

Creative Economy Fund Awards 2015 - 2016

Class 6 Theatre:

Class 6 Theatre is applying for support of their season-long residency project. They aim to create a program that incorporates the successful outreach and audience engagement elements from their past six years into one season-long offering.

In addition to combining these initiatives into one comprehensive plan, they will add in a new element this year – the success of their Worst Play Ever Contest held at an off-site location last year. It was a critical one-night event that gave tremendous opportunities to local students and amateur playwrights. Transitions from a donation-based attendance to ticketed attendance will allow them to create a bigger event that balances a higher ticket cost with significantly more prestige and exposure for the artists, as well as a more rewarding experience for the audience.

Requested Amount: \$4,800

Recommended Award: \$1,440

CYT Phoenix – Christian Youth Theatre:

CYT Phoenix plans to present a youth theater production over two weekends in May 2016. They are currently seeking licensing for *Shrek the Musical* for this time period. They are planning eight public performances and two school show performances between May 6 and May 15, 2016 in the Nesbitt/Elliott Playhouse.

Performances will provide for 60 plus students in the cast and crew to develop confidence, responsibility, teamwork, creativity, and performing skills. Teachers will be provided a study guide for introducing and exploring the work of literature in the classroom before and after attending the live performance.

Requested Amount: \$5,000

Recommended Award: \$1,500

East Valley Children's Theatre:

The winner of this year's East Valley Children's Theatre's Aspiring Playwriting Contest (which received over 52 entries from around the world) is a play by Stacey Lane of Ohio called *Sixty-Seven Cinderellas*, and will be a part of East Valley Children's Theatre's productions for 2015-2016. The play provides a creative experience for designers, directors, and especially young actors involved with a show for the very first time. In addition to the live theatrical performance, a workshop will be held with the playwright for the cast and crew. The Playwright has also agreed to visit one of the Mesa Schools for a mini workshop with creative writing students about playwriting.

Requested Amount: \$2,986

Recommended Award: \$2,389

Jacome Flamenco:

Jacome Flamenco will present its most recent production FlaMEXico! – A musical reflection of two cultures forming a new vision. This artistic fusion resonates with the echoes of Spanish ancestry and Mexican folklore creating a seamless tapestry of music and dance.

There will be two community outreach classes planned – one Community Dance Class and one Community Guitar Class – both offered in the MAC Studios. Two full theater productions are planned with a 30 minute talk with the Artistic Director at the 7 p.m. performance on May 14. Local dance and guitar students will perform outside the Piper Theater on the Shadow Walkway on Friday, May 13 and Saturday, May 14.

Requested Amount: \$2,724

Recommended Award: \$1,634

Mesa Art League:

Mesa Art League is applying for support to rent the Dobson Lecture Hall and the MCA classroom space for its monthly meetings. The monthly meetings were pulled from the application as rental for these will be provided to Mesa Art League by MAC with no fee.

For the second year, Mesa Art League will sponsor the *I Heart Mesa* community-based event and would like to display student artwork in the MCA classroom space during the event, conduct community art activities and hold a juried art show along the Shadow Walk.

Requested Amount: \$1,200

Recommended Award: \$720

Mesa Encore Theatre:

Mesa Encore Theatre is requesting support for the full fiscal year 2015-16 season, which includes 64 scheduled performances at Mesa Arts Center.

The award will help offset costs for use of the Mesa Arts Center for final rehearsals and performances of four musical productions and two plays.

Mesa Encore Theatre has been an all-volunteer community theater in Mesa for the past 79 years bringing quality live theater to the community that appeals to performers, crews, and patrons of all ages and levels of experience at an affordable price.

Requested Amount: \$5,000

Recommended Award: \$4,000

Mesa Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration, Inc.

The annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration includes a parade and a full day of celebrating diverse cultures and the arts. Entertainment includes West African drums and dance, Gospel music, Spoken Word, Latin dance, Hula dance, Reggae, Mariachi singers, and Native American dance. The parade includes students from local schools, marching bands, churches, local celebrities, etc. Food, fashion, crafts, visual art, creative writing, music, dance, and education are all part of the celebration.

New this year is a project with Epic Assemblies; a professional touring group of 12 elite and diverse young artists who bring a powerful message to youth through the arts, spoken word and dance. The project for which funding is requested is the one-day festival at MAC.

Requested Amount: \$1,200

Recommended Award: \$720

Metropolitan Youth Symphony:

The Metropolitan Youth Symphony concert season revolves around their Classic and Recital Series. The Classic Series offers three concerts with 320 plus youth musicians performing literature from multiple historic periods, as well as works by contemporary composers. The Recital Series assists young musicians in the development of performance skills, and fosters further growth in their musical interest. Twelve recitals are held free to the public and a brief reception is held after each recital for the attendees to meet the musicians. The Classic and Recital Series' are an extension of Metropolitan Youth Symphony's Outreach Program, designed to engage future and current youth musicians with the motivation to start or continue their music studies.

Requested Amount: \$5,000

Recommended Award: \$3,000

Phoenix Children's Chorus:

Phoenix Children's Chorus will hold one of their Spring Concert Series at MAC. The audience will experience a high quality performance of classical and contemporary choral literature sung by approximately 350 youngsters in grades 2 through 12. The concert includes new musical literature for both the choristers and the audience. In addition to Phoenix Children's Chorus' piano accompanists, an instrumental ensemble is contracted to provide accompaniment.

The Phoenix Children's Chorus is starting their 32nd year. It began with 35 children as a program of Phoenix Parks and Recreation. It has grown to its current status as the largest community chorus organization for youth in Arizona with 350 participants annually.

Requested Amount: \$2,232

Recommended Award: \$670

Salt River Brass Band:

Salt River Brass is offering six concerts in the coming year at MAC. Each concert offers an entertaining and educational performance featuring some of the Valley's top musicians led by Music Director Patrick Sheridan.

The Band is composed entirely of volunteer musicians from the community. To enhance the audience's experience, the conductor educates the audience by sharing the historical roots and modern relevance of each piece of music and includes lobby performances and youth engagement.

Requested Amount: \$5,000
Recommended Award: \$4,000

Southwest Shakespeare Company:

Southwest Shakespeare Company will present their season at MAC. This marks Southwest Shakespeare's 22nd year of its celebrated Education Program in which schools come from all over the state to specially-arranged student performances to see Shakespeare productions at a reduced price. They also offer talk-back sessions with the cast after selected shows, backstage tours, workshops, touring shows to the schools, classes and seminars. Southwest Shakespeare has the most extensive outreach and "in-reach" programs for classic theater in the State.

Requested Amount: \$5,000
Recommended Award: \$3,000

Tempe Community Chorus, Ltd.:

The Chorus will perform in the Piper Theater in December. Accompanied by a pianist, the full chorus will perform approximately 10 selections, and additional selections will be sung by The Mill Street Singers, a smaller group within the chorus, and The Harmony Rain, a female barbershop quartet. Traditionally, at some point in the concert, the Director invites small children on stage to participate in an audience sing-along, featuring holiday tunes.

Requested Amount: \$1,362
Recommended Award: \$409

The Phoenix Symphony:

The acclaimed and popular "Halleluiah" chorus highlights the Symphony's annual "Handel's Messiah," in full-length performance at Mesa Arts Center, attracting a diverse audience. Their 66-member, full orchestra, along with their dynamic 40-member "Halleluiah" Chorus will delight audiences with this moving performance.

They will also present two Cirque de la Symphonies shows; Cirque de la Symphonie is an exciting production designed to bring the magic of cirque to the music hall. The performance will include aerial flyers, acrobats, contortionists, dancers, jugglers, balancers, and strongmen.

Requested Amount: \$5,000
Recommended Award: \$3,000