonoma County (MSC) is proud to present its 2019-2020 exhibition program. Exhibitions include "Tierra de Rosas: New Works by Maria de Los Angeles," "Día de los Muertos," "Discovered: Emerging Artists of Sonoma County," "31st Annual Artistry in Wood," "From Suffrage to #MeToo," and "Awe to Activism: The Evolution of Landscape Art."	Jeff Nathanson jnathanson@museumsc.org (707) 579-1500 ext. 102 Santa Rosa
Occidental Center for the Arts	OCA will produce approximately 30 live musical events, the Annual Fool's Parade and an exhibit of artwork by local students. These events will provide a robust variety of cultural and artistic experiences for the community.	Tina Marchetti tina@occidentalcenterforthearts.org (415) 497-5480 Occidental
Petaluma Arts Center	AfterBurn is a two-month series of exhibitions and events featuring established Burning Man artists who live and work in the Bay Area. This series will build on the recent retrospective started at the Smithsonian, and currently at the Oakland Museum, through studio visits and workshops with the artists that will inspire the community to explore their own creativity.	Sandra Rozmarin srozmarin@petalumaartscenter.org (707) 762-5600 Petaluma
Play Marimba!	Not your usual elementary school band! Giant instruments, earth shaking sounds and incredible playing combine into a music program that kids just can't get enough of.	Jorge Arvizu jarvizu@oldadobe.org (559) 974-2671 Sebastopol
Raizes Collective	The Youth Environmental Artist Summit is a 4-day, 3-night campout focused on educating, exposing, and empowering Sonoma County youth. Workshop Facilitators will provide hands on, introspective, and inspiring art activities that ignite personal power.	Isabel Lopez raizescollective@gmail.com (707) 486-6300 Santa Rosa
Redwood Arts Council	Redwood Arts Council presents six to eight chamber music concerts a year, now celebrating our 40th season. Musicians of international renown perform enthusiastically for audiences in West Sonoma County venues, primarily Occidental and Sebastopol CA.	Sonia Morse Turbidy sonia.turbidy@gmail.com (707) 869-3273 Occidental
Rural California Broadcasting Corporation / Northern California Public Media	The Wonderland Radio Hour (WRH) is a community inspired, community driven project that includes live theatrical performances, interactive community fairs, and radio broadcasts on local and National Public Radio outlets. The WRH mission is to build community involvement with the history, environment, art and culture of the Lower Russian River.	Nancy Dobbs nancy_dobbs@norcalpublicmedia.org (707) 800-7524 Monte Rio
Santa Rosa Symphony	The Santa Rosa Symphony's 2019-2020 Classical Series builds upon our legacy of innovative programming and community engagement, providing rich, vibrant musical experiences for diverse Sonoma County audiences that relate to their lives. Increasing the relevance of orchestral music, the season showcases a living composer in every concert and features the world premieres of two truly unique, ambitious commissioning projects.	Alan Silow asilow@srsymphony.org (707) 546-7097 ext. 213 Santa Rosa
Sonoma Bach	The Sonoma Bach Choir and Live Oak Baroque Orchestra join together to perform Handel's Laudate Pueri and the famous Dixit Dominus. We feature these pieces along with other Carmelite motets and instrumental works to provide a vivid glimpse of the young prodigy at the peak of his power in the glorious surroundings of the Eternal City.	Dianna Morgan dianna@sonomabach.org (707) 347-9491 Sonoma
Sonoma Conservatory of Dance	The Magic Grove is a world premiere ballet based on a Persian folktale. This Sonoma Conservatory of Dance production will expose the performers and audience to music and dance styles from Central Asia and The Silk Road in addition to classical ballet.	Patricia O'Reilly patty@sonomaconservatoryofdance.org (707) 312-1076
Sonoma State University, dba Green Music Center at Sonoma State University	The Green Music Center is the performing arts presenter at Sonoma State University with a mission to present the most compelling artists of our time, investigate ideas, and provide access to diverse artistic experiences that educate, connect, and inspire Sonoma State University and surrounding North Bay communities. Funds will support performances in the latter half of our 2019-20 presenting season.	Dr. Judy Sakaki judy.sakaki@sonoma.edu (707) 664-2156 Rohnert Park



## Pop Up Creativity Grant Awards: 2019-20



Applicant	Project Description	Contact
Gio Benedetti	The Magical, Mystical World of Petaluma consists of 10 - 20 small to medium sized portable, non-permanent art pieces hidden in parks and high traffic areas across Petaluma. In May 2020 select Petaluma locations will be populated with evidence and signs of fantastical creatures and activity to encourage the community's engagement with imagination, impossibilities, and art.	Gio Benedetti gio@giobenedetti.com (707) 695-7363 Petaluma
Sarah Hylton	Art Tent is a portable "pop up" canvas tent painted by homeless community members, human rights advocates and the lead artist. The "Art Tent" will be set up at the Tiny Home Village Site, painted on site and used as the temporary kitchen and/or community meeting area once completed.	Sarah Hylton sarah@sarahhylton.com (707) 291-1040 Santa Rosa
Stacy Jardine	Art and Wine on the Bridge is a one day festival taking place on the historic Guerneville walking bridge. The festival will feature booths of Sonoma County artists and vineyards.	Stacie Jardine popcultureartgallery@gmail.com (707) 293-6498 Guerneville
Rayne Madison	Superhero Unfolding Inspiration Station is an interactive art installation, mimicking an old Superman era phone booth. Passersby are offered an opportunity to be inspired, or to reflect upon and appreciate their own unique qualities and those of others. Participants may add speech bubbles to the booth (their answers to our queries: what is your... power or kryptonite?); be photographed in a Superhero Unfolding cape; and/or leave or experience a recorded, written or drawn message of inspiration inside.	Rayne Madison raynemadison@yahoo.com (415) 517-4670 Petaluma
Springs Creative	Kicking Off Spring: Making the Springs come alive through art! is an installation of temporary panel murals and interactive art works affixed to Springs "Plaza" fence facing Hwy12 + installation event: Works that celebrate the unique history, culture, and community contributions of the Springs.	Brad Maihack brad.maihack@me.com (650) 868-7783 Sonoma
Studio 9000 Clay Collective	DIG IT: Using Natural and Recycled Materials to Create Art is a one-day event to bring attention to all the possibilities of working with clay, a material available free and locally to everyone in the community. Studio 9000 members will demonstrate the collection and processing possibilities of clay and invite community members to create art in a variety of ways, from making clay objects, to making paper clay, to painting with water colors made from clay.	Gina Kuta mzbeehaven@att.net (510) 381-1817 Graton
Teen Services Sonoma	The Tree of Possibilities is a collaborative work of art that unites, teaches, and expresses the hopes of young people of Sonoma Valley – a 6-foot+ sculpture made of discarded kitchen utensils and bicycle parts representing two microbusinesses that provide on-the-job training for teens in culinary and mechanics careers. That's the Tree of Possibilities, a unique sculpture designed and created by local youth and an artisan welder instructor and documented by a local filmmaker.	Judy Scotchmoor judy@teenservicessonoma.org (707) 939-1452 Sonoma
Dawn Thomas and Robert Van de Walle	Tiny Galleries Art Exchange are a new way for the public to view art. Within each gallery, artists exchange new art for old, creating an artist-curated art show that evolves over time.	Dawn Thomas cloudsdriftingby@gmail.com (707) 245-4735 Santa Rosa



**6<sup>th</sup> Street Playhouse – Alice in Wonderland**



**Luther Burbank Center for the Arts – Mariachi Camp**



**Adam Sharron – Tree Limns (2018 Grantee)**