

Eleven non-profit arts organizations awarded Project Support Grants from the Arts Council of Fairfax County totaling \$79,243.



Children and parents participate in a Wolf Trap Family Artsplay!™ experience. Photo by Scott Suchman, courtesy of the Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts.

Fairfax County, VA – Eleven Fairfax County non-profit arts organizations have been awarded Project Support Grants from the Arts Council of Fairfax County. The awards total \$79,243 and represent disciplines including visual arts, theatre, orchestral, choral, and international music, as well as preschool and elementary age arts education.

This year the Arts Council received 20 applications requesting over \$250,000. The funding rate of over 50% shows both the high level of creativity in the county as well as the Arts Council's commitment to bringing new and innovative programming to Fairfax County residents.

“We are pleased to announce the funding of eleven outstanding Project Support Grants. Each year we are amazed at the breadth and creativity of the applications for Project Support Grants,” says Linda S. Sullivan, president & CEO, of the Arts Council of Fairfax County. “We wish we could fund them all as these projects present exciting new opportunities for

Fairfax County residents to engage in the arts.”

Project Support Grants are given in three categories; ‘Arts in Education,’ ‘Opportunity,’ and ‘Partnerships with Individual Artists.’ The Arts Council awarded four Project Support Grants in the ‘Arts in Education’ category for students under the age of 18, six ‘Opportunity’ grants that take advantage of atypical opportunities, and one ‘Partnerships with Individual Artists’ grant.

“Project Support Grants, by the Arts Council, help us to feature award winning professional artist performances and workshops,” says Harlon Reece, President, of the Herndon Foundation for

the Cultural Arts. “These grants enable our Herndon community to experience the best of world cultures right here in our backyard.”

Acting for Young People

Acting for Young People’s (AFYP) new comedy *A Penny Saved*, reinforces the Fairfax County Public Schools’ financial literacy curriculum by teaching kids how to be money smart. The play is the first piece developed under the “Savvy Series” program. The “Savvy Series” joins the AFYP’s other educational programs the “Safety Series” and the “Story Series” to educate area children on important issues. Written and developed by AFYP resident playwright Liza Nanni-Messegee, *A Penny Saved* incorporates three actors, two famous fairy tales, and sound financial advice.

The Amadeus Concerts, Inc.

Amadeus Side-by-Side Concerts joins students, teachers, administrators, parents and professional musicians in an exciting event to showcase developing talent and open young eyes and ears to the power of live orchestral music. During the *Side-by-Side Concerts*, presented in Fairfax County elementary schools, student musicians from the school orchestra first rehearse alongside professionals of the Amadeus orchestra. The combined group then performs for the entire school. The Amadeus orchestra finally plays its own repertoire with the accompaniment of sights, sounds, and stories.

Traveling Players Ensemble

Traveling Players Ensemble will design and construct a modular, portable outdoor stage. Renowned set designer Tom Donahue, PhD, resident scenic and lighting designer at Catholic University, will help build a 1020 square foot stage with Tudor style façade. In addition to providing a more professional venue for performances, stage features such as trap doors, multiple entrance stairways, removable apron, and upgraded sound/lighting systems will enable more creativity in staging. Modular walls will allow easy repair and set-up as well as privacy backstage. The stage will finally give Traveling Players peripatetic community a suitably permanent home.

Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts

Family Artsplay programs are Wolf Trap Institute residencies and workshops focused on improving parents’ skills to facilitate their children’s development through early childhood music, drama, and movement activities that increase sensory awareness, spatial relations, gross motor development and language skills. Family Artsplay values the child’s parent/caregiver as the primary teacher. Wolf Trap Teaching Artists design customized arts-enhanced sessions that help teenage parents in high school and parents in Early Head Start socialization Programs facilitate developmentally-appropriate arts experiences for and with their children in a child-friendly learning environment that will support their children’s development and build relationships with them.

Elden Street Players

After almost 25 years of being Herndon’s premiere community theatre, Elden Street Players will become the first major professional theatre company dedicated to specifically serve the Dulles Corridor. The renamed and re-imagined NextStop Theatre Company will open its inaugural season this fall with a production of *The 39 Steps*. The event will introduce the company to the region as a professional entity and mark ESP’s 25th anniversary. ESP founding member Nick Rose, a 1988 graduate of Herndon High School and a successful professional actor, will return to Herndon to star in the production.

