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
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!

---

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

COVID-19 & WILDFIRE RELIEF AND RESPONSE

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
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.

GET CONNECTED

Arts Events from our Creative Calendar

HEALDSBURG JAZZ FESTIVAL: Presentation | Marc Cary on Abbey Lincoln and Moseka House

ARTS GUILD OF SONOMA: Exhibit | Thirty under 100
Sonoma, CA. October 1 - November 2, 2020

MORE Events, Workshops, Classes
Opportunities from our Marketplace

**CREATIVE WORK FUND: Grant Info Session | How to Apply to the Fund**

**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
Samantha Kimpel, Program Officer
Samantha.Kimpel@sonoma-county.org
(707) 565 6134

Kristen Madsen, Director
Kristen.Madsen@sonoma-county.org
(707) 565 6120

Bernadette Marko, Administrative Coordinator
Bernadette.Marko@sonoma-county.org
(707) 565-6121

Debbie Yarrow, Arts Education Manager
Debbie.Yarrow@sonoma-county.org
(707) 565-6123