

**In This Issue**

- GET NEWS: Stories and Updates
  - FEATURE: Creative Sonoma Responds to COVID-19: Arts Organization Relief Grants and Creative ReOpening Projects
  - WHAT WE'RE UP TO: Arts Education | COVID-19 & Fire Relief: Small Business Sustainability Grants, Fire Physical Loss Survey
  - WHAT WE'RE READING: A Handbook for Artists Working in Community
- GET CONNECTED: Arts Events | Opportunities for Creatives

**GET NEWS: Stories and Updates**



"Making Waves" by Joshua Lawyer, installed for Open & Out Downtown Santa Rosa, a Creative ReOpening partner.

**Creative Sonoma Responds to COVID-19**

Since April, Creative Sonoma has been working to generate new financial resources to support and sustain our creative community through the dual public health and economic crises.

We're gratified that the creative work of our community has been recognized by funders as critical to our collective health and recovery. We have received funds from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Manitou Fund and the County of Sonoma totaling \$575,000. We also worked with the Community Foundation Sonoma County to help distribute an additional \$110,000 to arts organizations that provide arts education. To date, these funds have been distributed through the programs below.

**COVID-19 Arts Relief Grants for Organizations (CARGO)** have been provided to

33 Sonoma County nonprofit arts and cultural organizations. Grants support these organization's operating costs to help them stay afloat while reimagining their future in a digital world. Grantees span the county - from Occidental to Sonoma, from Cloverdale to Petaluma, and all parts in between.

**Creative ReOpening** projects are helping our local businesses as they safely reopen by incorporating the arts into their plans. We have contracted with six local chambers or downtown organizations (Healdsburg, Petaluma, Russian River, Santa Rosa, Sonoma, and Windsor) who have repurposed public spaces so businesses can expand their "footprints" for social distancing. Our partners are hiring artists to help enliven the temporary spaces with their work.

The arts always help us find our way to a better place and, once there, replenish our determination to thrive. We hope these resources can help our creative community build a bridge between now and that better future. And we thank all of you who are bringing your unyielding spirit of innovation and tenacity to these challenging times.

Click on Learn More for links to all the CARGO grantees, Creative ReOpening partners, and more about this work!

[LEARN MORE](#)

## WHAT WE'RE UP TO

### ARTS EDUCATION



#### **NEW Monthly Creative Sonoma Arts Education Blog**

Introducing our monthly spotlight on ideas, strategies, and resources to support and advocate for arts education in Sonoma County. October's blog includes an update on the new California Arts Education Framework and an article from the Education Commission of the States on arts integration. Read more [HERE](#).

#### **Sonoma County Arts Education Alliance (AEA)**

**NEW WORKSHOP: Sustaining Arts in Challenging Times**  
**Wednesday, October 21, 4:00-5:00 (via Zoom)**

This virtual workshop is intended for Sonoma County school and district administrators, curriculum and instruction personnel, and trustees. Learn about examples of success using the arts in schools to address challenges, even in these current crises, and how to sustain the arts. Learn more and register [HERE](#).

## We Recommend

Presented by the California Alliance for Arts Education, be sure not to miss these upcoming arts education advocacy webinars. Learn more and register [HERE](#).

- October 14, 2020: Importance of Local Advocacy in School Board Races
- October 22, 2020: Rural Arts Education Strategies
- November 19, 2020: Student Voices Campaign Launch Event

LEARN MORE

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## COVID-19 & WILDFIRE RELIEF AND RESPONSE

A teal banner with a large orange circle containing a white dollar sign on the left. To the right, the text reads: "SMALL BUSINESS STABILIZATION GRANT" in white, "Receive Between \$2,500 and \$15,000 in Grant Funding for Your Business!" in a smaller white font, and "Applications Open September 28th" in a white box at the bottom right.

**SMALL BUSINESS STABILIZATION GRANT**

Receive Between \$2,500 and \$15,000 in Grant Funding for Your Business!

Applications Open September 28th

In a partnership between the [Sonoma County Economic Development Board](#) and the Bay Area CDFI Working Solutions, small businesses (including nonprofits) in Sonoma County with 1-30 employees may apply for up to \$15,000 in COVID-19 relief grants. The deadline to apply is **October 18, 2020**. Learn more and apply [HERE](#).

### 2020 Fire Impact Survey for Physical Loss or Damage

If you, as a professional artist or creative, have experienced physical loss of or damage to your personal property (your home, home-based studio or business, or tools of your creative or artistic trade) as a result of the 2020 Wildfires in Sonoma County, please let us know through a brief survey [HERE](#).

### Professional Development Recommended by Creative Sonoma:

- From a variety of organizations that serve artists and/or arts organizations, our Professional Development page includes links to FREE advocacy and resiliency workshops from trusted partners. See opportunities [HERE](#).

### From Creative Sonoma:

- [Relief Funds for Creatives](#) - 50+ funds listed, updated October 2020, ranging from COVID-19 relief to fire and other emergencies
- [Reopening Arts and Culture](#) - best practices for safely reopening facilities and providing services through mitigating risks

### From the Economic Development Board:

- [SoCo Launch](#) - mitigation and compliance resources to help reopen local

businesses as quickly and safely as possible (in English / en Español)

- [Business Recovery Tools](#) - targeted to those impacted by natural disasters

LEARN MORE

## WHAT WE'RE READING

[Springboard for the Arts](#) in Minnesota recently published a new and invaluable resource: [A Handbook for Artists Working in Community](#). This 116-page handbook includes worksheets, effectively serving as a planning tool to develop your community projects.

They write: "In this day and age of continued disparities, injustices, pandemics and systemic racism, artists are critical agents of change in our communities. More than ever, we need artists to be catalysts and glue - to bring people together, to grapple with conflict, to weave paths for a new future."



The Handbook is organized into five sections: Artist Groundwork, Community Groundwork, Project Formation, Project Implementation and Group Participation Tools. These sections "prepare artists and their practice for community work, consider the relationships needed to succeed in community, and go through project steps and design."

Click on Learn More to download your FREE copy.

LEARN MORE

## GET CONNECTED

### Arts Events from our Creative Calendar

[HEALDSBURG JAZZ FESTIVAL: Presentation | Marc Cary on Abbey Lincoln and Moseka House](#)

Online (FREE via Zoom). October 18, 2020.

[ARTS GUILD OF SONOMA: Exhibit | Thirty under 100](#)

Sonoma, CA. October 1 - November 2, 2020

*[MORE Events, Workshops, Classes](#)*

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## Opportunities from our Marketplace

[CREATIVE WORK FUND: Grant Info Session | How to Apply to the Fund](#)

Online (Bay Area, CA). Webinar October 15, 2020 / LOI Deadline January 22, 2021.

[TRICYCLE RECORDS: Call to Musicians | Compilation Volume 10 Submissions](#)

Bay Area, CA. Submit by October 26, 2020.

*MORE [Opportunities](#) (Auditions, Calls to Artists, Jobs, Grants, Professional Development, and more)*

### WITH SUPPORT FROM



**The mission of Creative Sonoma** is to support and advance the creative community of Sonoma County. We define the creative community as individuals, organizations and businesses whose work is creative at its core. This includes artists, nonprofit cultural organizations, and creative enterprises such as design firms, galleries, recording and video studios, and more.



The e-newsletter CURRENTS is published monthly. Items listed under Events and Opportunities are drawn from our Calendar and Marketplace. To post items, login or register [HERE](#).

For General Information

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