



Dane County Awards Over \$101,000 in Grants to Local Arts Organizations

Dane County Arts and Cultural Affairs Awards 54 Grants Supporting Arts and Cultural Activities Countywide with Public-Private Funds

Dozens of local organizations that promote community arts, history, and culture are receiving “Dane Arts” grants, County Executive Joe Parisi and the Dane County Arts and Cultural Affairs Commission announced today. 49 project grants totaling \$95,578 and one short order grant totaling \$1,000 were recently awarded in cycle 1 for “Dane Arts” grants in 2021. One \$2,056 Capital Grant was awarded and three Blockstein awards at \$1,000 each were awarded to organizations with projects that included political and civic engagement.

“Dane County is fortunate to be home to so many creative artists and institutions,” said Dane County Executive Joe Parisi. “Congratulations to this year’s recipients. We are proud to support our arts and culture communities through these grants, especially as our community works to recover from the far-reaching impacts of Covid-19.”

The “Dane Arts” grants are funded by county dollars in conjunction with private donations from the Endres Manufacturing Company Foundation, the Evjue Foundation, Inc., charitable arm of The Capital Times, the W. Jerome Frautschi Foundation, and the Pleasant T. Rowland Foundation.

The next project grant deadline is Sunday, August 1, 2021, 4:00pm.

Grant recipients are listed below this announcement



Multidisciplinary Arts/Culture

Disability Pride Madison – *Fostering Writing and Cartooning in the Disability Community*

Award: \$1,560

In changing times, we revision smaller virtual events that create art celebrating the lives of people with disabilities. Through smaller workshops, we will foster creative ways to share the stories of our lives, break down and end internalized shame and stereotypes and build a stronger, more inclusive community for everyone.

Madison Reading Project – *Summer Reading Books and Art Inspiration Kits*

Award: \$1,860

This grant request is to fund our “Summer Reading Books and Art Inspiration Kits” project, fortifying a unique partnership with Dane County-wide neighborhood centers and social services organizations (and several co-visit programs with MSCR’s Art Cart) where we bring culturally and linguistically diverse books, along with literacy-related creative art projects, to stimulate the love for reading and nurture a culture of in-home reading.

Music Theatre of Madison – *An American Mythology: A Concept Album*

Award: \$742

Music Theatre of Madison will create a concept album called *An American Mythology*. This will explore mythological characters created by American society such as "The Billionaire," "The Outcast," "The Rioter," and more. All songs will be written by Wisconsin-based BBIPOC artists.

Music Theatre of Madison – *The Children's Book Project*

Award: \$2,625

“The Land of the Gifted” is a musical children’s book that uses literature, art, storytelling, and music to teach themes of belonging, acceptance, and self-confidence. Written by a team of BBIPOC storytellers, the story will be accompanied with music that moves the narrative forward.

Overture Center for the Arts – *OnStage Student Fieldtrips – 2021/22*

Award: \$3,150

Overture Center’s OnStage student field trips offer schools low-cost, school-day performances of international, national, and local artists performing shows specifically designed for Pre-K-12 audiences. Performances are tailored for the school-age audiences and integrate arts into curricula with Educator Resource Guides provided to each class to enhance the experience.

Rachel Werner – *The Little Book Project WI (Edition #4)*

Award: \$1,215

The Little Book WI Project weaves together visual arts and literary work based on a central theme (like "advocacy" and "mental health") as an alternate mechanism for prompting "uncensored," public discourse by providing a platform for artists from a variety of disciplines, especially those



who have encountered barriers to their work being accessible to a wider audience, to create art as commentary on social issues.

Richie Morales – *Kachkaniraqmi - "We Still Exist"*

Award: \$2,493

“Kachkaniraqmi” in the Quechua language means “We Still Exist,” which encapsulates the miracle of our resilience as Indigenous peoples of the Americas despite colonization and oppression. Latinx artists Richie Morales, Natalia Hildner and Claudia Vaca perform a ritualistic homage to the living and dead as a cultural sacred space.

Sessions at McPike Park, Inc. – Five Lively August Sessions

Award: \$1,800

The August Sessions at McPike Park are 5 evenings and week-end afternoon of local and national music, dance, & stand-up comedy. The free events enable the community to take in excellent mixed artistic performances from near and far.

