

Arts Council of Fairfax County awards 17 Project Support Grants totaling \$112,080.



Fairfax County, VA – Seventeen Fairfax County non-profit arts organizations have been awarded Project Support Grants totaling \$112,080 from the Arts Council of Fairfax County.

FY16 funded projects offer a variety of arts disciplines to Fairfax County residents and visitors ranging from an interactive art installation created from a variety of materials such as LED lights and ordinary household objects; family friendly, educational ballet performances integrating audience feedback into the shows; and a Korean festival that includes traditional dance demonstrations, contemporary upbeat sounds of DJ remixes and K-POP (Korean pop) music.

“The Arts Council of Fairfax County was awarded a one-time *Global Arts Initiative* grant from the National Endowment for the Arts which has enabled the Arts Council to reach out to Fairfax’s diverse communities, identifying over 50 new ethnic and immigrant arts organizations and programs, providing many new grants for FY16,” said Linda S. Sullivan, president & CEO of the Arts Council of Fairfax County. “All seventeen projects will engage existing and new audiences, enliven our Fairfax communities, and contribute to the vibrancy and quality of life in the County,” Sullivan continued.

The FY16 recipients are BalletNova Center for Dance; City of Fairfax Band Association; Classical Ballet Theatre, Inc.; Creative Cauldron; Fairfax County Park Foundation; Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE); Herndon Foundation for the Cultural Arts; Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia; Korean Association of Greater Washington; McLean Project for the Arts; Mosaic Harmony; The Reston Chorale; Virginia Ballet Company and School; Virginia Chamber Orchestra; Voce, Inc.; Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts; and Workhouse Arts Foundation, Inc.

GRACE will curate and present an exhibition titled ‘*Transformations*,’ featuring New York based multi-media artist Shih Chieh Huang in the spring of 2016. The installation will evoke a deep sea environment with phosphorescent creatures and incorporate interactive elements created from a variety of materials including LED lights, motion sensors, computer parts, screens, and mundane materials such as plastic bags and ordinary household objects, which will respond to the viewer’s presence with movement, sound, and illumination. “We are delighted to bring Huang’s work to the Reston community and Fairfax County,” said Holly Koons McCullough, Executive Director and Curator at the Greater Reston Arts Center. “Inspired in part by phosphorescent deep sea creatures, Huang’s installations are a mesmerizing blend of art, science, and technology,” Koons McCullough continued.

The Virginia Ballet Company and School will present its new '*Family Saturdays*' program at starting in late 2015, which will feature an array of short dance works and excerpts suitable for the entire family. Each presentation will be introduced by a choreographer or lead dancer from the ballet company who will highlight key program elements for the audience to observe and take questions which will be integrated into the performance. Attendees will have the opportunity to meet with the choreographers and dancers at the end of the show. "Being able to combine educational elements, focusing on choreography, dance, story, and the characters; and incorporating audience feedback into the live performance enables us to present an interactive and educational experience all packaged into a family friendly presentation," said Tish Cordova, Artistic Director, at the Virginia Ballet Company and School.

The Korean-American Association of the Washington Metropolitan Area's 2015 KORUS Festival will showcase an array of Korean art forms ranging from traditional percussion music 'samulnori' and dance demonstrations to the contemporary upbeat sounds of DJ remixes, K-POP and YouTube celebrities exposing Fairfax County residents and visitors to a variety of Korean art forms ranging from past to present traditions. "We are thrilled to feature the KORUS Festival at Tysons Corner Plaza this year. The new location and our exciting program line-up will attract even more visitors enabling us to expose attendees to a great variety of Korean arts and culture," said Amanda Lee, Director of General Affairs at the Korean-American Association of the Washington Metropolitan Area.

Project Support Grants are competitive, non-recurring grants used to support arts organizations in providing arts activities that engage new audiences and contribute to the vibrancy and quality of life in Fairfax County. On behalf of Fairfax County, the Arts Council **awarded over \$540,000 in grants** to arts organizations and individual artists during FY15. The total **amount requested** by organizations was **\$1,364,567**. The Project Support Grants program is one of five grant programs. To learn more about all our grant programs, visit <http://artsfairfax.org/grants>.

List of all FY16 Project Support Grant Recipients

BalletNova Center for Dance

BalletNova Center for Dance will produce an evening length showcase of dance featuring 6-8 ethnic dance companies that represent Fairfax County's diversity.