Fairfax Choral Society

The Fairfax Choral Society continues its commitment to excellence in performance, education, and appreciation of choral art through an exciting new program for the community. In collaboration with guest artist and composer Morten Lauridsen, FCS will hold a composition master class, choral festival, film screening, adult workshop, movie screening, question and answer discussion, and performance in March 2014. This innovative, extensive series of events will reach deep into the community, work with youths and adults, to cultivate and strengthen the future of choral music in Fairfax County.

Herndon Foundation for the Cultural Arts

ArtSpace Herndon will present *CrossCurrents*, a two part master class and world music concert series. In the first concert Kumar Das and his trio will play a fusion of Eastern and Western music in which Indian tabla and sitar collide with cello music. As Kumar says, "Ravi Shankar will meet Itzhak Perlman." Students are invited to an interactive master class preceding this concert. In spring 2014, *CrossCurrents* will feature a concert and workshop by award winning clarinetist Dr. Mauricio Salguero and his quartet; distinct Central and South American music will fuse with American Jazz.

Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia

In spring 2014, the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia will present and tour the world premiere of Cinder-Rachella a family friendly musical written by Fairfax County resident Leslie A. Kobylinski with original music by Richard C. Washer. Set in Israel, this adaptation celebrates Israeli culture and music through the eyes of the iconic fairy tale princess. At least six total performances will be presented—three at the JCCNV and three to go on tour at venues and events throughout Fairfax County.

Lorton Arts Foundation

The Workhouse Arts Center will enhance its artistic offerings with an educational and open studio printmaking program. The new printmaking facility will allow the Workhouse to partner with Fort Belvoir Community Hospital and non-profit organizations Combat Paper and Warrior Writers to offer support to the region's veterans. Through these partnerships, the Workhouse will provide space and equipment for Combat Paper workshops to help veterans struggling with the impacts of modern warfare.

Reston Chorale

In celebration of the 50th anniversary of the founding of Reston and its founder Robert E. Simon, Jr.'s 100th birthday, the Reston Chorale will commission a major new cantata for chorus and orchestra. Prominent composer Donald McCullough has been selected to compose the 30 minute piece which will embody Simon's ideals and reflect the special place that is Reston. The project will culminate in a multi-media premiere performance in collaboration with the South Lakes High School choral music department at a Founder's Day event in April 2014.

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra

Acclaimed Puerto Rican clarinet player Ricardo Morales will present Copland Clarinet Concerto as part of the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra's opening Masterworks concert for the 2013-2014 season at George Mason University's Center for the Arts on Saturday, September 21, 2013. Education and outreach activities are scheduled in schools and throughout the community during concert week, as well as interviews with WETA-FM, the Washington Post, and Spanish

language radio, to culminate in an open rehearsal for students. Education and outreach activities include bilingual presentations in Fairfax County's Spanish immersion schools.

On behalf of Fairfax County, the Arts Council awards \$490,981 in grants to arts organizations and individual artists in the County each year. In FY13 the Arts Council awarded 62 organizations and 3 artists, funded over 2600 performances and activities, which were attended by over 1.2 million people. "The arts are essential to a thriving community, creating a sense of place and fueling social and economic growth," said Sullivan. According to the most recent Americans for the Arts study "Arts & Economic Prosperity IV," the nonprofit arts and culture are a \$79.3 million industry in Fairfax County—one that generates \$2.4 million in local taxes and \$4.9 million in combined local and state government revenue.

To obtain more information on the grants program, visit <http://artsfairfax.org/grants>

About the Arts Council of Fairfax County

Founded in 1964, the Arts Council of Fairfax County, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization designated as Fairfax County's local arts agency. It is the only umbrella organization serving and representing all forms of art in Fairfax County. The Arts Council of Fairfax County is the voice of the arts, dedicated to fostering dynamic and diverse local arts, ensuring that arts thrive by providing vision, leadership, capacity building services, advocacy, funding, education, and information.

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