

Enhancement Grant Program Application

Before filling out this form, please read the Enhancement Grant Program Information for complete submittal instructions and to be sure that your proposal qualifies for funding. Applications received after the deadline will not be accepted. Liability insurance coverage may be required. Limit answers to the space provided.

Title of Project Youth Stories for Change
Organization Clackamas County Arts Alliance
Is this a Non-Profit Organization? Yes X No ____
Non-Profit Federal tax exempt ID Number 45-0519586
Address PO Box 2181
City, State, Zip Oregon City, OR 97045
Project Coordinator Kirsten Rian Phone 503-348-5249
Email kirsten@clackamasartsalliance.org
Chairperson of Governing Board (If Applicable) ____
Phone ____
Signature _____

*****Complete the budget sheet on page 7 first.**

Amount totals from that sheet will auto fill into this table

Grant Amount Requested:	\$ 16,800
+ Matching Funds (Cash):	\$ 2,900
+ In-Kind Matching Funds (See question #15):	\$ 7,867
= Total Cost of Project:	\$ 27,567

Proposal Information

1. Is this your first grant application to the Enhancement Grant Committee?

Yes _____ No X

2. Have you received an Enhancement Grant in the last 3 years? (Include past Metro Enhancement Grants)

Yes X No _____

If yes, please describe the projects/programs for which you received funding.

In 2013, an Oregon City Metro Enhancement grant provided funding to begin developing a “gateway” project in downtown Oregon City. Last year, 2018, the Alliance applied for a continuation of the project

and addition of 7 more light sculptures. The goal of the “gateway” project was to create a visual “path” from Hwy 99E into downtown Oregon City along Main Street in the central business district. The artistic aspects of a "gateway" supported the other public art initiatives completed in downtown. Through a juried call to artists, Vickie Wilson and John Larsen were selected as the artist team to present sculptural concepts to be attached to light posts along 10th Street and Main Street. Bloom Boom light pole sculptures throughout downtown Oregon City. Artist team Vicki Wilson and John Larsen were tasked with creating a unifying element throughout Main Street’s business district. They were inspired by the Art Deco and Art Nouveau designs used on the business facades and wanted to incorporate the architectural history of the area. They used the Art Nouveau technique of transforming architectural structures into plant forms and the Art Deco language of bolted planar metal. Once the form was established, they continued using the design sense of these art movements to create pieces that referenced the area. Some works reference the natural world through native plants; others reference the unique architecture of Oregon City’s Main Street District and a few more speak to the history and future commerce in the city. The lantern effect at night was of particular interest to the artists as the use of color, light and shadow, positive and negative space has been a favorite design challenge of theirs. As they spent more time around the community on Main Street, they became aware of the symbolic aspect an opening flower has in this place. Oregon City is growing, waking and exploding into the city it will become. Residents seem energized for the changes and they are thrilled to contribute to the momentum. We also received a Metro Enhancement grant in 2017 for the city of Wilsonville, to develop a strategic plan for public investment in Wilsonville arts and culture.

3. If you received an Enhancement Grant last year, what is the status of the project?

The final project event was held recently on May 1, which was a celebration of the final Bloom Boom light pole sculpture and a collaborative art walk in conjunction with the Oregon City Wine Walk. The final report was submitted May 15.

4. Will this grant-funding request be used for the first phase of a project, with possible grant requests for future phases?

Yes _____ No X

If yes, please explain.

5. Briefly describe the project for which you are requesting funds.

The Youth Arts for Change (YAC) program as a whole brings together visual artists and creative industry professionals to provide youth arts education workshops to engage vulnerable, underserved teens and middle school students in creative expression as a catalyst for positive change. Last year 352 youth were impacted by our youth program, and this number is more than double from 2016, and included partnerships with County public schools, as well as with social service agencies such as Parrott Creek, and the Juvenile Department.