City of Fairfax Band Association

The City of Fairfax Band Association (CFBA) will begin the inaugural year of the Northern Virginia Junior Winds (NVJW), a regional auditioned middle school level band under the direction of Ms. Linda Gammon.

Classical Ballet Theatre, Inc.

Presented by Classical Ballet Theatre and in collaboration with the String Quartet of Northern Virginia, *Art 4 Outsiders* will feature a free, outdoor program consisting of three, unique performances with original choreography, live music, and informational sessions.

Creative Cauldron

The Bohemian Rock musical premiere of *Monsters of the Villa Diodati*, the second installment in the *Bold New Works for Intimate Stages* initiative, will be written by Matt Conner and Stephen Gregory Smith.

Fairfax County Park Foundation

The Fairfax County Park Authority will sponsor *Explore the World in our Community through Dance and Music*, an outdoor summer entertainment series presenting culturally diverse dance and musical artists from Russia, Korea and Bolivia.

Greater Reston Arts Center (GRACE)

GRACE will present *Transformations*, an exhibition by multi-media artist Shih Chieh Huang, featuring interactive elements created from a variety of materials ranging from LED lights to ordinary household objects.

Herndon Foundation for the Cultural Arts

In *Songs for an Exhibition*, 3 separate Virginia-based bands will perform a single original concert, uniquely created to reflect the culture or branding of the fine art exhibit (photography, paintings, or sculpture) installed that performance night in the art gallery.

Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia

The JCCNV will present *Blue Like Me: The Art of Siona Benjamin*. Ms. Benjamin will visit the JCCNV for several programs, including a gallery exhibition of her paintings, a lecture, an interdisciplinary Indian dance performance inspired by her paintings, and a documentary film about her work.

Korean Association of Greater Washington

KORUS Festival strives to be a conduit for sharing Korean traditional and modern art forms with an increasingly diverse DC metropolitan area population by showcasing an array of Korean art forms from *samulnori* and Korean traditional dance demonstrations to the upbeat sounds of DJ remixes and K-POP (Korean pop) music.

McLean Project for the Arts (MPA)

MPA and DC based artist and musician Robin Rose will present a multi-media exhibit in the MPA Emerson and Atrium Galleries with corresponding public performance/experiences by the artist.

Mosaic Harmony

Mosaic Harmony, a choir singing in the African-American gospel tradition, will team with the Olam Tikvah Chorale, the Ketzal Chorus, and the NOVA Chorus to create a CD and offer a free June 2016 concert in Fairfax County, both entitled *Celebrating Together in Song*.

The Reston Chorale

The Reston Chorale will present *Wade in the Water*, a concert celebrating and sharing African-American inspirational music.

Virginia Ballet Company and School

Family Saturdays with Virginia Ballet Company are one-hour performances featuring an array of short dance works or excerpts, each of which is introduced by the choreographer or lead dancer who highlights key elements for the audience to observe.

Virginia Chamber Orchestra

The Virginia Chamber Orchestra will present five concerts in the 1st Stage Theater featuring small ensembles drawn from the professional orchestra.

Voce, Inc.

The project *Sing Me to Heaven* will result in a superbly mastered recording of Voce's finest commissioned works featuring a brand new commission that will be available for sale or download on Amazon and iTunes among many other popular and local music sellers.

Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts

Wolf Trap Institute will serve Fairfax County children and families through *Artsplay*, *Baby Artsplay*, and Family Involvement workshops. Programs engage children up to five years of age by offering multisensory arts activities that facilitate language, social/emotional, and motor skills development.

Workhouse Arts Foundation, Inc.

The Workhouse Arts Center will commission a new work, *Culture House*, by local artist Foon Sham to engage the community in the topic of cultural diversity. Visitors will be able to enter, explore, and interact with the finished structure and the theme of cultural diversity will be integrated into other programs, including lectures, fieldtrips, camps, and a community forum.

Image Caption:

Shih Chieh Huang, Seductive Evolution of Animated Illumination, 2013. Collaboration with glass masters from Murano, Italy. Modification of Renaissance style glass chandelier with mixed household electronics. Image courtesy of the artist.

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.

The Arts Council is funded in part by Fairfax County, corporations, foundations, individuals, Virginia Commission for the Arts, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

####

CONTACT:

Henrik Sundqvist
Director of Communications
Arts Council of Fairfax County
(703) 642-0862 x3; info@artsfairfax.org
<http://artsfairfax.org>