Simpson Street Free Press – *Writing Across the Curriculum and for Publication: The Arts and Local History in Dane County*

Award: \$2,100

SSFP's “Where in Dane County” series and local arts coverage bring history and the arts alive for young readers. This project acts as a portal; it's how we teach local history and the arts. These feature stories lead young readers to fascinating newspaper content that celebrates history, performance, and the arts in Dane County.

Wisconsin Union Theater – *Black Arts Matter Festival*

Award: \$3,150

In April 2022, Wisconsin Union Theater and award-winning artist Shasparay will co-produce an expanded third Black Arts Matter Festival. The Festival is an interdisciplinary arts festival centering and celebrating Black art, and it consists of performances, discussions and educational programs in music, theater, dance, and poetry mediums.

Music

Bach Dancing & Dynamite Society – *Brave New World: 2021 Chamber Music Festival*

Award: \$2,625

Bach Dancing & Dynamite Society combines musicians from around the country, varied repertoire, and delightful surprises to create "serious fun." We'll record four concerts for virtual release, present 13 musical pop-up concerts outdoors (socially distanced, etc.), and present over 50 virtual one-on-one musical conversations for our audience as well as patients in hospitals.

con vivo!...music with life – *Americana*

Award: \$348

con vivo!...music with life presents "Americana," a performance of live chamber music on Saturday, September 18, 2021 at 7:30 pm at First Congregational Church in Madison. The concert



includes music by American composers Aaron Copland, Charles Ives, John Williams, Robert Muczynski, Undine Smith Moore, Dudley Buck and Benjamin Franklin.

Dane Dances – *DANE DANCES! 2021*

Award: \$900

In its milestone 20th season in 2019, Dane Dances! continued to be one of the premier trademark summer activities in Dane County. It is also recognized as the most successful volunteer community effort at promoting racial and cultural diversity and bringing people of all ages, racial and ethnic backgrounds, and incomes together. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic Dane Dances! could not be held in 2020, though it paid out partial fees to performers and vendors to help them financially.

Friends of Allen Centennial Gardens, Inc. – *Summer Sundays in the Garden 2021 (Concerts at Allen Centennial Garden)*

Award: \$1,343

SUMMER SUNDAYS IN THE GARDEN, postponed by Covid-19, resumes in 2021 with its fifth season. Now established as a fixture of Madison's summer music scene, the series offers jazz and other concerts on alternating Sunday afternoons June through August. This family-friendly outdoor series, free and open to the public, takes place in the inspiring natural surrounds of Allen Centennial Gardens, and features the area's best local musicians with occasional outside guests.

Grace Presents – *HD Virtual Concert Series, 2021-2022 Season*

Award: \$3,150

The Grace Presents HD Virtual Concert Series provides a solution to the problem around connecting Madison's diverse communities to local musical performances during the Covid-19 pandemic. Featuring a broad range of musical styles representative of Madison's diversity, these top-quality, multi-camera concerts feature exceptionally talented musicians based in Dane County, and are free for all to enjoy from the comfort and safety of their living rooms.

Madison Bach Musicians, Inc. – *German Baroque Masters, October Concerts and Outreach*

Award: \$1,586

Chamber string ensemble of the Madison Bach Musicians welcomes internationally acclaimed baroque violinist Marc Destrubé in presenting a program of masterworks from the Baroque era in Germany. The concert will feature concertos and orchestral suites by Bach, Handel, Graupner, and Graun. Outreach event on October 30 for WYSO students.

Madison Music Collective – *DIG JAZZ Concert Series Fall 2021: Original Music from Local Artists*

Award: \$2,618

The DIG JAZZ Series presents new music composed by local musicians in a wide variety of jazz styles. Despite the devastating effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Madison Music Collective has managed to continue this concert series through it all, streamed on YouTube and Facebook,



garnering thousands of views both live and then on-demand after the concert. Entering its 7th year, the series has been enthusiastically received and remains immensely popular.

Madison New Music Festival – Wisconsin Composers Project 2021

Award: \$1,325

The Madison New Music Festival enriches the Madison community and cultural scene by supporting the creation and performance of contemporary music in Wisconsin with accessible performances, boundary pushing programming and collaborations. In our second annual Wisconsin Composers Project Concert, we will present the works of four different composers in Wisconsin at different stages of their career with both a live, socially distanced concert and a virtual concert.