All YAC projects use art as a catalyst to promote positive change, but each YAC project focuses on different creative disciplines and adapts to the unique needs and interests of the participating youth and our community partners. This proposal is for our summer **Youth Stories for Change YAC** project in

partnership with the Juvenile Department, which aims to unlock potential by giving youth a voice; uses art as a tool for emotional and trauma processing; and provides positive community ties. Art Alliance educators work with Juvenile Department counselors and staff to build communication and team building skills through a variety of facilitated group activities, and youth share experiences via their own video creation and ‘film shorts,’ journaling, and script writing. Final created pieces are publicly shown in a film festival-type public screening to reveal their stories, challenges, successes and hopes. Clackamas Community College is also a community partner in this project by donating their auditorium for the classes and for the final public celebration, and they also provide tuition waivers to participants as a path to higher education.

In previous years our summer Juvenile Department program has been theater focused. It has been wonderfully rewarding, but in our annual programs assessment and in conversations with our community partner, the Juvenile Department, it was determined that theater was particularly challenging for this demographic and the program needed to be revised in order to address some of the issues we have encountered (difficulty recruiting youth, Juvenile Department counselors having trouble finding youth who might be a good fit with theater, youth resistant to performing live/on-stage, etc). We wanted to be responsive to the needs of both the kids served, as well as the Juvenile Department, and so we created a program that maintains the core outcome goals, such as many of the same team building and communication exercises, while enhancing the writing portion and incorporating video creation, rather than focusing on a live theater performance. We are thrilled because this program feels like a nimble response to feedback and concrete challenges, and is more current and aligned with the students’ interests and still allows for full exploration of their stories, as well as provides a vehicle for processing of some of their particular challenges and life experiences. In teaching them video and creating ‘film shorts,’ writing and processing visually will still all be present elements. The culminating event will be a community-wide, free and open to the general public, ‘film festival’ evening and screening of their work which will be edited down to film shorts.

6. Describe why this project was selected and the community need(s) to which it will respond.

All YAC projects are built upon past successes and what we’ve learned. We measure and assess against these outcomes;

- *Youth develop pro-social behaviors:* Adjudicated youth have opportunity to explore creative expression and its benefits, such as positive self-expression, while developing healthy peer relationships.
- *Protect youth against negative activity:* Intervention programs engage youth in developing arts and communication skills, while exploring and encouraging participation in their communities.
- *Youth gain awareness* of their skills and talents, and experience community validation.

Because of both the impacts we’ve seen with this program over the years, and our relationship with our partners, we recognize the community impact and need for our YAC programs. Youth Stories for Change was selected as the YAC program to focus on for Metro support because our summer program has a rich foundation in our Juvenile Department partnership, and we are particularly excited about its potential. As described, it is a necessary departure away from theater and we want to support the transition to a new focus, and ensure its success for the youth involved.

7a. Identify and describe how this proposal meets one or more of the goals for funding within the enhancement area boundaries (check those below that apply and describe by item number below).

1. Result in significant improvement in the cleanliness of the City.
2. Increase reuse and recycling efforts or provide a reduction in solid waste.
3. Increase the attractiveness or market value of residential, commercial or industrial areas.
4. Result in rehabilitation or upgrade of real or personal property owned or operated by a nonprofit organization having 501(c)(3) status under the Internal Revenue Code.
5. Enhance new or existing wildlife, riparian zones, wetlands, forest lands or marine areas, and/or improve the public awareness and the opportunities to enjoy them.
6. Preserve or increase recreational areas and programs within the City.
7. Improve safety within the City.
8. Increase employment or economic opportunities for City residents.
9. Provide work, training opportunities, or other benefit to youth, seniors and low-income persons or underserved population.
10. **Enhance art and culture within the City.**

7b. List by item number from 7a and describe how the project meets each goal.

#10: **Enhance art and culture within the City.**

Clackamas County Arts Alliance's YAC program uses arts as a catalyst and conduit to open doors for vulnerable and underserved youth. Participating youth are exposed to the power of creative expression through drawing and photography, creative writing, videography, and fiber arts and to the impact of forging meaningful connections with their community via audience engagement at culminating events. They acquire tools and incentives for reducing negative behaviors, propelling them in a positive direction for their future. YAC has been our signature youth program since 2011; its approach and success was honored by the National Association of County Organizations with an *Innovative Program* award in 2013.