Madison Opera, Inc. – Opera in the Park 2021

Request: \$2,625

Madison Opera is pleased to present Opera in the Park 2021, a free concert that has become a Wisconsin summer tradition. Celebrating its 20th year this summer, the concert will serve as a re-awakening to the joys of sharing beautiful music together underneath the stars in Madison's Garner Park.

Madison Savoyards, Ltd. — Gilbert & Sullivan light opera favorites: a streamed production

Award: \$900

Madison Savoyards, Ltd. presents a recorded program of selected Gilbert and Sullivan favorites from across their 14 comic operas, with piano accompaniment. Original narrative ties these solo, trio and choral pieces together, describing their place in the story and in relation to present times.

Middleton Community Orchestra – MCO Summer 2021 in Firemen's Park

Award: \$1,575

Performed by outstanding, amateur musicians from Dane County in collaboration with some of classical music's brightest local stars, MCO's 2021 Summer Series is affordable, accessible, and perfect for audiences of ALL ages. Audience participation will depend on Covid-19 restrictions in place this summer.

NewBridge Madison, Inc. – 2021 Summer Concerts at Warner Park

Award: \$1,000

Enjoy free, live music for the whole family at the Summer Concert Series at Warner Park Shelter, 2930 N. Sherman Avenue. Monday evenings, 6-7:30pm, July 12, 19, and 26 and August 16th. Bring a lawn chair or blanket and enjoy food from a local food truck. More information can be found at www.newbridgemadisoninc.org or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/NewBridgeMadison>.

PEBOGA – 2021 Next Level Showcase/Park Street Music Fest

Award: \$3,150



Next Level Artists Showcase is in its fifth year. The music festival is a free one-day outdoor music event that serves as a platform for a cross section of music genres (i.e. Blues, R&B, Pop, Smooth Jazz, etc.) featuring primarily local artists. Next Level Artists Showcase is designed to provide high quality promotional exposure to aspiring local artists while serving as an on-ramp to improving race relations through diversity and inclusion.

Stoughton Chamber Music Festival – *Stoughton Chamber Music Festival 2021*

Award: \$2,581

Each summer, the Stoughton Chamber Music Festival serves two communities: those who come to listen and those who come to play. By prioritizing the performance of diverse, inclusive and beloved repertoire, the Stoughton Chamber Music Festival engages with the Stoughton community while fostering a space for Stoughton-area professional musicians to take artistic risks and realize their creative potential.

Token Creek Festival, Inc. – *Token Creek Chamber Music Festival 2021: LEGACY*

Award: \$2,820

The Token Creek Festival, for thirty years one of Dane County's most cherished summer music institutions, returns to live performances at the end of summer 2021, planning for safe seating with a live-stream option. Titled LEGACY, season highlights include a longer schedule, the TCF jazz club presenting a new generation of players, a stellar roster of artists, master composers who are always modern, and a Covid-postponed commission.

Village of Waunakee – *Waunakee Make Music Day 2021*

Award: \$435

Make Music Day is a free outdoor music celebration that occurs on June 21st and unites communities through the sounds of music! As part of their 150th anniversary celebration, Waunakee is bringing Make Music Day to the Village to highlight all of the creativity that is a part of the community!

Willy Street Chamber Players – *2021 Summer Series*

Award: \$3,150

The acclaimed Willy Street Chamber Players present a reimagined version of their popular summer concert series designed with pandemic safety in mind. Concerts will be 100% outdoors with necessary safety precautions, include world-class guest artists, and feature a diverse array of music that spans the continents and the centuries. "Pop-Ups In the Park," will be admission-free performances in local parks on Madison's north and south sides.

Willy Street Chamber Players – *COMMUNITY CONNECT 2021*

Award: \$3,120

The Willy Street Chamber Players will expand their popular Community Connect programming in 2021, working closely with students from two non-profit summer camps. A week of virtual "meet the musician" visits with campers will culminate in live outdoor performances for campers



and families. The program, focusing on diverse living composers, will also be made available virtually to the general public and local senior centers.