Each of YAC's distinct component projects were collaboratively designed with our partners to meet their identified needs throughout the County. The YAC Youth Stories for Change project is based on restorative justice evidence: youth active in community projects gain benefits of being valued community members, enhancing protective factors against risk vulnerability. The creative expression activities and experiences provided by Youth Stories for Change add pro-social alternatives to the lives of participating youth. Rooted in rigorous mentoring and student-directed learning, youth in this project work with an experienced teaching artist weekly for the duration of the program to tell their stories, giving them shape and structure with creative expression, while building confidence, self-awareness and interpersonal skills. Youth work in team settings to gain arts and interviewing skills, collaboratively working toward the goal of publicly sharing their stories via the final community film screening. This culminating public event is a way for CCAA to create an environment where the public and audience members can witness the youth's work and by extension, their stories, and engage youth in dialogue through a post-performance Q&A or during the reception. Youth are encouraged to share what they learned, and audience interest makes them feel heard and respected. In return, audience members receive an authentic glimpse into the lives of youth in their community. Since 2011, over 500 YAC participants shared their stories with 2,000 audience members, providing a valuable endpoint for the youth and a venue for community engagement and dialogue between them and the audience.

We ensure program excellence through the YAC hallmarks of thoughtful planning and qualified adult leadership. Teaching artists bring significant knowledge and experience to guide youth in the writing, video filming, and teamwork that are all components of Youth Stories for Change, while Juvenile Department staff provide therapeutic continuity, supervisory oversight and program support. Local high school arts students join as interns to support and build rapport, often resulting in natural formation of positive peer relationships. Our partners' Directors and counseling staff are actively involved in planning, implementation and assessment. High adult-youth ratio ensures personal attention and strong, supportive relationships.

8. Project Period: 2 months
(Number of months in duration)

Beginning Date: July 7, 2019

Ending Date: August 23, 2019

9. What is the geographic area of Oregon City where the project will take place?

Clackamas Community College is one of our partners in this project, and they generously donate the use of their McLaughlin Auditorium for both the workshop and class settings, as well as the final culminating community event. Our programmatic partner is The Clackamas County Juvenile Department, and together we work on fine-tuning the programming to meet the needs of both the Department, and the kids served.

10. How will the community benefit by your project? What is the estimated number of people affected and anticipated outcome(s)?

Youth Stories for Change reaches a broad and diverse range of youth. Juvenile Department counselors refer youth in their caseloads who are most likely to benefit from the *Stories for Change* project. Adjudicated participants have committed felonies, misdemeanors and other violations, and many struggle with alcohol/drug dependencies. Their risk factors include school issues, negative peer relationships, behavior issues, family dysfunction, substance abuse and anti-social attitudes and beliefs. Much of the community benefit was addressed in the previous question.

The participating youth live all across Clackamas County and represent a wide range of income levels. Approximately 40% of the Juvenile Department caseload is female. Hispanic, African American and Native American youth average 25% of the caseload for the agency, resulting in diverse ethnic representation. Participants are 12-18 years old, reflecting the full range of caseload demographics and risk factors. We also include a food budget for this program because food insecurity can be a factor for these kids and we have found they are generally very hungry during the time period our classes are held. With schools closed during the summer, those on a meal plan program for breakfast and lunch at the school no longer have that option.

Each Youth Stories for Change summer program caps at 15 students in order to provide an adequate adult to child ratio and ensure individual and focused attention and facilitation in learning and creating their projects. We also have up to 4 high school interns local high schools. Each year, the final public

event is attended by an average of 85 individuals. We anticipate a higher number this year due to the medium shift and marketing as a film shorts event. This event is an important opportunity for both the families and mentors of the youth, and also the general public, to view the kids through a different lens than the labels which are often assigned to this group of 'at risk,' and 'troubled,' but rather through their short films as individuals who are a part of our community with a story to tell.