Wisconsin Chamber Choir – *Music She Wrote: A Livestreamed Choral Concert*

Award: \$725

The Wisconsin Chamber Choir on Saturday, May 15 at 7 pm for “Music, She Wrote,” a unique concert featuring live, socially distanced performances of choral music by women composers. Choir members will sing from their individual cars using wireless microphones. The audience is invited to join our Facebook event and/or listen in live on YouTube.

Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra – *Young Aspiring Soloists Inspire and Educate the Madison community and Concerts on the Square*

Award: \$1,569

The Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra brings Maxim Lando back to Madison - a former resident and student at Memorial High School - to perform the Tchaikovsky’s Piano Concerto no. 1 at Concerts on the Square. Join us Wednesday August 4th for this memorable event.

Wisconsin Youth Symphony Orchestras, Inc. – *Six Chamber Orchestras Under a Big Tent*

Award: \$2,625

WYSO's Six Chamber Orchestras Under the Big Tent presents WYSO musicians from 3 full orchestras divided into six 45-musician chamber orchestras. The musicians will be playing some of the most exciting chamber orchestra repertoire that has been written and the event will be performed and video recorded in a 40' x 100' outdoor tent. Video recordings will be shared with audiences July 15-17, 2021 as virtual concerts.

Visual Arts

Victoria Maidhof – *Collateral Damage*

Award: \$1,190

Mental illness knows no social, ethnic, or economic bounds. Fifteen diverse artists turn their voices to the psychological effects of more than a year in isolation.

Madison Museum of Contemporary Art – *MMoCA Teen Forum*

Award: \$3,150

The MMoCA Teen Forum introduces Dane County teens to the vibrant field of contemporary Art. With mentorship from MMoCA staff, diverse high school youth learn about careers in the arts and independently develop teen programming at MMoCA, including an exhibition of local teen artists and three teen-focused public programs.

Madison Public Library Foundation – *Bubbler Artist-Led Kits*

Award: \$1,400

The Bubbler staff team will support the development and co-production of self-paced, social emotional, open-ended arts project created by local artists. The project will serve organizational partners and the general public.



Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts & Letters – *Vulnerable Bodies (working title): a group sculpture exhibition*

Award: \$1,046

Vulnerable Bodies will feature the work of six Wisconsin artists: Erica Hess, Masako Odonera, Yevgeniya Kaganovich, Demitra Copoulos, J. Myska Lewis, and Valaria Tatera. The pandemic has lent energy to fears not only of the virus, but of bodies that are different than our own. Through metaphor and imagery, this exhibition of sculpture will explore the multivalent vulnerability and resilience of our physical selves.

Dance

Li Chiao-Ping Dance – *SEED: Summer Exploratory Experimental Dance Intensive & Performance Festival 2021*

Award: \$1,545

The SEED Intensive & Performance Festival is an opportunity for people of every age and ability to join the Li Chiao-Ping Dance community in movement, breath, and creativity. Amidst the wide range of movement classes that will be offered, there is also the option to join our choreography workshop, where participants will get to collaborate in the creative process, culminating in a dance piece to be presented in the final two concerts at the end of the week.

Madison Ballet – *2021 New Works: Centering and Amplifying Choreographers of Color, Part II*

Award: \$1,305

Featuring exclusively choreographers of color, Madison Ballet's will produce a new digital production, that will inspire and overjoy audiences while challenging any preconceived notions about this dynamic art form. As these new works enter the company's permanent repertoire, the impact of including and amplifying the voices of the most diverse group of creators in the company's 39-year history will be felt for years to come.

Madison Contemporary Vision Dance – *Collaboration and Connection*

Award: \$2,250

The Collaboration Project will focus on connecting the separated dance studio and street-style artist communities to provide opportunities to Dane County children and families through accessible outreach classes in multiple locations, a dance film, and public outdoor performances, while working to create lasting relationships within the community.

Theater

Emily Morrison Weeks – *A Dash of Mystery Podcast, Season 2*

Award: \$1,040

A Dash of Mystery, a false crime comedy podcast, is an original scripted anthology. With each standalone season, listeners follow a new set of characters through a fresh mystery.



Forward Theater – *THE AMATEURS production and complementary programming*

Award: \$2,625

Forward Theater will produce *The Amateurs* by Jordan Harrison November 5 – 21, 2021.