Purpose – Objectives – Goals - Outcomes

The Youth Stores for Change program's primary purpose is to use arts as a tool to promote positive change for vulnerable and underserved youth, while forging constructive connections to their community. These bolster protective factors against risk and provide a pathway for youth to reach their full potential.

Broad program goals are: (1) reduce likelihood that adjudicated youth will exhibit adult criminal behavior; (2) intervene early enough with positive arts and community experiences to protect middle school students against negative activity; (3) help youth gain awareness of their talents and experience community validation, because increased community investment results from understanding the needs of disenfranchised youth.

Program Objectives:

- Create a safe setting for youth to learn new skills and grow;
- Nurture creative/critical thinking and healthy self-expression, leading to transferable life skills;
- Improve youths' ability to take direction, cooperate and follow through with personal goals.

11. What community resources will be used as support for this project (i.e. community, city-owned property, city departments, transportation services or other civic groups)?

Clackamas Community College is one of our partners in this project, and they generously donate the use of their McLaughlin Auditorium for both the workshop and class settings, as well as the final culminating community event. They also provide three 4-credit tuition waivers to participants. The Juvenile Department provides extensive staff support including:

Marcy Anderson, CCJD, youth supervision and program facilitation

Teresa McCook, CCJD intern

Dawn Hansen, CCJD

Youth Transportation Assistance provided by CCJD

Local high schools provide up to 4 interns.

12. Briefly describe prior experience managing similar projects, including any past enhancement projects.

We have received three previous Metro Enhancement grants. Phase one and two of the popular Oregon City Bloom Boom light pole sculptures, as described on page one; and a Metro Enhancement grant in 2017 for the city of Wilsonville, to develop a strategic plan for public investment in Wilsonville arts and culture. All enhancement projects fulfilled the funding requirements and scope of work presented in the initial proposals and were completed with all final reporting. In addition to these Metro-specific projects, the Arts Alliance has a 25 year track record of receiving and fulfilling grants and funding from a wide

variety of sources, from regional family foundations, to national government agencies such as the National Endowment for the Arts.

Specific to our Youth Arts for Change program, we have received numerous grants and public funding for this program over the years. And our community partnerships are vast. All Parrott Creek teens participate in the *Artistic Minds* project because it was made a required therapeutic treatment modality in 2015. CCAA also has a long history working with the Juvenile Department on this particular summer program, and also with other social service agencies such as Clackamas County Behavioral Health on our suicide awareness and prevention program, Ask the Question.

13. List anticipated project milestones and dates (e.g. groundbreakings, significant facility improvements, large gatherings of volunteers, public meetings, conferences, special activities and events).

Dates: all workshops are 1:30-4:00 pm at Clackamas Community College, Oregon City

Class 1: Monday July 15, 2019

Class 2: Wednesday July 17, 2019

Class 3: Monday July 22, 2019

Class 4: Wednesday July 24, 2019

Class 5: Monday July 29, 2019

Class 6: Wednesday July 31, 2019

Class 7: Monday August 5, 2019

Class 8: Wednesday August 7, 2019

Final event: Community film screening: Monday August 12, 2019, 6-8:00 pm, McLaughlin Auditorium, free and open to the public.

14. An exit report will be required once the project is complete, per a signed Enhancement agreement. Describe the measurements you will use to assess the program/project effectiveness. In other words, how will the effectiveness of the program/project be tracked and evaluated (i.e. number of people served; improvements and/or beautification; number of volunteers attracted; amount of area cleaned or rehabilitated, etc.)? Be sure to describe project goals, changes and noticeable benefits that will come about as a result.

Data gathered since 2011 from both participants, as well as our community department partners, give us reason to believe that YAC experiences had immediate impactful benefit for many youth, with a ripple effect of qualitative difference in their behavior, families and relationships. Youth report more positive self-worth, and feeling more accepted and valued by others after YAC participation. All partners and youth are involved in ongoing project evaluation and assessment, responsive to immediate program needs and overall program criteria. Juvenile Department counselors, the teaching artists, and the Program Manager collaborate to track youth attendance and progress; the Manager solicits frequent feedback from both youth and staff about program strengths and areas for development. Surveys are conducted with both youth and audience community members. At the conclusion of all workshops, we interview youth

participants to gain firsthand insights into the impact of their YAC experience. Specific methods used are: (1) Pre/post surveys linked to the Juvenile Justice Risk Assessment, gauging risk factors and measuring community connections, attitudes toward extra-curricular activities and pro-social relationships with adults and peers, and overall attitude about creativity; (2) Staff observe and report on qualitative improvements based upon project goals; (3) Evaluation tools specifically designed for this program's goals are used, including attendance and engagement, supplemented with pre- and post-program interviews and qualitative observations by staff, counselors and teaching artists.

A Few Results and Testimonials

"This unique partnership is critical for youth who don't typically fit in to regular extracurricular activities. It emphasizes that at-risk youth aren't 'bad kids,' only kids who have made bad choices, and with the right outlet and support they can thrive and grow." –*Counselor*

"I was excited to come every Tuesday and Thursday. I wanted to come, because I liked seeing the people I was with, and I liked the activities we did, and it just kept my time in order and I was productive with what I was doing instead of getting into bad things. Art helps me express my thoughts and feelings." –*Youth participant*

"I can do things without using drugs or alcohol because art can be anything...it's a way of doing good, a way of framing something positive in life. I can use creative thinking to solve problems." – *Youth Participant*

15. List sources of support for in-kind matching support (e.g. volunteer hours and donations). In order to estimate the value of donated volunteer time refer to the Enhancement Grant Program Information sheet for current value.

Item	Source of Support	Estimated Value (\$)
4 staff for planning and presence in workshops as staff and counseling support for youth and teaching artists	Clackamas County Juvenile Department	2,897
Auditorium Use for Classroom and Final Public Event	Clackamas Community College	2,250
Youth Transportation	Clackamas County Juvenile Department	900
(3) 4-credit Tuition Waivers	Clackamas Community College	1,200
Printing Donation	Office Depot	500
5 Hours of Video Editing	Video Editor	120

16. List all grants applied for in support of this project and commitments confirmed to date.

Grants out:

Juan Young Trust, designated for YAC programs, will hear by July 1.

Oregon Arts Commission, a portion of an operating support proposal, will hear by July 1.

Wheeler Foundation, designated for YAC programs, will hear by September 1.

Committed funds:

Individual donors: 2,900

17. What is the percentage of Enhancement will be used for personnel services or administrative costs? 60%

18. Will the administrator be a paid position? Yes X No _____

19. Proposed Budget—on the following page please complete the proposed budget. Modify line items as needed to reflect proposed expenses.

- Column A: Show grant monies needed for the program/project.
- Column B: Show cash matching funds.
- Column C: Show donations or in-kind volunteer labor (from question 15).
- Column D: Totals for each category.

****These figures will be transferred to the table on the first page of this application.

Proposed Budget

Suggested List (not inclusive)	(A) Grant Dollars Requested	(B) Matching Funds (Cash)	(C) In-Kind Matching Support	(D) Total
Personnel Services (salaries, administration, 3 teaching artists, 1 video editor for final project)	10,200	2,000	3,017	15,217
Project Administration costs (clerical, advertising, graphics, printing, postage)	3,200	400	500	4,100
Materials and journals	500			500
Equipment/Supplies	1,200	500		1,700
Construction Costs				

Event Costs	450			450
Transportation Costs			900	900
Insurance Costs (if needed)				
Additional Costs (List)				
Food for kids	800			800
Registration/materials fees assistance to offer to youth who use the tuition waivers (eliminates financial barriers to youth being able to take advantage of this opportunity)	450			450
Auditorium use for each session as well as final public event			2,250	2,250
Tuition waivers for future use by workshop participants			1,200	1,200
Totals	16,800	2,900	7,867	27,567