Mercury Players, Inc. – *Snow White and the Seven Superheroes - An Original Holiday Panto!*

Award: \$1,104

Snow White and the Seven Superheroes Panto - An Original Panto! Family friendly fun for all ages. Fabulous costumes, physical humor, songs and audience engagement make this a memorable event. If you like the show, tell all your friends to see it! If you don't like the show, tell all your enemies to see it twice! Written by Nick Schweitzer, produced by Mercury Players, performs at the Bartell Theater, 113 E Mifflin St, Madison, WI, Dec 17-30, 2021.

Wisconsin Veterans Museum Foundation – *Talking Spirits XXIII: Forest Hill Cemetery Tour Project*

Award: \$2,430

This award-winning living history program illuminates the lives of many prominent and lesser-known figures in Wisconsin history. This year's theme is "Wisconsin Women at War," which will focus on female contributions to the war effort that have dotted our state and city history, while highlighting four vignettes of different ethnicities, genders, contributions and perspectives.

Arts in Education

Arts + Literature Laboratory – *Learning Gardens at Arts + Literature Laboratory*

Award: \$3,150

The learning gardens will be a transdisciplinary instructional tool bridging the arts with food and climate justice; the gardens will be accompanied by classes and asynchronous learning opportunities for youth and their families throughout summer and early fall, including students of Indigenous Arts and other free and sliding scale programs.

Children's Theater of Madison – *CTM Young Playwrights Program 2021-2022*

Award: \$2,562

The Young Playwrights Program is an in-school residency program designed to give voice to teenagers through the medium of playwriting and through mentoring from teaching artists. The program culminates in a public performance featuring staged readings of selected plays, direct and performed by experienced artists.

Girls Rock Camp Madison – *Girls Rock Camp Madison 2021*

Award: \$2,363

Girls Rock Camp Madison is a one-week day camp for girls/non-binary youth ages 8-18 where campers learn an instrument, write a song, form a band, record in a professional recording studio, then rock out in front of hundreds of screaming fans at a showcase. GRC Madison's mission is to



support a culture of positive self-esteem and collaboration among girls while building community through music.

JewelryHaus – School & Gallery

Award: \$1,047

JewelryHaus is a new school and community for jewelry making that will launch at the Garver Feed Mill. Students will have the opportunity to learn traditional metalsmithing techniques by enrolling in introductory through intermediate classes. Techniques and skills will be taught using live technical demonstrations, image presentations, and one-on-one instruction. Students will gain design and hand skills, proper tool usage, and push their creativity while creating jewelry.

LunART Festival – Educational Program 2021

Award: \$2,556

The LunART vision is to bring women together in a creative capacity. Our mission is to support, inspire, promote, and celebrate women in the arts through public performances, exhibitions, workshops, and interdisciplinary collaboration. Doing so enriches our community and creates a welcoming space for learning and experimentation.

Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center – Lakeside Kids 2021

Award: \$800

Monona Terrace organizes "Lakeside Kids," an innovative program that provides cultural and arts-focused play activities that bring visual and performing arts to children ages 4 and up. Lakeside Kids is free to the public and is enjoyed by families of all income levels.

Opera for the Young – Countywide school tour of a new production of the opera "Cinderella" by Jules Massenet

Award: \$3,150

Funding from Dane Arts will support the countywide school tour of OFTY's new production of "Cinderella," by Jules Massenet. Teaching materials will include a Tutorial CD* and Cast Recording, a Teacher's Guide about opera and Cinderella, and a Student Handbook* including activities for integration of the opera into academic subjects.

*Tutorial CD and Student Handbook also available in Spanish translation

Short Order Grants

Katherine Kramer Projects – A Breath of Fresh Art

Award: \$1,000

A Breath of Fresh Art is an outdoor multi-disciplinary performance and visual arts event taking place on the grounds of Primrose Retreat in Primrose Township. Dancers, Musicians, Theater and Spoken Word artists, as well as Visual Artists will present their work in locations throughout the property. Audience members will choose their own path throughout the property, self-selecting their sequence of events and join in Talk Circles with Artists.



Capital Grants

Oregon Community Foundation – *Oregon Community Access Television Capital Grant*

Award: \$2,056

OCA Media broadcasts live, original, local performances and events on TDS and Charter cable stations from the Village of Oregon, Wisconsin. OCA produces over 275 events each year for the community of Oregon.

Blockstein Grant Awards

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